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This Week

National

Overflow crowd on hand to celebrate Israel's 50th birthday. **Page 3**

Jewish students complete Torah they helped to write. **Page 6**

Features

Anne Michaels discusses the centrality of Holocaust themes in current Jewish literary imagination. **Page 36**

Business

This year is a year of laurels for Toronto builder Harold Green. *Profile.* **Page 52**

Sports

Karen Cohen is school principal by day and weightlifting official by night. **Page 58**

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Iyar 12, 5758
Havdalah: 9:15

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Low expectations at talks

Officials skeptical of breakthrough in London

By NAOMI SEGAL
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — It appears unlikely that the stalemated Middle East peace process will spring into motion any time soon.

As U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright prepared to hold separate meetings in London this week with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat, both American and Israeli officials were downplaying expectations of a breakthrough.

Indeed, as Albright arrived in London to prepare for the meetings, the U.S. State Department spokesman, James Rubin, said Albright was not optimistic about bridging differences between the two sides.

Rubin said Albright's pessimism was based on preliminary reports by telephone from U.S. Middle East envoy Dennis Ross, who was in the Middle East last week to talk with the two sides prior to the London meetings, and from Vice-President Al Gore, who tried his hand at peacemaking during a visit to mark Israel's jubilee.

Nor was there much optimism emerging from Israel, which along with the Palestinian Authority has been reiterating the same positions for months.

The talks have been stalled for some 14 months. The Palestinian Authority broke off negotiations with Israel after infrastructure work began for a new Jewish neighborhood at Har Choma in southeastern Jerusalem.

Three ensuing Hamas suicide bombings of Israeli targets in Jerusalem and Tel Aviv dealt a further blow to hopes of bringing Israel and the Palestinians back to the path of trust and compromise needed to give substance to the Oslo accords.

At a joint news conference with Gore, Netanyahu said the gaps between the Israeli and Palestinian positions were "considerable."

During his conversations with Netanyahu, including a surprise two-hour session Sunday before he travelled on to Egypt, Gore failed to convince the Prime Minister to accept a reported American proposal for Israel to redeploy from an additional 13 percent of the West Bank in exchange for specific Palestinian steps to crack down on terror.

Continued on page 39

CELEBRATIONS CONTINENTS APART

Festivities for Israel's 50th anniversary were held around the world. Prime Minister Jean Chrétien joins a throng of children at the Israel at 50 bash in Toronto. *[Randy Zelcer photo]* **Below is the spectacular opening of the ceremonies at Givat Ram in Jerusalem.** *[Israel photo]*

LAST WEEK'S PHOTO on our front page attract great deal of comment. We assumed the person enfold the Magen David was a woman. The majority believe person was a man. We defer to the majority.

today
s

Israel unveils massive currency reform — please see page 37

The News in Brief

CANADA

Morgan Acclaimed

TORONTO — Lawyer Ed Morgan, honorary legal counsel for Canadian Jewish Congress Ontario region (CJC), has been acclaimed national honorary legal counsel of CJC following the withdrawal of Prof. Thomas Kuttner of Fredericton from the race. The other five elected CJC positions were decided by acclamation.

ISRAEL

Centre Celebrates

TEL AVIV — Na'amat's Glickman Centre, Tel Aviv's first women's shelter, recently celebrated its first anniversary. The centre, built with the support of Na'amat Canada in cooperation with the Tel Aviv Foundation, provides services and shelter to women and children in distress, including a counselling centre offering individual or group therapy.

Restrictions Scrapped

TEL AVIV — Israel has announced reforms that would scrap foreign currency restrictions now imposed on individuals and businesses. Israelis will now be able to invest abroad, open bank accounts abroad, hold foreign currency at home and take an unlimited amount of foreign currency out of the country.

WORLD

Deportation ordered

WASHINGTON — A former platoon commander and acting company commander of a Nazi-sponsored Lithuanian Schutzmannschaft unit has been ordered deported from the United States.

U.S. immigration judge Donald Frelise recently found that Jonas Stelmokas, who now resides in Philadelphia, commanded the detachment that guarded the barbed-wire enclosed ghetto of Kaunas, where Jews were forcibly confined in inhumane conditions.

1996 Jewish Population Figures Based on Ethnicity

Following are the 1996 census results for Canadian Jewry, based on ethnic, not religious affiliation (figures for 1991 are in parentheses). The figures under "Jewish only" represent census respondents who identified themselves as Jewish only (by ethnic origin). The figures under "Jewish and other" represent respondents who identified themselves as Jewish in addition to at least one other ethnic origin.

	TOTAL	JEWISH ONLY	JEWISH AND OTHER
Canada	351,705 (369,565)	195,810 (245,840)	155,900 (123,725)
Alberta	14,415 (17,430)	5,350 (7,870)	9,065 (9,560)
B.C.	30,700 (30,985)	10,410 (12,630)	20,285 (18,355)
Manitoba	14,955 (17,250)	9,025 (12,265)	5,935 (4,985)
New Brunswick	1,325 (1,730)	320 (615)	1,005 (1,115)
Newfoundland	420 (530)	95 (65)	325 (465)
N.W.T	105 (125)	20 (40)	75 (85)
Nova Scotia	3,540 (4,310)	1,000 (1,515)	2,540 (2,795)
Ontario	191,445 (195,460)	108,430 (132,110)	83,015 (63,350)
P.E.I.	150 (150)	30 (50)	120 (100)
Quebec	92,390 (98,055)	60,495 (77,600)	31,895 (20,455)
Saskatchewan	2,120 (3,370)	600 (1,060)	1,515 (2,310)
Yukon Territory	145 (175)	30 (30)	115 (145)

Source: Statistics Canada

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Israel's 50th celebrated at Night of a Lifetime

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — With the sounding of the ram's horn, with music, song, dance, pomp and circumstance, Toronto's Jewish community celebrated Israel's 50th birthday at The Night of a Lifetime last week.

An overflow crowd of 10,000 people jammed into the National Trade Centre at Exhibition Place to join in worldwide celebrations marking Israel's jubilee.

They were treated to a Hollywood-style extravaganza that included cantorial chanting, Israeli pop music and modern dance. The multigenerational crowd celebrated, with many spontaneously taking to the open areas of the massive trade centre and turning them into impromptu dance floors during the uptempo numbers.

The program also included numerous videos of Canadians and Israelis reminiscing about various aspects of Israeli history and society.

Israeli entertainer Yoel Sharabi was a hit with his enthusiastic, upbeat renditions of Israeli songs, as were the three tenors – cantors Paul Kowarsky, Benjamin Maissner and Yaakov Motzen.

The speeches from a host of political and community dignitaries were mercifully short. Prime Minister Jean Chrétien, who was mobbed by swarms of well-wishers when he entered the building, drew the most enthusiastic applause when he stated: "There can be no peace without a secure State of Israel."

The prime minister recalled the abiding relationship between Israel and Canada through the Jewish state's first 50 years, noting, "Ours is a friendship based on the shared values of freedom and democracy; on the thousands of people-to-people contacts that link us intimately with each other; and on the vibrant Jewish Canadian community that is one of the building stones of Canada's identity."

Quoting Israel's late prime minister, Yitzhak Rabin, "and ordinary people throughout the region," Chrétien said they have had "enough of blood and tears.

The Night of a Lifetime meant a night of fun for all. [Ron Csillag photo]

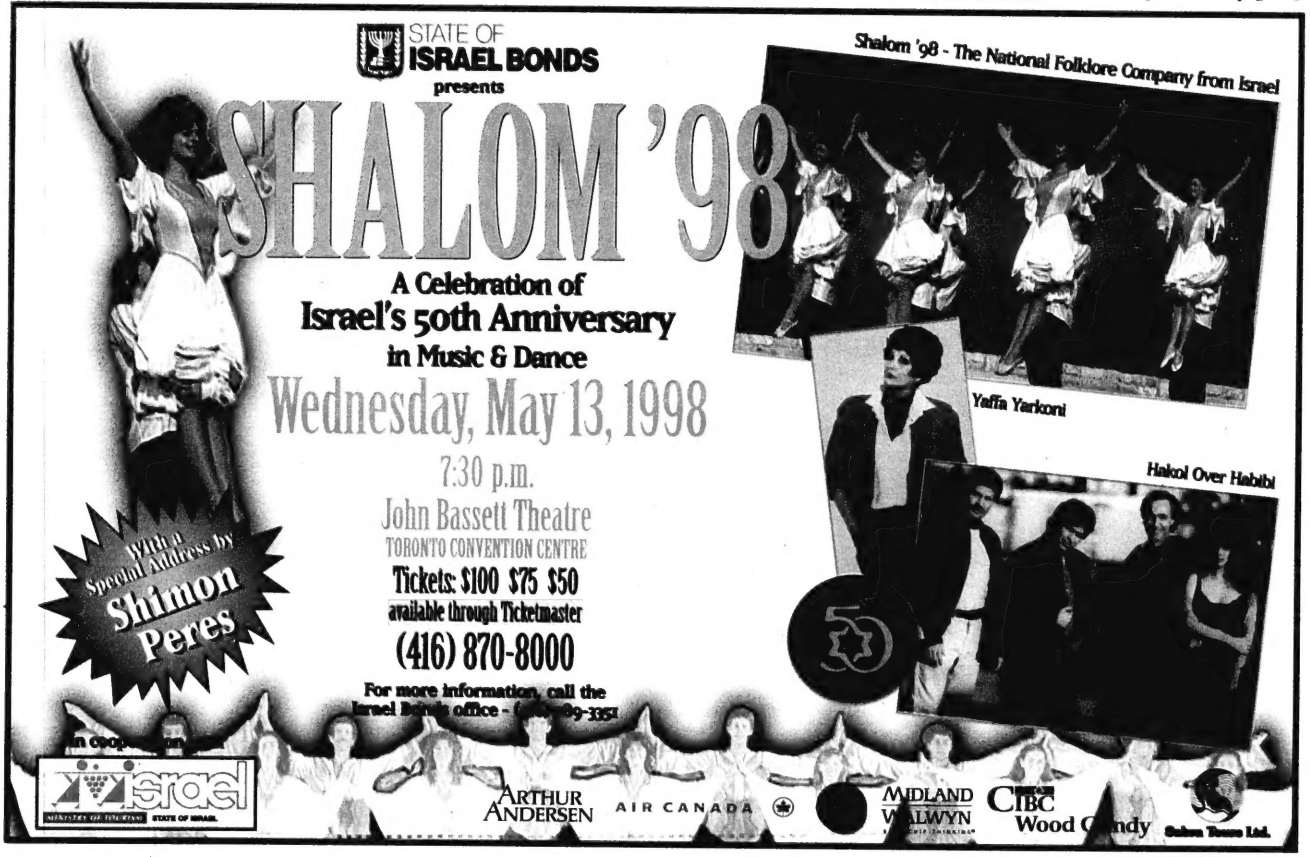
"Peace, true peace, is not only the absence of war, it is the presence of understanding," Chrétien said. "True security comes not from the threat of arms, but from the promise and hope of dialogue. That is why we admire the courage that so many Israelis are showing: putting aside old grievances, resisting the old habits of mistrust, working to break the cycle of violent provocation and retribution.

"Ladies and gentlemen, the bond between Canada and the people of Israel is a strong one. It is based on shared democratic values. It has been forged in friendship, mutual respect and decades of working together. And I know it will grow stronger still when – someday very soon – the people of Israel and those throughout the Middle East, will enjoy the blessings of a lasting peace."

"We are celebrating a milestone that must have once seemed like a faraway dream... Israel's achievement's [in 50 years] have been nothing short of miraculous," Ontario Premier Mike Harris said.

Others to address the celebration were Murray Koffler, who, along with his wife Marvelle, served as

[Cont'd. on page 14]



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Israel's 'forgotten soldiers' honored at commemoration

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — On the eve of celebrating Israel's 50th anniversary we must remember the soldiers who gave their life for that country, said a 1948 war veteran.

"We must especially honor the forgotten soldiers – those who were taken into the army immediately upon their arrival in Israel and then lost their lives before they could see the country of their dreams," said Eugene Feiger.

He spoke following a flag processional at the recent Yom Hazikaron commemoration and Yom Ha'atzmaut celebration sponsored by Bnei Akiva of Toronto, Emunah Women of Toronto and the Mizrachi Organization of Canada.

Feiger told the capacity crowd at Shaarei Shomayim Congregation that these soldiers were often the only survivors in their family. "There is no one left to grieve for them – they are truly the forgotten soldiers," he said after lighting a memorial candle.

Before the Yom Ha'atzmaut celebrations began, student Avi Vandersluis presented Israeli consul general Yehudi Kinar with a plaque in honor of the Toronto Youth Sefer Torah produced in honor of *Israel at 50*. (See story page 6.)

Special guest at the celebration was Kadish Goldberg, who made aliyah 37 years ago and is now a resident of Kibbutz Tirat Zvi.

A retired teacher, he now writes and translates poetry. He presented *My Fair Sabra at 50*, accompanied by Gary Levine and Bnei Akiva Choir under the the direction of Dr. Harvey Erlich, with music by Heshy Kuhnreich of Zemer Orchestra.

Celebrations continued with songs by Erlich and Cantor Shlomo Sufrin and Cantor Yaakov Motzen.

The committee for the commemoration and celebration included Samuel Kapustin and Jerry Rosenfield, co-chairs; Rabbi Roni Barnea, Chagit Barnea, Ehud Estreicher, Marsha Kapustin, Eli Poch and Howard Wolfe.

From the editor's desk
Will Return

Aish HaTorah to hold celebration

TORONTO — Aish HaTorah, in cooperation with the Municipality of Jerusalem and the mayor of Jerusalem, Ehud Olmert, is presenting a program to celebrate Israel's 50th anniversary.

Aish HaTorah has united CNN's TV talk show host Larry King with talk show host Dr. Laura Schlessinger in a live and interactive satellite broadcast — Making a Difference: The Power of One.

On June 3, the gala will open with an awards presentation by Olmert, via satellite, and by Israeli ambassador to Canada David Sultan in Toronto. The honorees will be recognized for their commitment to Jewish education, the Jewish people and Israel.

The Israel's 50th Anniversary Tribute Award will be presented to Green Forest Lumber's John Sereny and Yogen Fruz International's Michael, Aaron and Simon Serruya. Also, a special tribute will be paid to Canadian recipients of the Herzl Award, Saul and Toby Feldberg and Allan and Hinda Silber.

King will be hosting an international panel of celebrities including Natan Sharansky, former prisoner of Zion and Israeli minister of trade and industry; Dr. Rick Hodes, leading American physician in African relief; Morris Smith, former head of the world's largest mutual fund, The Fidelity's Magellan Fund; Rabbi Noach Weinberg, founder and dean of Aish HaTorah; Dr. Rabbi Abraham Twerski, founder of the Gateway Rehabilitation Centre, author and world renowned child psychiatrist; U.S. Senator Orrin Hatch; U.S. Senator Joe Lieberman; Michael Medved, chief film critic of the *New York Post*; David Sacks, creator/producer of 1997 Golden Globe for Best Comedy winner *Third Rock from the Sun*; and Vadim Rabinovich, leading industrialist in the Eastern bloc, owner of the largest Ukrainian TV station and head of the Ukrainian Jewish community.

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Israel's Jubilee 50 — *from the archives*

HEWERS OF WOOD, DRAWERS OF WATER

Young members of Kibbutz Nirim are seen here building their community in February 1947.
[Keren Hayesod - UIA Communications photo]

*****

For the latest in *Israel at 50* news, check out the *Israel at 50* Web site: [www.feduja.org] or call the *Israel at 50* hotline 416-635-2883 ext. 706.

Greater Toronto Area

Yom Hazikaron a time to 'remember sacrifices'

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — More than 200 yahrzeit candles in memory of the thousands of fallen Israeli soldiers flickered in the lobby of the Pride of Israel Synagogue, and an honor-guard of young men bearing Israeli flags stood at solemn attention, as members of the community filed into the sanctuary for the recent Yom Hazikaron assembly.

An estimated 1,000 people attended this event held to commemorate the Israeli soldiers who died in military operations or in terrorist attacks.

Organized by the Consulate General of Israel, Toronto, in conjunction with the *Israel at 50* Committee, the bilingual program was a mix of prayers, readings and songs. Yehuda Marle, Hashomer Hatzair shaliach, was the Hebrew MC while Irit Waidergorn, Israel's deputy consul general, provided most of the English translation.

The ceremony began with *Taps*, followed by a short march of the honor guard, mainly members of Tzabar, the Israeli scout troop.

Tzippi Erez, who lost her father, uncle and husband in military operations, lit a symbolic yahrzeit candle. Cantor Charles Weinberg chanted K'El Maleh Rachamim. Kaddish was said by Nir Bareket, who lost his brother, a member of the Palmach, in 1947.

Jehudi Kinar, the consul general of Israel, said Yom Hazikaron is a time to remember "the sacrifices made by so many for younger generations... They did not die in vain. They have contributed to all our well-being."

Coming on the eve of Yom Ha'atzmaut celebrations, he said, Yom Hazikaron is always a difficult time for Israelis. "It's a time to think of our loved ones;" and those people who have not lost family members share the sorrow. "At this time we belong to one big family."

Alon Tamir, part of the honor guard, holds Israel's flag at the community's recent Yom Hazikaron assembly. [B. Silverstein photo]

Rabbi Aaron Flanzraich reminded the assembled group that with its many accomplishments, it may look as if the State of Israel came easily, but it was built on "blood, sweat and tears of our people... [the fallen soldiers] paid a terrible and awesome price for what we enjoy today... We respect their eternal gift."

Marle and Waidergorn listed the number of casualties in each of Israel's wars.

Shula Ofir, the aliyah shlichah, another key organizer of the event that also included the participation of local musicians, told *The CJN* the group had worked together for several weeks to prepare a special Yom Hazikaron ceremony for Israel's 50th anniversary.

The singers, musicians and readers included Jewish National Fund representatives Yaen Vered and Dubi Dekel, David Brant, Meytal Golan, Orli Albalak-Botzer, Dafna Tzur, Lori Grafstein, Yitzhak Argeman, Yisrael David, Reuven Zemer, Shimon Zer-Avi, Mitch Silverstein, and Jordana Balas.

Security review of Zundel continues

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The Supreme Court of Canada last week turned down Holocaust-denier Ernst Zundel's request that it review a Federal Court of Appeal decision that permitted a security review to continue.

The High Court gave no reasons for its decision but the result is that the Security Intelligence Review Committee (SIRC) will be permitted to hold hearings to determine whether Canadian Security Intelligence Service (CSIS) was correct in labeling him a security risk.

This latest development leaves the door open to a possible future deportation hearing for the pro-Nazi propagandist.

A native of Germany, Zundel has recently sought Canadian citizenship. His request prompted the Minister of Citizenship and Immigration to ask CSIS to conduct a review to determine whether Zundel poses a security risk to Canada. If so, he would not be eligible for citizenship.

CSIS's finding was reviewed by SIRC, but Zundel challenged SIRC's impartiality, saying it had already branded him a hatemonger in a 1994 report on the white supremacist Heritage Front.

A lower court agreed with Zundel but that decision was overturned by the Federal Court of Appeal.

Meanwhile, a Canadian Human Rights Commission tribunal has rejected Zundel's submission that it end a hearing into whether a computer Web site, called "Zundelsite," promoted hatred against Jews.

The decision came shortly before a Federal Court judge was asked by Zundel's lawyer, Doug Christie, to rule on a parallel motion to throw out the case. Federal Court Judge John Richard has reserved his decision.

The tribunal, hearing a complaint against Zundel, ruled "there is no jurisdictional impediment to completing our task." The tribunal noted there was no court order to stop and that the public interest favored a continuation of proceedings.

The case is set to resume on May 11.

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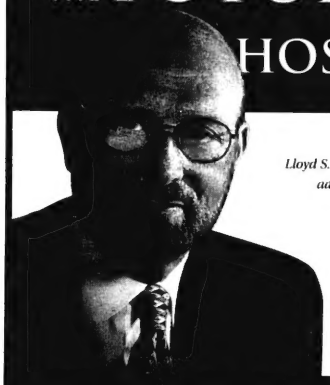

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It's Happening at Beth Tzedec

Toronto Jewish students help complete their Torah

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

VAUGHAN — Toronto's Jewish day and supplementary students witnessed a mitzvah last week: the completion of a sefer Torah they helped write.

Over 1,000 Jewish students packed the auditorium of Associated Hebrew Day School's Kamin campus auditorium to witness the completion by a sofer (scribe) of a Torah.

The joyous event capped the Toronto Youth Sefer Torah Project, probably the biggest project linked to the city's *Israel at 50* celebrations, short of last Thursday's Night of a Lifetime bash.

A procession that included hundreds of students carried the Torah from Netivot Hatorah Day School on Atkinson Avenue in Thornhill, past Leo Baeck Day School next door, and up the street to Associated.

There, students representing 12 branches of Toronto and York Region day and supplementary schools watched as sofer Yaakov Cohen meticulously inscribed the final letters onto the parchment, using special ink and a traditional turkey feather quill.

The auditorium then erupted into joyous singing and dancing.

"I know of no other community to have done this," remarked Julia Koschitzky, chair of Toronto's *Israel at 50* celebrations.

It is a mitzvah to write a Torah at least once during one's lifetime, said Associated's Jerry Rosenfield, who spearheaded the project.

But there will still be one more step: seven of the students have been chosen to travel to Israel to meet Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and present the Torah to the IDF.

The project began when Mizrachi commissioned the writing of a sefer Torah to be presented to the IDF to commemorate Israel's fallen soldiers.

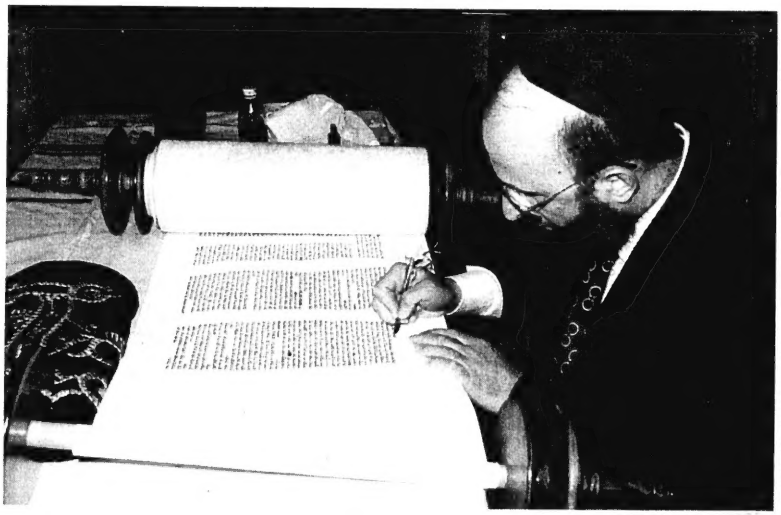
Jewish students across the Greater Toronto Area were asked to "subscribe" to individual letters in the Torah. Over 4,000 students responded.

Each subscriber will receive a special certificate to recognize their contribution.

The project was sponsored by Toronto's Zieleniec, Markowitz and Jelinek families in memory of Simcha Zieleniec and Alexander Jelinek.

The lucky students chosen to go to Israel will leave May 10.

They are scheduled to meet Netanyahu on May 11 and to present the Torah to the chief rabbi of the IDF on May 14.



The sefer Torah, written with help from thousands of Toronto Jewish day school and supplementary students, was carried in a procession (top) to Associated Hebrew School's Kamin campus, where sofer Yaakov Cohen (bottom) inscribed the final letters. [Ron Csillag photos]

Greater Toronto Area

New policy on war criminals expected soon

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The federal government is expected to announce sometime in the near future, perhaps as early as this week, a "comprehensive policy" on dealing with both Nazi and modern day war criminals, *The CJN* has learned.

Paul Vickery, head of the Justice Department's war crimes unit that deals with Nazi suspects, said the minister has indicated a desire to merge the units, but that the move hasn't been approved.

Vickery said it would be premature to comment further but Randy Gordon, former project manager of the modern day war crime unit, said the move is designed to increase the efficiency with which modern war criminals are removed from Canada. Because it is easier to win cases against modern day war criminals – less time has elapsed and legal criteria are easier to meet – merging the units will permit the government to "point to modern success and divert criticism on the Nazi side."

The unit investigating modern war crimes has only three program officers in the office and a limited budget. "That's why I think the Justice Department is trying to convince the cabinet that if the government is serious, here's the cost – $45 to $48 million a year – and it will get better results," he said.

Gordon speculated there are more than 400 cases of modern day war criminals in Canada, many of them among the 20,000 refugee claimants whose cases have yet to be heard.

"I think they'll unite the units eventually," said Irving Abella, chair of Canadian Jewish Congress' war crimes committee. "But it's premature now."

He said Congress was concerned that such a merger would divert resources from the effort against Nazi war criminals. "We're anxious to go after modern war criminals, but not at the expense of Nazi war criminals. Since there's a time limit with regards to Nazi war criminals, we should act there first," Abella said.

Gordon, who retired in October, was highly critical of the Justice Department's efforts to remove Nazi war criminals and the lengthy time it takes to remove even those who have been found to have lied to obtain Canadian citizenship.

In addition, a September 1996 cabinet memorandum to amend the Criminal Code to permit successful criminal prosecutions of alleged Nazi war criminals "is sitting on some desk," he said.

In other developments:

• Nazi collaborator Mamertas Rolland Maciukas of Montreal left Canada last week rather than contest allegations that he obtained his citizenship by fraud. Vickery said Maciukas departed 1½ days before his citizenship was revoked by cabinet. Maciukas was a member of a voluntary Lithuanian police battalion that helped German forces murder Jews.

• Wasily Bogutin has been notified that cabinet is in the process of stripping him of his citizenship after a Federal Court Judge ruled he had lied about his wartime activities in Ukraine.

• Ladislaus Csizsik-Csatary, a former member of the Royal Hungarian Police, has left Canada rather than contest allegations he was involved in confining and deporting Jews to concentration camps in 1944. Following inquiries by the RCMP and Immigration officials, "we're satisfied at the moment that he has left the country," Vickery said.

• The trial of Helmut Oberlander, who allegedly served as an interpreter for an Einstatzgruppen killing squad, is set to begin on Aug. 24 in a Federal Court in Toronto.

• The trial of alleged war criminal Johann Dueck, allegedly involved in the execution of Jews in Ukraine, will begin on Oct. 6.

By Dec. 1, all current cases involving alleged Nazi war criminals will be before the courts, Vickery said.

KOLEL REACHES OUT TO THE DEAF

Kolel, in partnership with The Toronto Jewish Association of the Deaf recently offered its first sign-language interpreted class. The course provides an overview of Jewish holidays and life cycle events. Seen here leading the class is Avi Rose and Bonnie Rittersporn, who signed for the class.

The lecture series that took 50 years to create.

The events of Israel's first 50 years have led up to this lecture series, but the issues of the next 50 years will be the subject matter. Having achieved relative security and prosperity during its first half-century, Israel must now decide what kind of society it wants to be.

To explore these issues, the New Israel Fund is sponsoring a lecture series, *Yesterday's Dreams, Today's Challenges,* across North America.

In this series, diverse leaders and scholars from Israel and North America will explore the complex challenges that the Jewish State faces in the next 50 years, and the ways that North American Jews can help to meet these challenges.

New Israel Fund
הקרן החדשה לישראל

The following lectures will take place in Toronto:

Monday, May 11, 7:30 p.m.
IDITH ZERTAL AND SHLOMO ARONSON
Zionism: Mission Accomplished?
Beth Tzedec Congregation
1700 Bathurst Street
Toronto

Now that the Zionist movement has achieved its major goals of establishing a sovereign state and absorbing diverse Jewish communities, does its ideology still provide Israel with a national mission? Idith Zertal, an Israeli historian and columnist, will make the case that Israel has entered a new era of "normalization" while Shlomo Aronson, professor of political science at Hebrew University, will make the case for Zionism's continuing relevance.

Joining us will be the Israeli Ambassador to Canada, David Sultan.

Monday, June 8, 7:30 p.m.
STUART SCHOFFMAN
Israel at 50: Yesterday's Dreams, Today's Challenges
Holy Blossom Temple
1950 Bathurst Street
Toronto

Stuart Schoffman, Associate Editor of the *Jerusalem Report*, will offer his perspective on the transformation Israel has undergone in its first 50 years and the challenges that lie ahead in its next half-century.

The lectures are free and open to the public. • Please RSVP to Talya Rotem-Assaf at (416)781-4322.
New Israel Fund of Canada • 801 Eglinton Avenue West, Suite 401, Toronto, ON M5N 1E3 (416)781-4322 • email: info@nif.org www.nif.org

Editorials and Letters

The Canadian Jewish news

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Sweet celebrations

In every community where we live, Jews last week celebrated Israel's 50th anniversary. And what sweet celebrations they were. Whether in the privacy of our homes, where we gathered with friends to exchange good wishes and say a l'chaim, or publicly, where we gathered by the thousands in social halls and theatres, to listen to music, dance, sing, and even shed a soft tear, it was undeniably a wondrous and wonderful occasion for us all.

Forgotten, for the moment at least, were the intra-communal divisions that in defiance of history's obvious lessons, appear to be driving wedges where bridges should be. For the most part, we were united in our gratitude and in our joy.

In many communities, it should be noted, the anniversary last week was not the culmination of our celebrations, but rather the beginning. More parties, school programs, assemblies, dinners, songfests, carnivals and special commemorative moments are planned for the coming months.

We urge our readers to attend them wherever and whenever possible.

To the countless individuals, professional and volunteer, in all the communities who played a role, and continue to play a role in helping bring about our celebrations, we convey our deep appreciation and say, simply, thank you.

Last week was indeed so very sweet. But what was sweetest of all was the knowledge that, in so openly, so fervently and so lovingly celebrating Israel's 50th anniversary, we have helped to plant the occasion forever in the minds and hearts of our children.

Good Canadian initiative

Little noticed last week, during the course of these anniversary celebrations, was the opening by Canada of a diplomatic office in Ramallah and a grant of $7 million in aid to the Palestinian Authority. The timing of the initiative aside, the government did a good thing.

All efforts by the international community to improve the economic and social conditions of the Palestinians are to be commended and encouraged. The generation of Palestinian children who were encouraged by their leaders to reject the authority of their parents, to throw stones, riot and rampage on the streets, rather than accept the discipline of learning in school to try to acquire skills and strive towards self-improvement, is an aimless cohort of young adults who dwell in poverty. And this is dangerous for Israel.

Despair is poverty's chief companion. And the offspring of both is almost always a three-headed monster: nihilism, extremism and fanaticism that revels, in this case, in attacking individual or group inclinations for tolerance and coexistence with the Israelis.

Thus any attempt to diminish the extent of Palestinian poverty is welcome. The more that daily life holds out the possibility of some measure of economic prosperity and personal fulfilment for individual Palestinians, the greater the incentive to support the peace process, and thus, the better the chances that peace will actually result.

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy expressed the matter very succinctly: "Our aim is to demonstrate that the pursuit of peace is in the interests of all the people in the region. It starts on the ground with being able to show people that there is some hope, some concrete improvements they can see coming as a result of the process that's going on."

Against the backdrop of the Canadian initiative, it was therefore very disheartening, but not, alas, surprising to read that Hamas leader Sheikh Ahmed Yassin had paid a visit to Iran where he called for the continuation of the "armed struggle against Israel."

Yassin is determined to fight his religious wars against Israel. But in his fanatical determination to destroy the Jewish state, he is ensuring his own people's perpetual penury and consigning yet another generation, at least, to live in unrelieved despair.

WISDOM OF THE AGES
"When tears come, they clear up the picture."
Rabbi Pinchas of Koritz

Dry Bones
SOVIET NUKES HAVE FALLEN INTO THE HANDS OF CRAZIES
WHO ARE WILLING TO SELL THEM TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER!
YOU MEAN?
YUP!
THE RUSSIAN GOVERNMENT

Editorial Advisory Board
Irving Abella, Donald Carr, Q.C., Sydney Eisen, Rabbi Elyse Goldstein, Zac Kaye, Lou Ronson, Herb Rosenfeld, Kurt Rothschild, Joseph Steiner, Elias Toby, Elizabeth Wolfe.

CJN stories on eating disorders ended loneliness

I would like to thank you for having a very informative column on eating disorders. I am a 19-year-old girl in the process of recovering from anorexia nervosa. Reading about other girls who went through the same problem made me feel really connected to them. I used to think I was the only religious girl going through this because it is not something spoken about openly in the *frum* community. I only hear about anorexics in the non-Jewish world; so I thought there was something wrong with me for becoming anorexic. I was able to identify with the many examples that were given, and only then did I realize how prevalent this problem is in the Jewish community. I just wish that Montreal would have as many resources as Toronto.

I am in the midst of getting help, mainly because of the people around me who care about me. Yet my parents are very frustrated and although they do see progress, it is hard for them to understand why it is taking me so long to get better. Anyway, I would just like to thank you for being very informative on this topic, and many others.

Editor's Note: In publishing this letter without attribution, we are departing from a long-standing CJN *policy. However, given the circumstances, we feel justified in making this exception.*

Backs Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon

We believe that it would be helpful to the interests of peace in the Middle East region if Canada would join the Americans and others in recommending to the Lebanese government that they accept Israel's offer to withdraw from its security zone inside Lebanon.

This of course would be predicated on a clear commitment by the Lebanese to fulfil their security responsibilities and not permit that territory to be used as a base for attack on Israeli northern communities.

Simon Rosenblum
National Co-President
Canadian Friends of Peace Now

Received cordially at the Vatican

Re: "Pope Pius XII speaks Hebrew to Jews at Vatican" (*CJN*, April 9).

I had the same experience in September 1944 while attending Yom Kippur services in Rome for Jewish (Allied) servicemen. I went into the Vatican with several others, including three Jewish army chaplains, two from the United States and one from Britain.

We were received cordially, and the rabbis had a private meeting with the Papal Nuncio, who became the pope later on. I was in the Royal Canadian Air Force.

A year earlier I was at a synagogue in Tunis, North Africa, for Yom Kippur.

Lawrence Alex
Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 66
Toronto

Objects to letter on Vatican statement

There are enough real problems tearing at the Jewish world, yet there are no shortage of activists ready to fire away at the non-Jewish world with their provocative and oftimes misleading statements. I refer to a letter (*CJN*, April 2), written by Bert Raphael on behalf of the Jewish Civil Rights Foundation of Canada, which is in fact an invective against the Vatican for its statement, *We Remember: A Reflection of the Shoah*.

This statement resulted from the initiative of Pope John Paul II, who is sincerely horrified over the events of the Holocaust and shamed by the historic loathing of the Jews propagated throughout most of Catholicism's history. Through his nurturing, the Commission for Religious Relations with the Jews was established to examine and explore ways to improve upon the strained relationship that has hitherto existed.

However, the Vatican statement fell short in its contrition and went out if its way to exonerate Pope Pius XII. Those rabbis who participated in the dialogue with the Vatican, including our own Rabbi Jordan Pearlson, were disappointed; they expected something less evasive. The consensus is that fundamental compromises were made to pacify those in the Catholic hierarchy who could not bear to have Pope Pius XII and Christ's Church stigmatized.

Other rabbis, who did not participate in the Catholic-Jewish dialogue, welcomed the statement despite its shortcomings, because for ages there has not been anything as respectful to Jews emanating from the Vatican.

The significance of the photo of Pope Pius XXII embracing the Grand Mufti of Jerusalem has as much bearing as the photo of Jean Crétien embracing Li Peng, the man responsible for the Tiananmen Square massacre.

Bert Raphael as a lawyer should know better than to write: "As proof of the Vatican's ongoing and tolerant attitude toward Nazism, one need only cite the instance where Cardinal Lubachivski bestowed his Church's blessing on the Ukrainian Waffen SS Division at its 1993 reunion in Lviv." If a cardinal chooses to give a blessing how does that implicate the Vatican? What is gained by aggravating the existing tenuous relationship between Jews and Ukrainians in Canada in addition to jeopardizing the situation of the 750,000 Jews who have chosen to continue living in Ukraine.

Some build bridges and others destroy them!

Alexander Epstein

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures.

Perspectives

Getting to the declaration...

By ELLI WOHLGELERNTER
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

When Golda Meyerson – later Meir – waited to step up to the podium to add her name to Israel's Declaration of Independence, her thoughts went back to the legends she learned as a child in Milwaukee:

"From my childhood in America, I learned about the Declaration of Independence and the geniuses who signed it. I couldn't imagine these were real people doing something real. And here I am signing it, actually signing a Declaration of Independence. I didn't think it was due me, that I, Goldie Mabovich Meyerson, deserved it, that I had lived to see the day. My hands shook. We had done it. We had brought the Jewish people into existence.

"Whatever price any of us would have to pay for it, we had recreated the Jewish national home. The long exile was over. Now we were a nation like other nations, masters – for the first time in 20 centuries – of our own destiny," she continued.

"All I can recall about my actual signing of the proclamation is that I was crying openly, not able even to wipe the tears from my face... David Pincus asked me why I was crying and I said, 'One, because of the honor, and two, because there are people missing here... who had more of a right to be here and sign'... I wept almost beyond control." Others may not have wept, yet they felt their date with destiny.

Moshe Shertok (later Sharett), soon to be the first foreign minister, later recalled that he signed with "a sense of excitement together with a clear premonition of danger such as a man might feel while standing on a cliff, ready to leap into a yawning chasm. We felt as though we stood on a very high crest, where roaring winds were brewing about us, and that we had to stand fast."

It was, said Haim Shapira, a leader of Hapoel Hamizrachi, a forerunner of the National Religious Party, "a dream, a dream which we had never believed would come true in our lifetime. A miracle had happened."

Three historical dates led up to the "miracle:" Aug. 30, 1897, when the First Zionist Congress at Basel, Switzerland, adopted the Basel Program resolutions proclaiming Zionism's aim "to establish a home for the Jewish people in Eretz Yisrael to be guaranteed by international law;" Nov. 2, 1917, when the Balfour Declaration gave voice to British support for a Jewish homeland in Palestine; and Nov. 29, 1947, 30 years after Balfour and 50 years after Basel, when the United Nations voted to partition Palestine into a Jewish and an Arab state.

Britain's decision to leave on May 15, 1948, gave the founding fathers their impetus to proclaim independence.

David Ben-Gurion sensed that it was now or never, and pushed to have statehood declared as the British were about to leave.

On May 12, the National Administration (Minhelet Ha'am), the quasi-cabinet known also as "The 13," met in Tel Aviv to discuss a draft of the declaration, which had been crafted mostly by Sharett, with help from other appointed members of the drafting committee: David Remez, Felix Rosenbleuth, Aharon Zisling and Shapira.

It is not surprising that with such disparate backgrounds among The 13, there was much wrangling over many specifics. The first argument was over what exactly should be declared.

Shertok, following discussions in the United States with high-ranking officials of the Truman administration, proposed the formation of a government, rather than a state. Rosenbleuth proposed the declaration of a state, within the framework of the UN partition resolution. Ben-Gurion decided on declaring a state "on the basis" of the UN vote.

Rosenbleuth and Behor Shitrit wanted the borders to be defined, but Zisling and Ben-Gurion were opposed. Ben-Gurion pointed out that the United States had not defined any borders when it declared independence, and besides, who knew where the borders would be at the end of the then-upcoming war?

"We accepted the UN resolution, but the Arabs did not," Ben-Gurion said. "They are preparing to make war on us. If we defeat them and capture western Galilee or territory on both sides of the road to Jerusalem, these areas will become part of the state. Why should we obligate ourselves to accept boundaries that in any case the Arabs don't accept?"

Then an even bigger question came up: What was the state to be called? Proposals included Zion, the Jewish State, Judea, the Land of Israel, Yehuda, and Ever, from the Hebrew *Ivri*. Ben-Gurion put forth Israel, and the name passed 6-3.

It was also agreed that independence would be declared at 4 p.m. on Friday – so as not to conflict with Shabbat – at the Tel Aviv Museum.

Shertok worked with the committee on revisions the next day, presenting a final version when the National Administration met that evening at 6 p.m. Criticized as too long, and with details still being debated, the document was given to Rabbi Yehuda Fishman of Hamizrachi, Zisling, Shertok and Ben-Gurion to finalize.

The next morning, Ben-Gurion submitted his text to the subcommittee, which approved it.

Shertok, meanwhile, had decided the night before that there should be an English translation of the text for distribution worldwide. Beginning at 10 p.m., after the National Administration meeting had ended, and working till 4 a.m., Shertok and his aides, using the Bible, the American Declaration of Independence, and Winston Churchill's speeches as models, drafted the English text.

At 1:50 p.m. the next day, 25 members of the National Council (Moetzet Ha'am) – 11 members were stuck in besieged Jerusalem and one was overseas – met at the Keren Kayemet building to approve the declaration. It was not a simple meeting. And there were only two hours until the signing ceremony was to begin.

Perhaps the biggest argument that final afternoon was over including "God" in the declaration. David Pinkas, a representative of Mizrachi, wanted the document to begin, "The Land of Israel was promised to the Jewish people in the Torah and by the prophets;" others wanted no mention – or even a hint – of a deity.

A compromise was reached to use the phrase "Tzur Yisrael," now translated as "Rock of Israel." Shertok had translated it as "Almighty God," and those words were used until an official version in 1962 changed it to "Rock of Israel." But objections were raised even to the "Tzur Yisrael" idea.

Ben-Gurion stepped in: "Each of us, in his own way, believes in the 'Rock of Israel' as he conceives it. I should like to make one request: Don't let me put this phrase to a vote."

He then asked the council to vote in two ballots on the document and added that council members stuck in besieged Jerusalem had approved it that morning.

"Now I ask all those in favor of the present text as a whole to raise their hands," Ben-Gurion said.

Everyone did.

The council also voted to repeal the White Paper of 1939 and Mandatory ordinances of 1939, 1940, 1941 and 1945, which limited immigration, land transfer and the Haganah. All other laws were to remain in effect pending future legislation.

The meeting adjourned at 3 p.m., leaving council members about an hour to change clothes, freshen up and get to 16 Rothschild Blvd.

The declaration of statehood was not a publicly declared event, as there were fears that the British – who still held nominal authority until midnight – might try and stop it and that Arab armies would move up plans to attack.

The one-page invitation to the ceremony sent out by messenger that morning included a paragraph saying: "We urge you to keep secret the contents of this invitation and time of the council meeting."

It urged guests to arrive at 3:30, and instructed them at the bottom: "Dress: dark festive attire."

Ben-Gurion wore a suit, tie and tie clasp. Three delegates, sticking to Palestinian tradition, wore jackets without ties.

Despite the secrecy, hundreds of people began gathering outside the hall as soon as military guards started to cordon off the street in the early afternoon. Thousands more tuned in to the Voice of Israel to hear the station's first direct broadcast.

Inside, the guests – estimated at 250, including representatives of the Jewish Agency, the World Zionist Organization, leaders of political parties, cultural personalities, the chief rabbis, the Haganah chief of staff Yigael Yadin, and others – were all tightly packed in the small hall. Newspaper editors and correspondents made up the largest group.

Ze'ev Sharef, secretary of the National Administration, had stayed at the Keren Kayemet building, waiting for the final draft to be typed. While speeding to get to the Tel Aviv Museum on time, his driver was stopped by a policeman, who tried to give them a ticket. The officer withdrew after it was explained to him that there was no authority behind the ticket, and that he was delaying the proclamation of statehood.

At exactly 4 p.m., Ben-Gurion banged his walnut wood gavel to open the session. The crowd rose spontaneously to sing Hatikva. "I shall now read to you the scroll of the Establishment of the State, which has passed its first reading by the National Council," Ben-Gurion announced.

He proceeded to read the first 10 paragraphs, in essence the preamble, which explained the background for declaring independence: the history of the Jewish people, its struggle to renew a national life in its own land, and international recognition of its right to do so.

Ben-Gurion's voice then rose as he read the decisive 11th paragraph: "Accordingly, we the members of the National Council, representing the Jewish People in Palestine and the World Zionist Movement, are met together in solemn assembly today, the day of termination of the British Mandate for Palestine; and by virtue of the natural and historic right of the Jewish People and the Resolution of the General Assembly of the United Nations, we hereby proclaim the establishment of the Jewish State in Palestine, to be called Medinat Yisrael [the State of Israel]."

Members of the audience rose in unison, cheering and applauding. Some burst out in tears.

It had taken him 16 minutes to read the 979 words of the declaration.

When the signatories to the declaration had all finished signing their names, Ben-Gurion declared, "The State of Israel is established. This meeting is adjourned."

After 1,878 years in exile, it had taken 32 minutes for the Jewish nation to be declared reborn.

At 5:25 a.m. the next day, May 15, 1948, the first Egyptian bombs fell on Tel Aviv. Syria, Jordan, Lebanon and Iraq joined in the attack. The War of Independence had begun.

Opinions

Yom Huledet Samayach

By Jean M. Gerber in Vancouver

Israel celebrates its 50th year as a state. Reflections on that 50 years abound, from the local freebie tabloid on my front doorstep to the august *New York Times*, which celebrated the event by looking back at what was said about the state by some of its illustrious founders, from Jabotinsky to Golda, from Herzl to Weizmann.

Even Hollywood, that other Kingdom of the Jews, got into the act (no pun intended) by staging an unintentionally hilarious tribute to Israel. If you missed it, you missed a chance to see some real schlock, as well as a most moving tribute to the state by Kirk Douglas, a.k.a. Mickey Marcus.

Let's look at what was and is being said about Israel, the state. Two thousand years of pouring out our wish to return to Zion produced some great quotes – even though we ourselves are reading them from the comfort of our living rooms in the Diaspora, in the most livable country in the world, with the best health plan, slowest mail service (another oxymoron) and one of the most fractious parliaments.

But I digress.

Moses Hess returned to his Jewish roots after years of wandering in the realms of 19th-century philosophy and political thought. "After 20 years of estrangement," he wrote in *Rome and Jerusalem*, "I have returned to my people." He attempted to combine Zionism with a universalistic appreciation of the rights of all humankind, arguing that "the national character of Judaism does not exclude universalism and modern civilization; on the contrary, these values are the logical effects of our national character."

Rabbi Abraham Isaac Kook, too, had a breadth of vision that sought to embrace modern Zionism at its most secular, while at the same time regarding the Zionist enterprise as the forerunner of the messianic age. Alas, his disciples have discarded his deep respect for all forms of the love of Zion and retained only a passionate belief in their ability to make the state a messianic instrument.

Rav Kook wrote: "To regard Eretz Yisrael as merely a tool for establishing our national unity – or even for sustaining our religion in the Diaspora by preserving its proper character and its faith, piety and observances – is a sterile notion; it is unworthy of the holiness of Eretz Yisrael." To Rav Kook, thoughts and actions outside Israel were of necessity less than perfect.

Only in Israel would we be able to find a pure vision and revelation. Yet he never sought to use that firm, mystical belief in the ability of the land to make us a holy people as a stick to beat his opponents with.

"How," he asked, "should men of faith respond to an age of ideological ferment which affirms all these values in the name of nationalism and denies their source, the rootedness of the national spirit, in God? ... work harder at the task of uncovering the light and holiness implicit in our national spirit, the divine element which is at its core. The secularists will thus be constrained to realize that they are immersed... in the life of God and bathed in the radiant light of sanctity that comes from above."

Rav Kook, that mystical realist, respected both secular and religious, because he truly believed that every human carried a divine spark that could be brought together in the new Jewish state. We could do well to take Rav Kook's position that every Jewish soul has a unique contribution to make to the cause of a Jewish nation.

And what vision can we all agree upon?

Yitzhak Rabin: "As a man who has led his country's struggle both on the battlefield and in political negotiations, who has been privileged to amass a unique combination of experience as a soldier, a diplomat and a head of government, there is no doubt whatsoever in my mind that the risks of peace are preferable by far to the grim certainties that await every nation in war."

Chaim Herzog: "Today's religious leadership must follow the lead given by my father and Rabbi Kook if that rift [between religious and secular] is to close. If we cannot bring about peace within our borders, how can we expect to achieve it outside them?"

And my favorite holy secularist, Golda: "My vision of our future? A Jewish state in which masses of Jews from all over the world will continue to settle and build; an Israel bound in a collaborative effort with its neighbors on behalf of all the people of this region; an Israel that remains a flourishing democracy and a society resting firmly on justice and equality"

We could wish for nothing more for the next 50 years. Happy birthday, Israel.

Rackets and racquets

By Rabbi Gunther Plaut in Toronto

The media tend to overwhelm us with negative news. Wherever you turn, there is another avalanche, a flood or other disaster. It has now become commonplace to blame them all on El Nino, which is deemed responsible for everything we cannot otherwise explain.

El Nino has not so far been blamed for human mischief. While violent crimes seem to be fewer this year than last year, white-collar crimes have multiplied. Increasingly, rackets is the catch-word for the underworld.

I now turn to the racketerial homonym, which is "racquets." My interest in this handheld object is old. Ever since my 16th birthday, when my older cousin whom I much admired (and who ended up in Auschwitz) presented me with a wooden racquet, the sport of tennis has intrigued me, challenged me, disappointed me and remained my passion.

Twenty-one years ago, when children trained by the Israel Tennis Centre first turned up in Toronto to show off their prowess as "racqueteers," they presented themselves as products of a brand new type of Israeli youth. I soon became a supporter of the project, and in the pages of *The Canadian Jewish News*, I became a regular advocate of a splendid endeavor now known as Canada Israel Children Centres.

I have often wondered why I am so greatly attracted to this particular Israeli project, when there are so many others that demand my attention: universities, religious issues, civil rights, Canada-Israel relationships, and so on. I have written before, and I do not hesitate to repeat it, that in some ways this particular enterprise is different from others that we support regularly. It is, in my view, the only mass effort to change Israeli culture patterns.

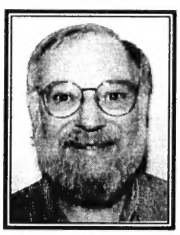
It has to do with toning down the self-assertive, raucous nature of Israeli interpersonal relationships. Tennis racquets are a symbol of self-critique, honesty, courtesy – and yet going all out to win, or at least to be our best.

For the last 21 years, we have entertained the children who have been involved in these programs, and have unreservedly admired not only their skill, but their behavior and their whole way of approaching us and each other. Every year, Toronto families have opened their homes to hosting several hundred guests who come to support the Children's Centres. By their hospitality, these couples have rendered all of us a great service, for they have provided the venue for raising large sums of money that, entirely fuelled by volunteer effort, have been transferred to Israel, there to be used to the fullest extent.

This year, at a gala tribute evening, these hosts of ours will be celebrated along with others who have made a singular contribution to this splendid effort. Alas, one of them, Gerry Pencer, is no longer with us, for after a long illness he recently passed away.

The evening will be all racquets, conviviality, goodwill and common purpose. Monty Hall will be the master of ceremonies and Leah Rabin will be the guest speaker. For more information, call Janice Segal at 905-660-1999.

In the big inning



By Shel Krakofsky in London

Question: Who is the only player in Major League history to strike out in 12 consecutive plate appearances? Hints: He was the youngest player ever elected into the Hall of Fame... his lifetime batting average was .097. The answer is at the end.

Now that the baseball season is blessedly back, it is time to dispel a longstanding and popular untruth that tennis is the first sport mentioned in the Torah. Aficionados of that sport like to point out that tennis appears first as "and Joseph served in Pharaoh's court." Cute. And wrong.

Fans of the to-and-fro game are herewith reminded that it is baseball that is the first game mentioned in the Torah. In fact, in the very first word of the very first sentence.

"In – the – big – inning..."

As Casey Stengel liked to say, "You can look it up!"

Casey, who managed the New York Yankees to seven World Series championships, was the inventor and master of "Stengelese," a term coined to describe the double talk he used to avoid answering questions.

If you are intimidated at shul or any other meetings, consider Stengel's 1958 appearance before a Congressional hearing looking into baseball's exemption from the antitrust laws. If you are confused by Stengel's performance, listen to Mickey Mantle's articulate summary of Stengel's jabberwocky. It's all in the United States Congressional Record, July 9, 1958... you can look it up.

Senator Langer: I want to know whether you intend to keep on monopolizing the world's championship in New York City?

Mr. Stengel: Well, I will tell you. I got a little concern yesterday in the first three innings when I saw the three players I had gotten rid of, and I said when I lost nine what am I going to do and when I had a couple of my players I thought so great of that did not do so good up to the sixth inning I was more confused but I finally had to go and call on a young man in Baltimore that we don't own and the Yankees don't own him, and he is doing pretty good, and I would actually have to tell you that I think we are more the Greta Garbo type now from success.

We are being hated, I mean, from the ownership and all, we are being hated. Every sport that gets too great or one individual – but if we made 27 cents and it pays to have a winner at home, why would you have a good winner in your own park if you were an owner?

That is the result of baseball. An owner gets most of the money at home and it is up to him and his staff to do better or they ought to be discharged.

Senator Kefauver: Thank you very much, Mr. Stengel. We appreciate your presence here. Mr. Mickey Mantle, will you come around... Mr. Mantle, do you have any observations with reference to the applicability of the antitrust laws to baseball?

Mr. Mantle: My views are just about the same as Casey's.

* * *

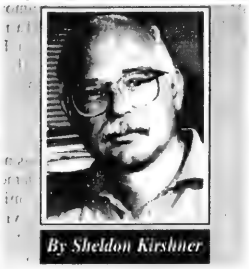
Answer to question: Sandy Koufax. Not only did Koufax strike out 12 times in a row, they were the first 12 at-bats of his career and his only at-bats as a 1955 Brooklyn Dodger. It was Koufax's arm, not his bat that brought him to Cooperstown in 1972.

He won the Cy Young award in 1963, 1965 and 1966, and captured the earned run title from 1962 to '66, a five year average of 1.99, the lowest for that long a stretch in baseball history. And it was Koufax who refused to pitch on Yom Kippur, the opening game of the 1965 World Series. That, you don't have to look up.

A few years ago, a friend of mine said, "Because Sandy Koufax didn't play on Yom Kippur, he was my hero. If he had refused to pitch on Shabbat, he could have been my teacher."

The Kirshner File

Joseph Heller, *Catch-22* author, looks back



By Sheldon Kirshner

Hunched over his desk one morning at a small New York advertising agency, a 30-year-old Jewish war veteran, his mind brimming with ideas from a dream the night before, began writing the first chapter of an intended novel.

It was 1953.

As usual, Joseph Heller wrote slowly, polishing his prose as he went along.

Two years later, a literary quarterly, *New World Writing*, published the first chapter under the title of *Catch-18*.

In 1957, with the book almost half finished, Heller received an advance from Simon & Schuster, the publisher. By then he had switched jobs and was churning out ad copy for *Time* magazine.

In 1961, while working for *McCall's* in a similar position, he finally completed the manuscript. His editor, Robert Gotlieb, liked it. There was only one problem. The title, *Catch-18*, had to be modified. *Mila 18*, Leon Uris's novel about the Warsaw ghetto, had just been published, and readers might not want to buy two books with the number 18.

Gotlieb called Heller. "I think I have it," he said. "Don't say no until you hear it: *Catch-22*."

"My God," he said. "That's it."

Catch-22, published 37 years ago in October, has become a classic of dark satire, the quintessential anti-war novel which transcends generations. But, as Heller recalled in a recent phone conversation to publicize the publication of his memoirs, *Now and Then*, *Catch-22* was not an immediate success. The reviews were decidedly mixed, with one prominent reviewer savaging it as devoid of craft.

It seemed as if the novel, based on Heller's experiences as a bombardier in the American air force during World War II, might be lost in the shuffle.

Not to put too fine a point on it, *Catch-22* dumbfounded the critics, and changed Heller's life.

The book – whose film rights were purchased by Mike Nichols – shot to the top of the charts as a paperback and was translated into numerous foreign languages, including Hebrew. At last count, it had sold 22 million copies around the world.

As for Heller, *Catch-22* gave him the confidence to leave the field of copywriting, which he had regarded as little more than a stopgap, and the uninterrupted freedom to write novels.

"It enabled me to be an independent writer," he said from his home in Long Island, New York. "It let me live the life I wanted to."

Since that blessed day, Heller, who turns 75 this month, has produced one play, six novels and, most recently, his memoirs. As for the latter, he said: "It would have been pretentious to have written *Now and Then* sooner, and posthumous had I waited longer."

Like *Catch-22*, *Now and Then* does not follow a simple chronological time-line, jumping back and forth from his boyhood in Coney Island to the present.

As one might expect, *Catch-22*, which I read as a teenager, casts a giant shadow over *Now and Then*.

In an interview, Heller said that the attitudes and sensibilities informing *Catch-22* were largely shaped by the Cold War, the McCarthyist hearings and the civil rights struggle in the United States.

Yossarian, the central figure in the novel, is deliberately an Assyrian. "I wanted him outside the stream of North American ethnic groups. But he's unconsciously Jewish, like James Joyce's Leopold Bloom."

Alluding to other writers who influenced him in the writing of *Catch-22*, Heller mentioned William Faulkner, Vladimir Nabakov, Louis Ferdinand Celine and Evelyn Waugh.

The son of Russian immigrants, he was raised in a neighborhood mainly populated by east European Jews. His father, a truck driver, died of a bleeding ulcer when Heller was only five. His mother, a seamstress whose forebears were bookbinders, read Yiddish books he would bring home from the public library.

As he recalls, his family was poor. "We were prudent with money because we didn't have much," he writes in *Now and Then*. As a boy, he lowered his expectations. "We did not want what we could not hope to have, and we were not made bitter or envious by knowing of people who had much more."

Heller was a good student, taking readily to reading, writing and arithmetic. But before the war, he did not think seriously of attending college. Returning from Europe after 1945, he studied English literature at New York University and the University of Southern California.

Heller had evinced an interest in journalism, but the required courses in copy editing, rewriting, proof reading and layout turned him off.

He wrote his first short stories in elementary school. In 1939, when he was 16, he submitted a short story about the Russian-Finnish war to the New York *Daily News* and two national magazines, *Collier's* and *Liberty*. It was rejected by all three. Not until 1948 did he finally break into print.

Like an old-fashioned craftsman, Heller composes in longhand. But in a concession to modernity, he uses a computer for rewrites. Normally, he writes about 300 words in a regular working day. "After that" he said, "I'm out of words."

Heller does not plan his plots in advance. "I start out with a character and a few lines," he explained.

When interviewers ask him why he writes, he tends to be facetious. "I have little else to do with my time except write books," he told Pamela Wallin the other night on her nightly CBC television program.

Is he serious? Perhaps. Heller has no hobbies and avoids common recreational activities such as golf. But he enjoys reading and music (jazz and classical) and is fond of scotch; dry, very cold martinis; and fine food.

More than 10 years ago, he was stricken by a disease of the peripheral nervous system which paralyzed him and made swallowing impossible. He recovered, but the lingering effects – weakness of facial and shoulder muscles – remain with him. Shortly after leaving the hospital, he married his nurse, his second wife.

Does he have any advice for would-be writers?

Turn to page 211 of *Now and Then*, wherein Heller observes: "In talking to groups of aspiring authors, I have frequently emphasized, particularly when the audience was made up of young people, that unless they had money, would inherit money, or would marry money, they were going to have to work at something else for quite a while, even if everything they wrote from that moment on found publication."

Sound advice.

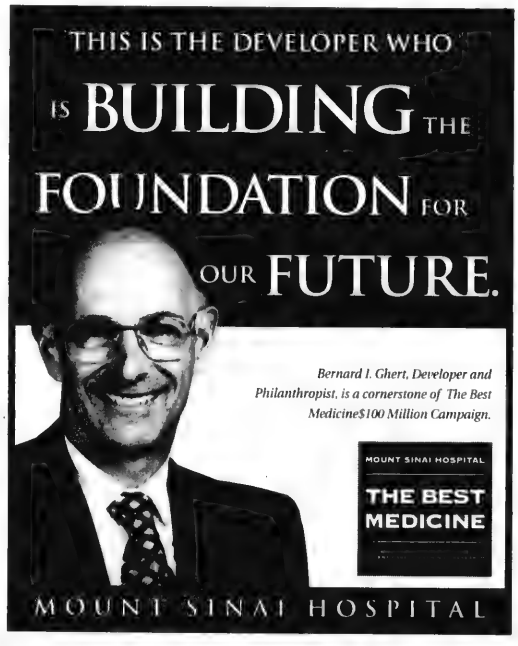
A catalogue and a disc

Joel Cahen, deputy director and chief curator of Beth Hatefutsoth, The Nahum Goldmann Museum of the Jewish Diaspora in Tel Aviv, is in the habit of sending me catalogues that coincide with exhibitions. The latest catalogue in a superb series is entitled *The Gaon of Vilna: The Man and his Legacy*. Printed in English and Hebrew, it marks the bicentennial of the Gaon's death, and is certainly well worth keeping in one's library.

As well, Cahen informs me that the museum has just released a set of discs celebrating Reform cantorial music and a software package for Jewish genealogy.

Originally recorded in Berlin between 1928 and 1930, the discs preserve two hours of synagogue music as performed by soloists who would all become famous. They include Joseph Schmidt and Frederick Lechner.

The software, known as Ilanot, enables you to keep track of your family tree and displays four or five generations at a time.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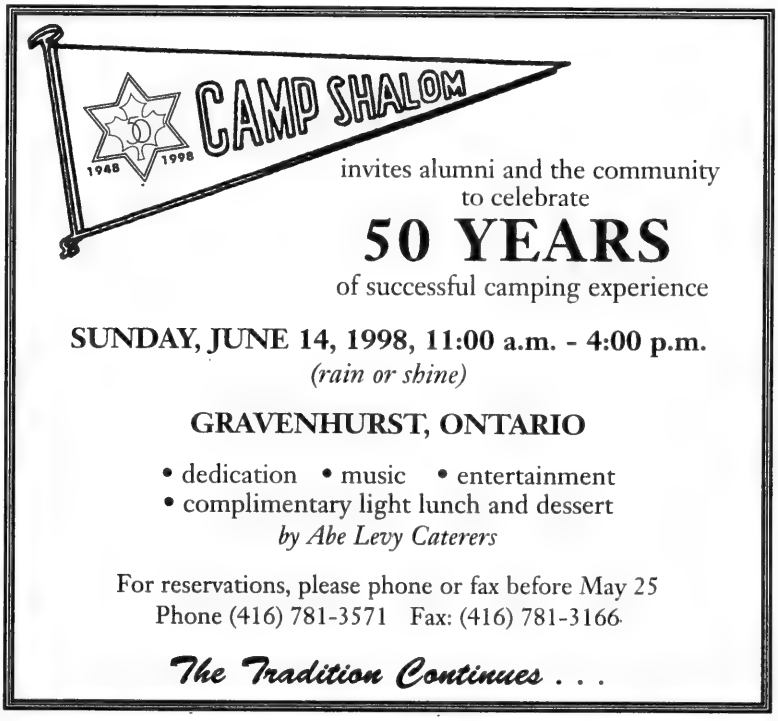
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By RACHAEL TURKIENICZ

In praise of 50

To the Land of Israel:

The Mishnah says: "Fifty years is for the ability to give counsel." Let anyone who wishes to peek at creation take note of how your desert blooms. Let anyone who scoffs at dreamers give attention to your flag.

The Talmud says there are "50 gates of understanding." The Zohar says that when Abraham bargained with G-d for the lives of the people in Sodom, he began with the number 50. Fifty is the entrance to understanding. All those who think it was easy should understand each of your years. With each anniversary, you understood the feeling of soldiers marching upon your soil. As time passed, the tears of the parent and the blood of the young turned your sand to mud. We are told that all the gates of understanding were given to Moses – all but one, for who can truly understand?

The Zohar says there are windows in the sky. Each window is divided into 50 sections. Each section provides a different perspective on the stars, the planets, the heavens. The road to peace is difficult and the perspectives are many. The Jewish people are one nation and the perspectives are many. Let us assure you we are all looking through the same window, but the glass has 50 prisms.

The Torah says G-d brought Israel out of Egypt. The Torah says this 50 times. Fifty is for redemption.

The Jewish people say the Shema twice each day. The proclamation of the Shema is 25 letters long. Every day our Shema contains 50 letters. Fifty is for covenant. Fifty is for promises. Fifty is for challenges.

The Zohar says the brain has 50 gateways. Fifty is for wisdom. Fifty is for learning. Fifty is for teaching.

When the Jewish nation first entered the land of Israel, Joshua sent two spies. These spies were sheltered and aided by Rachab, the harlot of Jericho. The Talmud says Rachab was 50 years old when she converted and married Joshua. Fifty is for new beginnings.

The Torah states: "Hallow the 50th year. Proclaim liberty throughout the land!" Fifty is for jubilation.

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By
RABBI CHAIM STEINMETZ

Gun control: A Jewish look

On March 24, in Jonesboro, Ark., two junior high school students armed with rifles murdered four of their schoolmates and one of their teachers. These horrible murders reignited the ongoing international debate about gun control.

Comparative Law

In Canada, the Canadian Parliament has passed several major pieces of legislation requiring gun control. In 1995, it passed Bill C-68 requiring all guns and rifles to be included in a national gun registry. This followed previous laws prohibiting machine-guns, and requiring the training and screening of all owners of firearms. To opponents of gun control laws, these laws are a nuisance for law abiding gun owners and have little effect on violent crime.

Proponents of these laws point to extensive academic research indicating that these laws save lives and increase safety. What does Jewish law (Halachah) have to say about this issue?

In Judaism, safety is a religious concern. The Bible requires that a roof be properly gated, in order to prevent people from falling off of it (Deuteronomy 22:8). This commandment is understood by the Talmud as a general directive to remove any safety hazard (Bava Kamma 15b; Shulchan Aruch CM 427:8). Contemporary rabbinic authorities include in this commandment an employer's responsibility to ensure occupational safety (Piskei Uziel 47) and an injunction against reckless driving (Minchat Yitzchak 8:148).

Someone who refuses to remove a safety hazard can be punished by excommunication (YD 334:7). In general, safety regulations are treated with far greater stringency than any other section of Halachah (YD 116:7). Clearly, any Jewish view of gun control would place high value on safety.

In the Talmud there are specific regulations that resemble gun control. There is a law against owning a dangerous dog (Bava Kamma 79a). One who owns a dangerous dog must keep it tied in metal chains at all times (CM 409:3). Even if the dog is defanged or trained not to harm people, it must be chained, because it may frighten strangers and as a result cause stress-related injuries such as miscarriage and heart attacks (Shabbat 63b).

One of the more pious rabbis, Rabbi Pinchas Ben Yair, was so stringent about this law that he refused to own mules, because they can occasionally cause injury (Hullin 7b; Terumat Hadeshen 2:105). However, there were instances where allowances were made. In border communities, where there is a threat of marauders, owners of dangerous dogs may unchain them at night for protection. Some say that any dangerous city is similar to a border community (CM 409:3).

These sources demonstrate that Halachah would require any gun to be carefully locked at all times, with allowances made in cases where the gun is actively being used for security. Those who are more stringent would avoid guns completely. (It should also be noted that many authorities prohibit hunting for sport; Rama OH 316:2, Darchei Teshuva YD 117:44.)

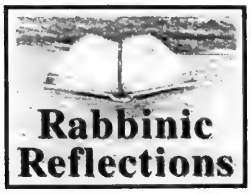
Another law is of relevance. The Talmud prohibits someone from selling offensive weapons to idol worshippers and suspected criminals (Avodah Zarah 15b; YD 151:5-6). The rule against selling to idol worshippers is based on an assumption that the idol worshippers will use them against Jews; however, if the Jews are allied with the idol worshippers, it is permitted to sell them arms.

It is likewise prohibited to sell such weapons to anyone suspected of reselling them to criminals. This Halachah requires that the buyers of firearms be carefully screened, and resembles in many ways laws requiring a national registry of gun and rifle owners.

Although Halachah is extremely concerned about safety, it does not prohibit the ownership of guns. However, recognizing that a gun is a dangerous object, Halachah (like many current gun control laws) requires that owners and vendors of guns take all possible precautions to prevent their guns from causing any harm.

Rabbi Chaim Steinmetz is the spiritual leader of Tifereth Beth David Jerusalem in Montreal.

Jewish Life



Love and reproof must be balanced

By RABBI MOSHE YERES

Many of us are familiar with the talmudic tale of Hillel and the gentile who wanted to learn all the Torah while standing on one foot. Hillel's adage was: "What is hateful to you, do not do to others – all the rest is commentary, now go and study it."

This is similar to Rabbi Akiva's statement referring to the verse, "Love thy neighbor as thyself." Rabbi Akiva says, "This is a great rule (*klal gadol*) in the Torah." Both men underscore the importance of interpersonal relations in a Jewish Torah society.

Now where is the verse found? It is in this week's reading of Leviticus 19:18 – in the middle parshah of the middle book Vayikra – in the centre of the Torah!

Yet we often forget the conclusion of Hillel's statement: "The rest is commentary, go and study." So let us try to understand what the Torah says.

A couple of questions immediately come to mind upon reading this verse. Can G-d actually command and require me to love my neighbor? What does this commandment then require?

Part of the mitzvah of "love thy neighbor as thyself" is to recognize that both of you form part of a larger whole, klal Yisrael, a sum total larger in life than its components.

"Love thy neighbor as thyself" – forget not that you and he share the common destiny of the Jewish people.

Perhaps no one said it better than Mordecai, who told Esther: "If you remain silent at this time, relief and deliverance shall arise from elsewhere, but you and your father's house shall perish." (Esther 4:14)

"Love thy neighbor as thyself." One may not cut oneself off from the community. Listen to the example of Rabbi Simon bar Yochai in Midrash Rabbah. A group of men were sitting in a boat. One of them took a drill and began to drill underneath. His friends said to him: "What are you sitting and doing?" He said to them: "What does it matter to you? Am I not drilling under myself?" They said to him that the water would rise and flood over the boat. (Leviticus Rabbah 4:6)

Don't we all sit together in the same boat of shared Jewish community?

The Kotzker Rebbe is purported to have noted in commenting on Exodus 2:11: What gave Moses greatness and grandeur (*vayigdal Moshe*)? It was joining his brethren (*va'yetze el echav*).

Yet to love does not necessarily mean to condone and blindly accept all that is clearly not correct. The verse immediately prior to the above states: "Thou shalt not hate thy brother in thy heart; thou shalt surely *rebuke* thy neighbor and not bear sin because of him." (Leviticus 19:17)

Contradictory you say! Hear the wise words of the midrash. Rabbi Yosi ben Rav Chanina said that reproof leads to love, as it says: "reprove a wise man and he will love you" (Proverbs 9:8) and "Love unaccompanied by reproof is not true love." (Genesis Rabbah 54:3)

Both love and reproof can be combined; the challenge is to balance both with sensitivity.

Rabbi Yeres serves as rosh hayeshivah of Yeshivat Bnei Akiva Or Chaim Ulpanat Orot Girls' School in Toronto.

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Israel's role in our lives

By MARK MIETKIEWICZ

Israel's 50th birthday has come and gone. But the country's jubilee celebrations continue. Over the coming months, in honor of Israel's 50th anniversary, I will cover such topics such as aliyah, the rebirth of Hebrew and how the world press and the World Wide Web are covering the birthday. Today, more Internet birthday sites. Some of these sites will amuse you. Others may anger you. But I hope that they will all provoke you to think about the role Israel plays in our lives.

Virtual Jerusalem's Israel@50 **[http://www.israelat50.com/]** divides itself into three logical sections. "Past" has articles on the country's leaders, a photo tour of the birth of the country and 50@50: a profile of 50 immigrants, each of whom arrived during a different year of the state's existence. "Present" lists 50 amazing Israeli achievements (military, medical and more), an Israel quiz and an article called Israel is the Only Country in the World Where… Some examples: "…where framed copies of the Ten Commandments are posted on the walls of railroad passenger cars; …where there is an annual Bible quiz for prison inmates; …and where the president and his wife hold an open house for 5,000 in their sukkah." The "Future" site examines Israel's high-tech future, lets you buy a tree through the JNF online, and takes a look at the state of the State during its second 50 years.

The Jewish Communications Network **[http://www.jcn18.com/scripts/jcn18/paper/Index.asp?columnId=65]** offers a series of thought-provoking articles such as Who is a Zionist? According to a public opinion poll, Israelis considered Druze soldiers more staunch Zionists than U.S. Jews or new Russian immigrants to Israel. In the essay A Time to Reassess, Rabbi Jerome M. Epstein of the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism draws a parallel between this 50th birthday and the biblical jubilee, the *Yovel*. According to Rabbi Epstein, now is the time for "a national reassessment of our priorities as a people."

And over at Jewishfamily.com **[http://www.shamash.org/jfl/holidays/israel.htm]**, you'll find links to several intriguing articles including Talking to Your Kids about Israel and Talking to Your Kids about Arabs.

Do you have thoughts about Israel's birthday bubbling inside you that you need to express? Then enter one of JCN's discussion forums. **[http://www.jcn18.com/scripts/jcn18/paper/newforum.asp]**. Topics includes Aliyah: Should we go or should we stay?; A Democratic Jewish State; and What do you think of Israel and the Israelis?

Of course, there's much more out there about Israel at 50. Try the JCN link page **[http://www.jcn18.com/scripts/jcn18/paper/Article.asp?ArticleID=1568]**, Maven's Links **[http://www.maven.co.il/subjects/idx129.htm]**, and the Mining Co. Guide to Israeli Culture **[http://israeliculture.miningco.com/library/weekly/aa033098.htm]**.

That should keep you busy for now. Next week, more on Israel at 50 – in Hebrew!

* * *

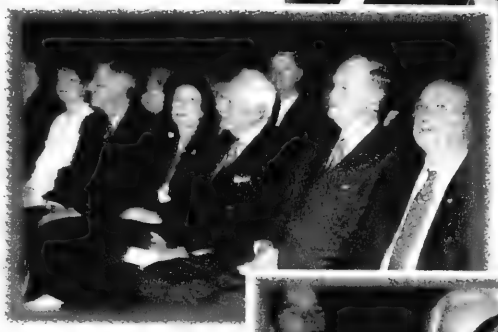
I want to thank Judy Cohen for the following note: "I am a 69-year-old witness to the Shoah and while researching the Net, I noticed the void on the Net re: women's special predicament during the Shoah. So I created one." Women and the Holocaust **[http://www.interlog.com/~mighty]** is a very personal and powerful work. I recommend taking a look at it.

Do you have a favorite Jewish/Israeli site? Maybe it's one you created yourself? E-mail me a note about it at the address below.

* * *

Mark Mietkiewicz is a television producer in Toronto with an interest in the Internet. He can be reached at [mdm@inforamp.net].

Israel at Fifty



Israel's 50th Celebrated

[Cont'd. from pg. 3]

co-chair of the evening's festivities; Julia Koschitzky, chair of the *Israel at 50* community celebrations; Consul General Jehudi Kinar; and Prime Minster Benjamin Netanyahu, who spoke to a worldwide audience on video.

Entertainer Al Waxman served as the evening's MC.

Prior to the official program, thousands of people milled about in an open area outside the auditorium that had been turned into an Israeli streetscape and Heritage Court, designed by Renée Rubinstein. Others joined massive lineups for food, while bartenders serving alcoholic beverages stood waiting for customers.

Remarking on the jubilee celebrations, Syd Gladstone said, "I was around for the birth and it's fantastic that I and Israel are around today. I hope it's here for my children and grandchildren."

Shira Levy, one of 200 volunteers at the evening's festivities, found the celebration heartwarming. "It's amazing, the people who are here. It spans generations."

Continued on page 15

The night of a lifetime

[Cont'd. from pg. 14]

Sheila Rother said, "I felt like I had to be here to show my support for Israel."

"We've been to Israel twice and loved it," her husband Danny said. "Being there... I get goosebumps when I hear Hatikvah."

Toronto Mayor Mel Lastman stated simply: "May there be many more 50 [year] anniversaries in peace. Enough Jewish blood."

The Night of a Lifetime program was produced by Robert Benia. Composer Stephen Glass created the background music for the evening's entertainment. Artists who performed included the Israel at 50 Orchestra, conducted by Boris Brott; The Israel at 50 Children's Ensemble (singers from Bialik, United Synagogue Day School and Associated); Sharabi; Waxman; cellist Ofra Harnoy; Kowarsky, Maissner and Motzen; and the Me'irim Dance Company (Catriona Ferguson, Tanya Findlay, Dora Ladas, Alexei Odintsov, Sergei Osadchuk, Patrick Parson and Ronald Taylor.)

A CELEBRATION TO REMEMBER

It was a memorable occasion. More than 10,000 people gathered at the National Trade Centre, Exhibition Place in Toronto, to sing, dance, be entertained and say "Happy 50th anniversary, Israel." These scenes attempt to convey the sense of unreserved celebration and joy that pervaded the evening, an evening that not only united the multigenerational gathering but also, for the moment at least, the three levels of political leaders as well.

[Photos by Ron Csillag, Stephen Epstein, Paul Lungen and Randy Zelcer]

Greater Toronto Area

Sephardi contributions to Israel recognized

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Sephardi Jews in the land of Israel were involved in important community and commercial endeavors long before their Ashkenazi counterparts began to make aliyah in significant numbers.

That was the message of Joseph Glass of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem's Geography department, when he spoke recently at the Sephardic Kehila Centre in Thornhill on Sephardic Contributions to the Upbuilding of Eretz Israel.

Over 150 people attended the lecture, which marked Israel's 50th anniversary and was co-sponsored by the Toronto chapter of the Canadian Friends of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and the Sephardic Kehila Centre.

Glass, an alumnus of Associated Hebrew Schools and the Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto who received his doctorate from the Hebrew University in 1996, is co-author of the book *Sephardi Entrepreneurs in Eretz Israel, the Amzalak Family, 1816-1918.*

According to family lore, Joseph Amzalak, a native of the British crown colony Gibraltar, was a slave trader in the early 1800s. He apparently changed course following the outbreak of a deadly plague in 1813 in Malta, where he was living at the time. "He met up with a rabbi who warned him if he didn't give up his evil ways – the trade in human lives – he too would perish in the plague," said Glass.

Amzalak moved to what was then Palestine, where he became involved in trade. Glass' presentation included a slide of an 1816 letter from the Jews of Tzfat thanking Amzalak for purchasing holy books.

In 1920, Amzalak moved from Acre to Jerusalem, where he worked to assist the small, impoverished Jewish community. He also lent money to the Ottoman government and to Christian churches.

One of the wealthiest Jews in the city, Amzalak also financed the publication of religious Jewish texts.

The Amzalak house, which was considered one of the most beautiful in Jerusalem, still stands just inside the Jaffa Gate, said Glass.

In addition to his business ventures and philanthropy, Amzalak served as a mohel and was known for his hospitality. Sir Moses and Lady Judith Montefiore usually stayed with the Amzalaks on their visits to Israel, Glass said.

"Amzalak represents the transfer of a vast amount of capital to the land of Israel, and he's not the only one," said Glass. In the 1830s and '40s, a number of Jews from North Africa followed his example, Glass added.

"Many of the Sephardi families started to move to the new developing port cities – Jaffa and Haifa," said Glass.

Amzalak's second son, Hayyim, settled in Jaffa and exported grain and oranges to Europe. Later he would purchase land for Russian Jewish immigrants when they were not allowed to do so on their own. The Amzalaks, along with other Sephardim, were among the prominent members of a committee to help new immigrants obtain food and shelter.

Sephardi immigrants and their children had the advantage of being multilingual and, as foreign citizens, they were exempt from import duties paid by Ottoman traders.

An Amzalak grandson, Joseph Navon, played an important role in bringing rail travel to Israel in the late 1800s. In 1888, he received a concession to construct a railway from Jaffa to Jerusalem.

This transformed the country's transportation system, explained Glass. Until the 1860s, it took two days, on foot or by donkey, to reach Jaffa from Jerusalem. A new, paved road brought the time down to 12 hours in the 1860s, but the railway, with its trip of about three hours, meant "a revolution in travel and in the transportation of goods."

Sephardim constituted the "vast majority" of Palestine's Jewish community in 1800, but by 1914 they made up only one third of the country's Jewish population.

Although there were many important Sephardi contributions during and after the British mandate, said Glass, the Sephardi families lost their prominent position as Eastern European immigrants gained prominence.

Universities celebrate partnerships

TORONTO — A half-day event May 14 will celebrate the long and fruitful partnerships forged between the University of Toronto and Israeli universities.

Israel and the University of Toronto – Celebrating Academic Partnerships, to take place at U of T's Hart House, will feature presentations from noted Canadian and Israeli university academics.

Simultaneous afternoon lectures will examine collaborative efforts between U of T and Israeli institutions on four fronts: health sciences, law and legal issues, Jewish studies and the physical sciences. These will feature top experts from those fields, both from Israel and U of T.

A fourth afternoon session will feature three U of T professors and former recipients of the Halbert Fellowship. The session will be moderated by Prof. Janice Stein, who administers the fellowship.

The keynote address will be delivered by Prof. Arie Shachar, director of the Halbert Centre for Canadian Studies at Hebrew University in Jerusalem.

A reception is scheduled from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

For details, call 416-946-3603.

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Greater Toronto Area

Holocaust survivors recalled at Christian service

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A Jewish studies department should be included in every school of Christian theology, says a retired Lutheran minister.

"My theological education failed to tell me about the Holocaust and Judaism," Rev. Glenn Nelson, recently retired pastor of St. Ansgar Lutheran Church, Toronto, said at the 18th annual Christian Service in Memory of the Holocaust held at St. Peter's Anglican Church, Erindale.

As part of the service, Mayor Hazel McCallion of Mississauga read the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Yom Hashoah

Earlier in the day, flames had destroyed the renovated Trinity Anglican Church in nearby Streetsville. McCallion is a parishoner at the historic church. A 17-year-old youth has been charged with arson.

Rev. Nelson recalled that there were no Jews where he was brought up, except the "off-limits" classmate of his sister. "My knowledge of Jews was limited to barbaric colloquialisms such as 'Jewing down the price' and 'the sheeny is coming.'"

He thanked the Holocaust survivors attending the service for expressing their sorrow in public. "We have come a long way past the indifference to the annihilation of Jews. I want to offer regret for the way the Christian Church has scapegoated the Jews."

Taking as title of his sermon, From Millstone to Milestone, Rev. Nelson said many Christians were unable until recently to understand the Holocaust – that it was a barrier to communication. "It was a millstone holding us back," he said.

"We do not hold this service just for Jews, but for ourselves. Their memory is ours. The Holocaust is as much an event of Christian history as of Jewish history."

The milestone aspect of his sermon referred to Israel which, he said, "was a hopeless fantasy 50 years ago."

Candles were lit by survivor George Salamon; resistance fighter Jack Heidema; Ena Bettings, a child of Righteous Gentiles, representing her father Jan Kappen; Rev. Douglas McKenzie, Toronto Christian-Jewish Dialogue board; Anna Booth and Dana Newman, Jewish and Christian friends; Donald Laitin, Holocaust Remembrance Committee; and Anne Edilitz, a hidden child.

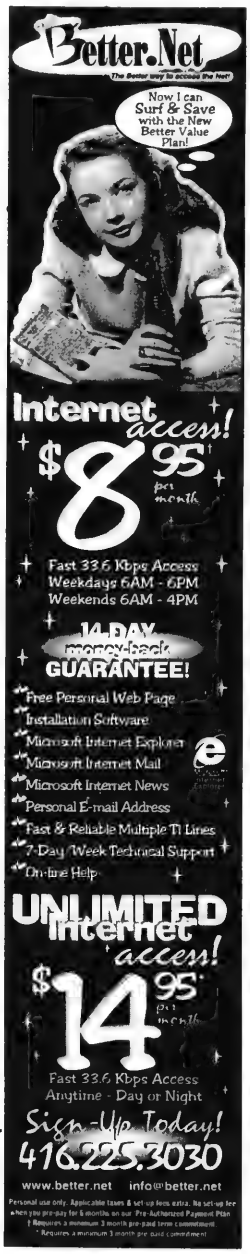
The candelabrum was made by David Hart of Holy Blossom Temple a long-time participant in Christian-Jewish dialogue.

Also taking part were Rev. Stephen Booth, St. Peter's Church minister; Catherine Durland; Roy Ackroyd; Cantor Michael Steinhouse; Lillian Newberry Timson; Rev. Ian MacPherson; the church choir directed by Peter Hanson; Rev. Canon A.H. Gordon Baker; Rev. Brian Prideaux; Rabbi Lawence Englander; and Rev. Dr. A.H. Harry Oussoren.

The service was held under auspices of Christian-Jewish Dialgue of Toronto. A reception was held in the parish hall with kosher food available.

TRACTATE COMPLETE

Ohr Somayach's first Gemorrah class recently celebrated the completion of Tractate Brachas. Seen here holding the plaque of achievement in learning for all the participants is Rabbi Eliezer Breitowitz, dean of Ohr Somayach Toronto, (right) and Rabbi Avram Rothman, executive director of Ohr Somayach Toronto.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Her sister Tali, mother Gail, grandparents Max & Rose and aunts Pearl and Edyie send these messages to her.

ORLY

We miss you.
We will always love you.

Bubby and Zaidy
Aunt Pearl and Aunt Edyie

TO MY DEAR SWEET ORLY,

Four years have passed
but not one day goes by,
That I don't think of you
and see your smile.

Your shining eyes I see
and your laughter I hear,
I can't get you out of my thoughts,
in my heart you are so dear.

I love you, dear Orly
You are with me day and night
Forever my sister,
Forever "my light"

Love, Tali

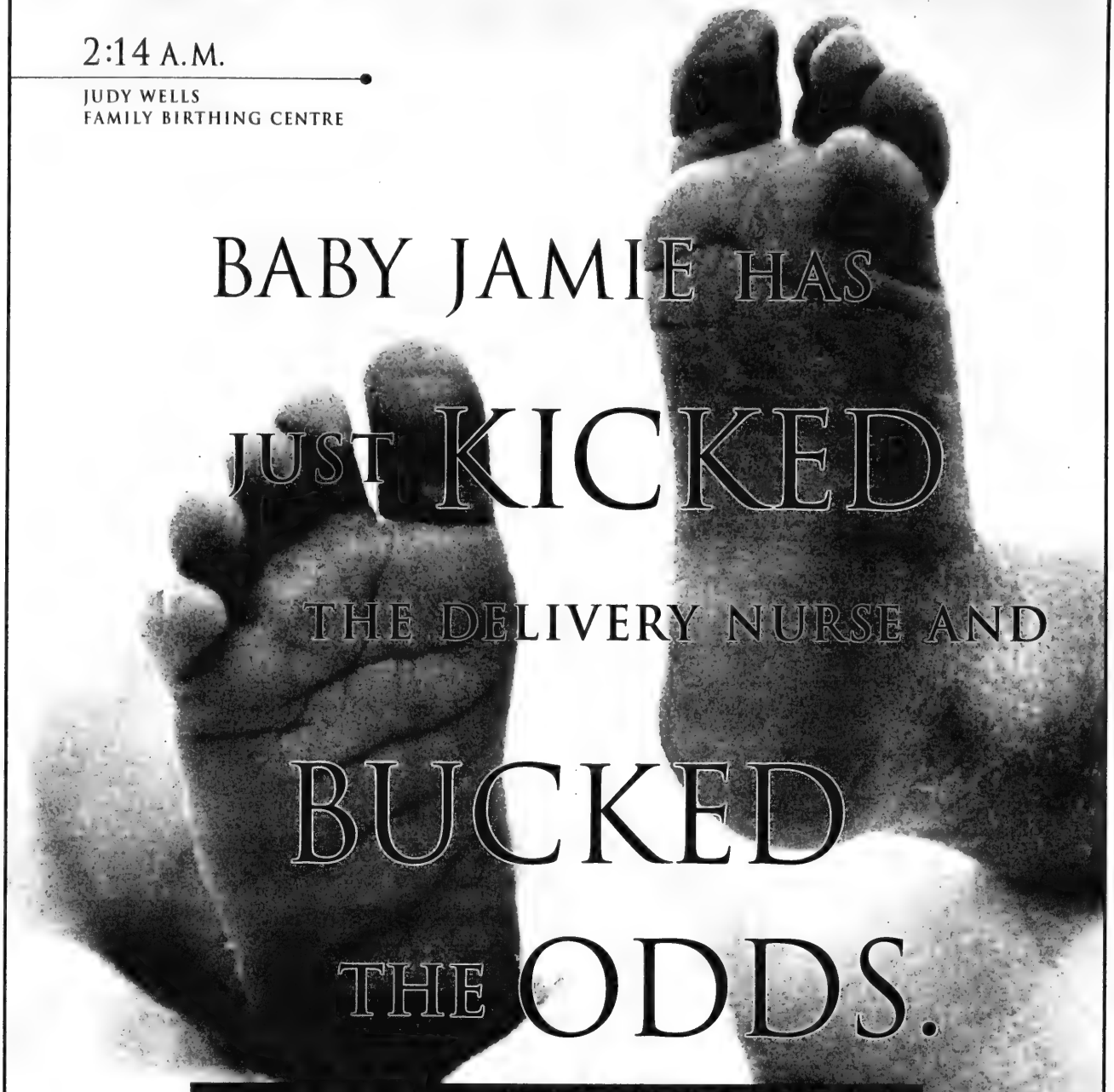
ORLY

Your smile lifted the spirit
of the meanest soul,
the hardest heart.
Your shining eyes
filled with life,
Your voice filled
with laughter and excitement
Affected even the saddest soul,
Your love of people,
Your insight, your charm
You left us,
But you are not gone.

Love, Mom

2:14 A.M.

JUDY WELLS
FAMILY BIRTHING CENTRE



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Sher undaunted by verbal attacks, says Farber

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The verbal attacks on Neal Sher by two members of the Reform party at a Commons justice committee will not deter him in his hunt for war criminals, according to Bernie Farber, who was in Ottawa at the meeting where Sher was attacked.

The criticism of Sher, a consultant to the Canadian war crimes unit, is part of an organized campaign by people "from eastern European countries," which resulted in hundreds of "gratuitous and insufferable" letters and phone calls to members of Parliament, Farber said.

Director of the Ontario region, Canadian Jewish Congress, Farber was the speaker at a Frances Bitterman memorial lecture at Beth Tikvah synagogue.

"It was painful for me to see and hear a hero of the Jewish people treated this way. He [Sher] was particularly disturbed by one MP calling for his resignation. But he is an optimist and said this kind of attack comes with the territory. He has faced it in the United States. My own belief is that he will chew these critics up for breakfast."

Neal Sher

Sher has done more to bring Nazi criminals to justice than anyone else, Farber said. As a result of Sher's work, 100 U.S. citizens have been denaturalized and 60 others deported.

He said Reform MP Jack Ramsay was more interested in proving John Demjanjuk to be innocent than in hearing Sher's explanation that "mistakes were made" in Demjanjuk's prosecution.

Demjanjuk was released by the Israeli Supreme Court, who said it had "niggling doubts" about the case, Farber said, but the court still described him in its verdict as a "vachman" or death camp guard though he may not have been Ivan the Terrible.

There will always be anti-Semitism, "because we do not have a perfect society," Farber said, but most Canadians are decent and are just as angry about the desecration of gravestones at a St. Catharines Jewish cemetery as Jews are.

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Rachael Turkienicz, Jewish Educator
Admission: $5 at the door
For more information or to RSVP, call (416) 635-2883 ext. 135

New action group to aid people with special needs

TORONTO — The recent collaboration of Reena and Jewish Family and Child Service (JF&CS) has led to the creation of the Jewish Community Action Group, which will support people with special needs and their families.

The group was made possible through a grant from the UJA Federation Endowment.

More than 50 parents, professionals and volunteer advocates met recently to determine the areas of interest to be focused on by the action group. Issues such as social inclusion, respite care, planning for the future, day-school integration, accessing information, and informal supports for families will be addressed in practical and proactive ways.

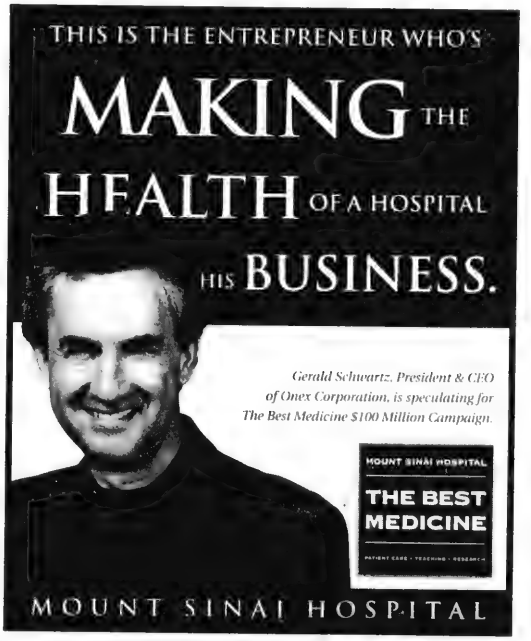
Participants formed working groups that will meet to decide how to focus their energy and attention.

"It is my hope that each group will take on a project that can change the face of our Jewish community," said Micki Bregman, chair of the action group. "Members of the community who are interested in helping us to make a difference in one of these areas are encouraged to become involved."

The working groups have already generated some ideas. Community awareness programs in the Jewish day schools will be offered; the possibility of mentoring programs for parents and families will likely be considered; and a comprehensive Jewish resource book for families of children with special needs will hopefully become a reality. Other gaps in service have been identified.

The group also hopes to break down intra-agency barriers to prove that collaboration is possible and necessary if one hopes to effect change. Along these lines, Reena and JF&CS will be partnering with Zareinu Educational Centre. Zareinu recently launched its Project Outreach, which focuses on the integration of children with special needs in Jewish day school settings.

For more information, call Ruth Slater at Reena 905-889-6484 ext. 2228.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This is the first of many changes to the Branson Division. In a few years, it will become an ambulatory care centre specializing in services for the elderly. In the coming months, we will ask for your ideas about its future services. We will not make any major changes without letting our community and patients know in advance.

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BBYO BIRTHDAY BASH

BBYO, in conjunction with the Downtown Jewish Community Council, held a special birthday celebration at the Bloor JCC on April 26 for all Toronto youth to commemorate Israel at 50. The birthday bash included a performance from the Ronnie Wiseman & Kadusha band, dancing, refreshments and door prizes. All money raised went to the purchase of trees in the Cheres Forest in Israel.

Booklet helps those in need

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A natural response to serious trouble is to turn to prayer.

Many, however, beyond personal pleas to G-d, don't know how or what to do in any formal fashion.

For I Am The Lord Who Heals You, prepared by the Association of Jewish Chaplains of Ontario, and Chaplaincy Services, Jewish Family & Child Service (JF&CS), is meant to help those people.

Rabbi Ronald Weiss, director of JF&CS Chaplaincy Services, told *The CJN* that "based on our experience, there is a need for a publication to appeal to Jews across the spectrum of observance."

He said that it should be a source of "comfort and encouragement to those isolated or physically removed [from the community]".

The booklet is a compendium of psalms, poems, prayers (both parts of the regular daily ritual and special prayers for the sick or needy), and meditations, in both Hebrew and English.

It is not for everyone, the rabbi said, explaining that the more religious might want a book of Psalms or a siddur, either of which would be provided for them.

However, 90 percent "are not like that," he said.

For I Am The Lord Who Heals You is free to anyone who asks for it. It is also made available to every family affiliated with the JF & CS hospice program.

For copies, contact Chaplaincy Services, JF & CS, 638-7800.

Toronto Jewish Healing Project

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Greater Toronto Area

'Matchmaker' seeks homes for foreign students

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Housing foreign students enriches one's home, according to Patti Dolman. And she should know. In the last four years, Dolman has hosted some 30 foreign students who have come to Toronto to study English through the Language Workshop.

"I've really enjoyed taking in students," Dolman told *The CJN* in a recent interview. "There's a bond made when a child comes into your home. Friendships are formed. It's a rewarding cultural interchange."

The experience is also gratifying to her 8-year-old daughter Tali, a Grade 2 student at Netivot HaTorah Day School, Dolman said, because "the students become an extension of the family. They brighten up the house and they add a new dimension to the household."

Up until now, the students have not been Jewish, said the Thornhill mother, who keeps a scrapbook of letters and pictures of the students, but she added that for the first time, the Language Workshop will be offering a special program for Jewish students this summer. A group of 15 Jewish teenagers from Brazil will be arriving in the Thornhill area to study English for the month of July.

Dolman has been hired to coordinate the Thornhill program this year and now she's trying to match the Brazilian students with Jewish families, she said.

The students, who range in age from 13 to 19, prefer to stay with Jewish families, she said, explaining that the Language Workshop has given assurances to the Brazilian families that their children will be housed with Canadian Jewish families.

The host families selected write a letter of introduction to the families abroad, who in turn write their own letters of introduction, she said. "By comparing information like hobbies, interests, age of children, in the letters, I try to find the best matches.

"We encourage communication between the host family and the student once a match is made, before the students arrive. It makes the students' families feel more comfortable about sending their child."

The students from Brazil will be joining approximately 25 students from Spain, who will also need places to stay in the Thornhill area where the English languages classes are held.

While these Spanish students are not Jewish, like most of the students have stayed with Dolman – she is shomer Shabbat – they learn to respect the customs of host families, she said.

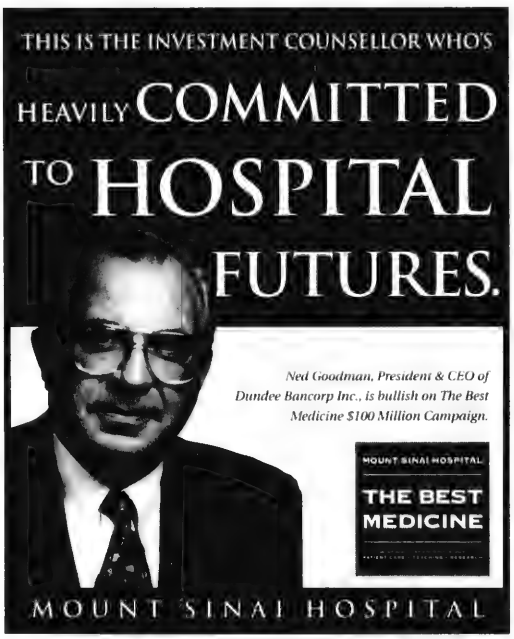
"All our students are completely versed in what happens here on Shabbat. We ask them to respect our home and tradition."

The Language Workshop, a privately run company based in Toronto, with offices in Spain and affiliate offices in Brazil, France, and Japan, has been running a program in Markham for nine years; students are screened by "reputable agents" before being accepted into the program, and all the students know some English before they arrive, Dolman said.

The students often go on outings organized by the language school, and in their spare time they enjoy shopping and going out with each other, so that host families don't have to entertain them, she said. The students are also monitored and given support by male and female group leaders from their respective countries.

The school pays host families a weekly stipend of $120 per child to cover the cost of food. Families interested in hosting a foreign student can contact Dolman at 905-881-6340.

BBYO CELEBRATES EARTH DAY
The BBYO teens from the Greater Toronto Area Council helped the City of Vaughan celebrate Earth Day '98 by cleaning up the Promenade Woodlot. The festivities wrapped up with a BBQ dinner.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CJN article helps man discover lost brothers' fate

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Sometime this June, in a forest outside the town of Dukla, Poland, Shimon Yarmusch will stand over the gravesite of his two slain brothers and recite Psalms in their memory.

Afterwards, he will trek to the cottage of local peasant Jan "Vanio" Holuta and present him with a plaque to thank him for patiently tending the gravesite for 55 years and for waiting for someone to return to the forest to honor the boys' memories.

Since World War II, the precise fate of his two brothers was unknown to Yarmusch, who is now semi-retired and living in Florida. The boys had escaped a mass shooting that claimed the lives of 500 Jews from Dukla, but they were later hunted down and murdered by a Nazi collaborator.

Jerzy Jastrzebowski

This June will mark the first time since the two youths were gunned down that Yarmusch will have had the opportunity to visit the place where they fell.

Yarmusch only learned of his brothers' fate thanks to an article by Jerzy Jastrzebowski that appeared in the Feb. 5 edition of *The CJN*. In the article, titled "A different remembrance," Jastrzebowski told the story of the Yarmusch brothers and made a plea to surviving Jews from Dukla to provide a minyan "so that two kids who did nothing wrong, except being born in the wrong place at the wrong time, get a decent funeral at last."

The article prompted "an explosion of interest" and numerous calls from *CJN* readers who were moved by the story, Jastrzebowski said.

News prompted 'explosion of interest'

News of the article spread far and wide and he received calls from Toronto, Montreal, New York, Los Angeles, San Francisco and Florida.

"The amount of interest in the article... defies imagination. There was a spontaneous reaction," he said.

Jastrzebowski was told of a group of young Jews, the children of survivors, who wept over the story's plea for a minyan to pray over the young boys' grave.

He received a call from a teacher in a small town in Maryland interested in the genealogy of Galician (from southern Poland) Jews, as well as a call from a Toronto reader who wanted to thank him for showing respect for and interest in the fate of two Jewish lads.

The story eventually was faxed from a Montreal reader to Yarmusch's two sons in New York. They of course passed it along to their father.

Jastrzebowski and Yarmusch, who is now around 75, eventually made contact and agreed to meet in Warsaw this summer. Although the arrangements are incomplete, it appears Yarmusch will be accompanied by his wife Renee, perhaps his two daughters and perhaps by a New York rabbi who is a friend of Yarmusch and who hails from Katowice.

From Warsaw, they will drive 500 kilometres to the home of a peasant family, where they will spend the night. The next day, they will travel to Dukla to see the Yarmusch's old home and then go to the gravesite.

Jastrzebowski, a senior editor with the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, said he's always felt an affinity for Polish Jews and their stories. He traces it back to a conversation he had with his grandmother when he was a small boy.

"Nana, who are Jews?" he asked her.

"Well, Jews are normal people just like you or I. Perhaps a little brighter," was her response. "I never forgot that conversation."

In 1966, while hiking across Poland's Carpathian Mountains, he chanced upon a peasant family that put him up for the night. They became friends and through them he learned of the fate of the Jews of Dukla.

"It's incredible," Jastrzebowski said. "There are killing fields all over there. Most are marked, some are unmarked."

But for an iron peg to mark the site and Holuta's memory of what transpired, the grave of the Yarmusch brothers would have been forgotten, Jastrzebowski said.

When he learned of the story of the Dukla Jews and about "an uneducated Polish/Ukrainian peasant who has been tending the graves," he became determined to tell the story. A Polish version of the article ran in the newspaper *Rzeczpospolita* (*The Republic*), but it solicited virtually no response.

Nevertheless, Jastrzebowski said he was determined to "do my duty and my duty is to keep my commitment that these two nameless Jewish boys will be remembered. I will bring the surviving brother to the grave so he can pay homage."

He hopes local Polish Jews will participate in a minyan and that Kaddish will be said over the remains. Eventually, Yarmusch hopes to exhume the bodies and rebury them in Israel, Jastrzebowski said.

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"Out for love...Be Back Shortly" An evening at the Toronto Jewish Film Festival, Sunday May 10, 1998, for Jewish singles ages 25ish-45ish. $20 includes movie, a talk by the director and schmoozing over coffee. Sponsored by Kolel: A Centre for Liberal Jewish Learning. Preregistration only, call 905-764-1329 for information.

Greater Toronto Area

Rosenberg Fund awards grants

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Two teenage children of a Canadian Indian activist are the first Canadian recipients of a grant from the Rosenberg Fund for Children (RFC).

The grant of $750 goes toward driving lessons for the children of Mary Pitawanakwat, an Ojibway-Potawatomi, who claimed racial slurs and sexual harassment as factors in her dismissal from the Human Rights Commission in Regina.

On a visit to Toronto, Robert Meeropol, the younger son of Ethel and Julius Rosenberg, who were executed on June 19, 1953, said the first Canadian grant is the result of his 1993 visit here when he learned of the problems facing Canadian Aboriginals.

Meeropol describes himself as "an orphan of the cold war." He and his older brother, Michael, were at first placed in an orphanage by relatives after their parents were executed.

Robert Meeropol

While in the orphanage, the children were denied the right to attend public schools in New Jersey.

Meeropol, executive director of RFC, said it was decided to waive geographical limits so that Brock and Robyn Pitawanakwat could take driving lessons.

He said the grant recognizes the common nature of the struggle of native Americans in the United States and Canada.

The RFC recently granted a total of $12,580 to benefit 42 children of parents who have been harassed, jailed, lost jobs or died in pursuit of their beliefs.

The Canadian Indian woman's struggle is not over, Meeropol said. "Unable to find work, she was forced onto welfare, suffered a stress-induced seizure, and underwent surgery for breast cancer. Her children were harassed at school and suffered from their poverty."

The tribunal looking into her complaint granted her two, rather than six years back pay, and ruled that she be given a job outside of Saskatchewan, which would cause her further hardship.

Meeropol and his brother have co-authored *We Are Your Sons* a retrospective look at the Rosenberg case.

For more information about the RFC call David Abramowitz, 789-5502.

Gelman goes by sound in his new Yiddish dictionary

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Jack Gelman has a lot of chutzpah, or is it khootzpah, (nerve), because he is going to bat for the spelling kh instead of ch, even in Khelm (Chelm) and kholopitz, delicious cabbage rolls in any spelling.

Disregarding the spelling in most Yiddish dictionaries, Gelman has gone ahead with the kh in his new dictionary (his second), *Yiddish a TwoWay Street*.

"I go by the sound and it's definitely a kh sound," he said, with the proper guttural emphasis as he pronounced it.

Yiddish is only a half language, he explained. You have to see it and hear it to properly appreciate it.

Jack Gelman

The two-way street of the title comes from the different words that mean the same thing, depending on what part of Europe the Yiddish came from. As an example, oigen glaizer or brilen for eye glasses, or kholodetz or pecha for head cheese.

This dictionary has new words and expressions and a new Yiddish to English section. A 68-year-old paper products salesman, Gelman often checks pronunciation and spelling with card players at Earl Bales park. "They are the experts," he said.

He is a familiar figure in Jewish restaurants, selling them his products and writing new words, or new versions of old words, on napkins, scraps of paper or business cards.

The witty illustrations were done by Joshua Bonder, 16, his grandson.

At the price of $15, it is available in Jewish book stores and some synagogue gift shops.

JOYOUS OCCASION

Itzhak Shor, 84, recently married Lea Nadler, 85, at Baycrest Terrace. The ceremony took place at Shaarei Tefillah Synagogue and was performed by Rabbi Moshe Stern. Seen here (from left, first row) Shor, Nadler, Samy Nadler (no family relation); (second row) Simona Nadler, Naomi Abraham, Marcella Abraham, Vera Rozin, Derrick Abraham and Fredy Abraham.

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Rabbi Aaron finds new home at Beth Sholom

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Unlike most of his colleagues, the incoming rabbi of Beth Sholom Synagogue invites congregants to call him Rabbi Aaron (his first name) instead of Rabbi Flanzraich.

Although he makes light of his preferred form of address – "None of the other rabbis have my last name," he says with a smile – he believes his choice contributes to a more comfortable atmosphere, one that may well further his goal of creating "a caring, loving and spiritual" congregation that is responsive and relevant to members of all ages.

The May 29 move to Beth Sholom from the smaller Pride of Israel Synagogue will be bittersweet for the rabbi, whose surname, for the record, is pronounced Flanz-rye-sh. Under his leadership for the past four years, membership at Pride of Israel has grown to 750 families.

"I've made many wonderful connections here. It's a very amicable parting...[but] at this stage Beth Sholom represented a different kind of challenge and a different set of opportunities."

Rabbi Flanzraich, a 31-year-old father of two small children, joins Beth Sholom as the 1,000-family congregation is putting behind itself a serious challenge of its own. Last spring the congregation's then spiritual leader, Rabbi Irvin Brandwein, left the synagogue following a decision by the board of governors not to renew his contract, and a subsequent, unpleasant membership meeting requested by 140 of his supporters and attended by an estimated 500 people.

Under the interim leadership of Rabbi Irvin Beigel, the congregation went through a healing period, said Beth Sholom president Warren Kimel.

The search committee, with over a dozen members, proceeded cautiously as they sought a "young, dynamic leader...to grow with and

Rabbi Aaron Flanzraich

get involved with the congregation."

Rabbi Flanzraich's innovations at Pride of Israel – a Shabbat morning children's story hour, a Hebrew school program, a kosher food bank, adult education programs – were among the factors that made him, according to Kimel, an "outstanding candidate."

Before moving to Toronto – his wife Stacee's hometown,– the rabbi worked in his family's commercial printing business in New York, most recently as sales manager. At the same time, he served as an assistant rabbi at the Sayville Jewish Centre and an assistant regional director for B'nai Brith Youth Organization as the Eastern Long Island region grew from eight to 23 chapters.

"I have found that whatever Judaism has touched in my life, it has made more beautiful," said Rabbi Flanzraich. He hopes to help as many congregants as possible realize the same connection.

Although neither Beth Sholom nor Pride of Israel is affiliated with United Synagogue (the Conservative movement's umbrella organization), both congregations are representative of a traditional Conservative approach to Judaism, Rabbi Flanzraich said.

An alumnus of Bar-Ilan University – where he studied political science, English literature and Judaic studies – Rabbi Flanzraich was also a founding member of the Israeli Ice Hockey Federation. He still finds time to play the game once a week.

Rabbi Flanzraich was ordained in Israel, where he pursued his rabbinical studies, and is a member of the Toronto Board of Rabbis and the American Association of Rabbis.

"We have to realize that whether we're Reform, Conservative or Orthodox, we all need each other, and while we have differences, I believe we have more in common than we have different from one another," he said. "The biggest challenge that faces the Jewish community here is to step away from building ghettos...we have to maintain and develop a dialogue with each other."

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Iranian Jew finds a new home at Toronto Heschel School

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Several years ago, Soheila Sabeti never dreamed she would be working in Toronto's vibrant Jewish community.

In 1985, Sabeti, 36, now administrative assistant at The Toronto Heschel School, an arts-based Hebrew day school, left Iran with her husband and children.

Trained as a physician in Iran, she says, "The only reason I was allowed to study medicine was because they needed women to treat women."

Arriving in Toronto via Israel, she knew she could not practise medicine, so Sabeti upgraded her skills in computer and office management. Last year, one month after Heschel opened its doors, she started working as a lunch room monitor and was then offered her present position.

Sabeti, the mother of three boys

Soheila Sabeti

ages 15, 13 and 8, is the "first person people see when they come to the school. I speak to the parents and then direct them to the principal or general studies director."

Among her duties, she acts as school nurse; mediates between teachers and administration; orders supplies; arranges appointments; and organizes students' files.

"This job is a dream come true. I grew up in a religious family and I am an observant Jew so I have always wanted to work in the Jewish community."

Heschel School is a unique place, she says. "Everyone cares about everyone else. The school has rules and structure, but caring comes first. Rules can be adjusted, if necessary.

"The caring," says Sabeti, "comes from the top. The principal, the general studies director and the staff think about how they would want to be treated if they were a parent at the school. There are 106 students and we know every one by name. Parents do not have to introduce themselves when they call."

She misses practising medicine, she says, but loves interacting with the students. "It gives me a good feeling that what I am doing is helping. If I see a student smiling, I feel good."

Living in Toronto and working at the school, Sabeti says, is the "best alternative, since we cannot live in Iran. I like what this country has to offer my children. I am part of a lost generation and I must do my part to pave the road for the next generation.

"I do not want my children to forget their heritage and we do keep in touch with family in Iran, but we are Canadian citizens. This is our home and I want my children to call it their home."

Since coming to Toronto, her life has turned around, says Sabeti. "We had to go through a lot to get here but there is a happy ending. I am comfortable at work and I can see staying at the school for good."

On Campus

McGill's Jewish teacher training gets boost

By JANICE ARNOLD
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — The Jewish teacher training program at McGill University, whose future seemed precarious a few years ago, is a lot more secure now thanks to the resumption of funding from FEDERATION CJA and a heightened expectation of private support.

The program will receive for the next two years, and possibly for a third, a total of $35,000 annually, said Jewish Education Council (JEC) executive director Shlomo Shimon. Of that amount, $10,000 will come as a Combined Jewish Appeal allocation via the JEC budget, and $25,000 in the form of a grant from the Jewish Community Foundation.

The federation suspended its funding of the program some six or seven years ago, offering the reason that it was no longer producing enough graduates. "The numbers were so low, funding wasn't warranted," Shimon said.

No one, however, denied the value of the program, both the quality of the education it provided and the need for teachers at Jewish schools in Canada. The community had funded the program with McGill from the beginning, but its share decreased over the years to about $25,000 before it was suspended.

Last year, the program had 11 graduates, among the highest number ever in its 25-year history, said director Eric Caplan. This year, the program has 17 students, of whom one will graduate in June and another two in October, he said.

Caplan is confident the program's enrolment will grow and is projecting five or six graduates next year and eight or nine the following year.

Shimon said funding has also been restored because of the greater willingness of the program to respond to the needs of the community. Caplan has created a 25-member community liaison committee to act as a sounding board for educators and community officials who want to have input in the program.

The funding has been extended with the understanding that the program will become self-sufficient in that time, Shimon said. He believes the program should benefit from the $2-million endowment created recently with donations by the Cummings family and Leanor and Alvin Segal in the Jewish studies department.

According to Gershon Hundert, holder of the position of Montreal Jewish community professor of Jewish studies, who was instrumental in securing the donation, the endowment will not benefit the teacher training program, which continues to seek its own patron(s).

The $35,000 community funding, which will begin Aug. 1, will enable the program to have a full-time director, something it has not had for some years, Caplan said.

"The funding has important symbolic value because it represents a return of the relationship between the program and the community. Being more integrated into the community is important for overall fundraising," he said. "The distance that existed, at least institutionally, is closing, if not closed." And while the $2-million endowment may not directly benefit the teacher training program, the donation has "created a certain momentum" for additional fundraising, Caplan said.

Funding from the community may also give the program more leverage when it negotiates the funding it gets from McGill, Caplan said.

This fall, the program's curriculum will be changed. Currently, graduates receive a bachelor of education degree that enables them to teach only Jewish studies at the elementary or high school level. In future, the program will train teachers for work in Jewish or general studies.

The program will lengthen from three to four years, during which students will receive instruction in math, science and other secular subjects and get more practical teaching experience, but continue to receive the same amount of Jewish studies instruction, he said. "None of these changes is at the expense of existing standards. They will spend no less time on Jewish studies. They will have to obtain the exact same number of Jewish studies credits as now."

Caplan said that "theoretically" the new curriculum will prepare graduates for work in any school and may make the program more attractive.

While Toronto's York University trains elementary Jewish school teachers, McGill remains the only school in Canada educating teachers for Jewish high schools and one of only about 10 such institutions in North America, Caplan said.

Graduates are virtually assured of employment because of the growth of Jewish education and the declining number of young Jews opting for a teaching career.

Medieval Jewish studies chair begun at U of T

TORONTO — An endowed chair in medieval Jewish studies has been established in the Department of Near and Middle Eastern Civilizations at the University of Toronto's Faculty of Arts and Science.

The $1-million gift from Senator Jerry Grafstein and his wife Carole will create the Senator Jerahmiel S. and Carole S. Grafstein Chair in Medieval Jewish Studies. The gift will be matched by U of T to create an endowment of $2 million.

The chair will make a significant contribution to the scholarship on medieval Jewry and will increase the profile of the topic in U of T and beyond. In teaching, the chairholder will integrate medieval Jewish studies into the curriculum of Near and Middle Eastern civilizations as well as the Jewish studies program.

"This generous gift builds on a significant foundation of research and teaching in Jewish studies across the Faculty of Arts and Science," said Carl Amrhein, dean of the Faculty of Arts and Science. "This, combined with the university's cross-disciplinary Centre for Medieval Studies, will enable the chairholder to not only contribute to specialized teaching and research in his or her home department, but in a number of related disciplines."

"It is our hope that the creation of this new core of medieval Jewish studies will act as a catalyst to a deeper understanding of the evolution of our humanistic values," said Grafstein. "The new chair will assist the University of Toronto to further solidify itself as a leader across the spectrum of disciplines medieval studies encompasses."

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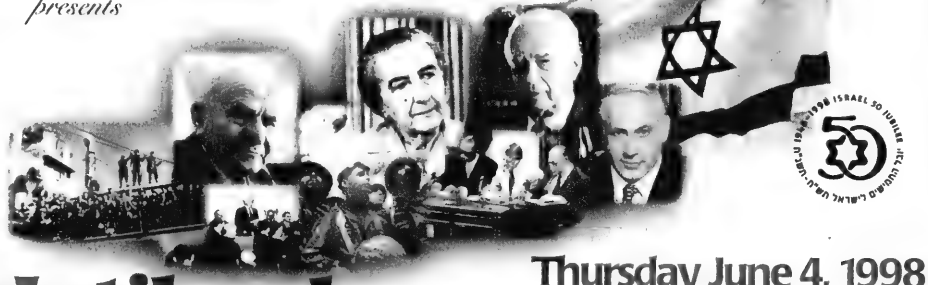

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What's New

By Miriam Herman

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DEADLINE REMINDER

What's New and About People deadlines: Monday, May 11, is deadline for May 21 issue, and Tuesday, May 19, is deadline for May 28. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 391-1836, fax 391-0829.

Thursday, May 7

ABOUT COOKING

Cooking demonstration with **Norene Gilletz**, 7:45 p.m., Council House, 4700 Bathurst St. $18. RSVP 633-5100.

STAGED READING

Medina Theatre Ensemble Scenecraft presents staged reading of scenes from plays directed by **Roselle Stone**, 7:30 p.m., B'nai Brith Building, 15 Hove St. 633-2057.

Saturday, May 9

KEHILLAH AHAVAT HESED

Ben Carniol discusses a progressive, innovative statement on Tikkun Olam by international committee of rabbis from Orthodox, Conservative, Reform, Reconstructionist and renewal movements. Services at 10 a.m., 788 Marlee Ave. Kiddush follows.

BBYO TEEN DANCE

BBYO Community Dance for high schoolers, 9 p.m., City Playhouse (New Westminster/Bathurst). Members $5, non-members $8. Proceeds to UJA Israel Funwalk. **Stefanie** 905-707-9907.

Sunday, May 10

50 YEARS OF ISRAEL

Prof. Martin Gilbert, historian, discusses 50 Years of Israel, 8 p.m., Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Synagogue. Co-sponsored by Canada-Israel Committee and Friends of Beth Hatefutsoth.

JEWISH STORIES

Jewish Stories by Candlelight. Riverdale Jewish Community Centre hosts Jewish storytelling. Everyone is welcome to listen or tell a story, 7:30 p.m., 179A Danforth Ave. 465-2395.

Monday, May 11

GREEN UP YOUR ACT

Green Up Your Act: Creating a Healthier Home Environment, presented by Jewish Women's Federation, UJA Federation Women's Campaign, 8 p.m., Adath Israel Synagogue. Panel discussion on indoor environment moderated by **Jane Hawtin**. RSVP 635-2883, ext. 135.

MISSION ACCOMPLISHED?

Beth Tzedec Congregation and Holy Blossom Temple co-sponsor Zionism: Mission Accomplished? by Hebrew University political science professor **Shlomo Aronson** and Israeli historian **Idith Zertal**, 7:30 p.m., Beth Tzedec. Preceding lecture, Israeli ambassador **David Sultan** participates in a ceremony marking the New Israel Fund's Signing Anew campaign.

MEDICINE AND THE SHOAH

Dr. William Seidelman, an expert on history of medicine, speaks on Dr. Joseph Mengele's Law: Accounts of Medicine and the Shoah, 8 p.m., First Narayever Congregation, 187 Brunswick Ave.

ROMANIAN BB LODGE

Romanian-speaking Dr. Filderman Lodge, B'nai Brith, presents **Miriam Rabinovitch** talking about the Contribution of Romanian Jews to the Establishment of the State of Israel, 6:30 p.m., 15 Hove St., B'nai Brith Building.

ELAINE ZIEMBA

Elaine Ziemba, former minister of Citizenship responsible for seniors in Ontario, speaks at Cranbrooke Friendship Club, 12:30 p.m. at Winchevsky Centre, 585 Cranbrooke Ave. Lunch $4. 789-5502.

Tuesday, May 12

LIVING JUDAISM

Downtown Jewish Learning Council presents Living Judaism with **Rabbi Chezi Zionce** of the First Narayever Congregation speaking on Shavuot, 8 p.m., Bloor JCC. 924-6211.

[Cont'd. on page 29]

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What's New

[Cont'd from page 28]

FAMILY HISTORY
Temple Har Zion Sisterhood presents Self-Publishing a Family History Through the "Magic" of Computers with author **Dr. Larry Gaum,** 8 p.m.

LASTING RELATIONSHIPS
Relationships to Last a Lifetime, Eitz Chaim Schools public lecture by **Rabbi Avraham Chaim Feuer**, 8 p.m., Beth Avraham Yoseph Congregation, 613 Clarke Ave. W., Thornhill.

TAY SACHS
Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Sisterhood and Family Committee present **Marla Fine** speaking on Tay Sachs: One Family's Story of Loss and Love. 8 p.m. $3.

DRESS AND ETIQUETTE
Professional Dress and Etiquette is the topic of Orah chapter, Jewish Women International's meeting with speaker **Ellen Zabitsky**, 7:30 p.m. For details, **Jennie** 783-9527.

BOOK REVIEW
National Council of Jewish Women, Toronto Section: **Elaine Newton** reviews *The Woman Who Walked Into Doors* by **Roddy Doyle** 8:30 p.m., Members $8, non-members $10. RSVP 633-5100.

CHUG TANACH
Chug Tanach meets 8 p.m. at Associated Finch Building to study chapters 10 and 11 in the Book of Hosea.

Wednesday, May 13

SHIMON PERES
Former prime minister **Shimon Peres** addresses and honors Canadian members of Machal, those who served voluntarily in Israel's War of Independence, at Shalom '98 celebration of Israel's 50th anniversary organized by State of Israel Bonds. 7:30 p.m., John Basset Theatre, Toronto Convention Centre. **Rose Shapiro** 789-3351.

PARENTING LECTURE
Leo Baeck Day School Parents' Association hosts Recognizing Anxiety in Children and Helping Them Learn to Cope, with child psychiatrist **Dr. Katharina Manassis**, director, Anxiety Disorders Program, Hospital for Sick Children. 8 p.m., Holy Blossom Temple.

ONE PEOPLE
Shaar Shalom Sisterhood study series led by **Rachael Turkienicz** focuses on Pluralism: One People, One Torah, One Reading, 8 p.m., at synagogue, 2 Simonston Blvd., Thornhill. $10. 905-661-9396.

ISRAELI DANCING
Shachar chapter, Toronto Hadassah-WIZO celebrates Israel's 50th birthday with Israeli dancing led by **Yossi Strauch**, 8 p.m., Garnet A. Williams Centre, 501 Clarke Ave. W. Thornhill. $10. **Katy** 221-7384 or **Davida** 905-731-5110.

ETHICS OF THE FATHERS
Beth Tzedec Congregation series with **Arnold Ages** continues with Rabbinic Wisdom and the Analysis of Human Nature: A Practical Guide, 7:30 p.m.

POMEGRANATE GUILD
Pomegranate Guild of Judaic Textiles workshops: Banner Squares; name tag instructions, kits, instructor **Bernice Krieger;** pictures, slides from archives; sale of materials and how to use them. 8 p.m., Lodzer Holocaust Centre, 12 Heaton St. **Sarita** 789-1145.

Thursday, May 14

FASHION SHOW
Beth Tikvah Sisterhood evening of Panache, a fashion show fundraiser for sisterhood projects and the Crohn's and Colitis Foundation of Canada, spring/summer collections presented by Andrews and Samuel B. Boutique browsing 7:15 p.m., show at 8. General admission $20, patrons $30, benefactors $50.

And What Else Is New

HEALING AND HOLINESS
Toronto Jewish Healing Project conference, Healing and Holiness: Making Sense of Suffering, Wednesday, May 27, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue. Keynote address by psychiatrist **Dr. Vivian Rakoff.** Morning and afternoon workshops. $65 includes lunch. Register. **Etta Ginsburg McEwan** 944-3359.

SINGLES 40 TO 60
Singles, 40-60, men and women, are invited to Thriving as a Single in the '90s, an interactive evening with **Estelle Altman,** Sunday, May 17, 7:30 p.m., 15 Hove St., B'nai Brith Building. RSVP to **Joyce Aster** 633-6224, ext. 106.

CANTORIAL CONCERT
Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am concert celebrating Israel's 50th anniversary with **Cantors Yehuda Rottner, Sidney Dworkin, Arie Lieb Subar** and **Yair Subar**, accompanied by the Muskat Symphony, Monday, May 25, 7:30 p.m. Tickets at shul office 633-5500.

THEATRE TRIP
National Council of Jewish Women Toronto Section, Niagara-on-the-Lake Theatre trip to see **Bernard Shaw's** *Major Barbara* at Festival Theatre, June 10.Members $60, non-members $65. Reserve by May 7. 633-5100.

MOVIE NIGHT
Yonge Shul movie night, Discover How a Popular Hollywood Movie Can Reveal Jewish Concepts and Wisdom, plus mingling, food and drink, Wednesday, May 20, 8 p.m., Unicorn Upstairs (Confusion), 173 Eglinton Ave. E. $10 in advance, $15 at door. Reserve by May 15. 787-2444.

YAD BEYAD
Volunteers needed in Israel in July to teach English to immigrants. Volunteers don't have to be teachers. Training is provided. **Philip** 633-3531 or **Elaine** 635-5157.

HEBREW COURSES
Keren Hatarbut Institute of Hebrew Studies, 799 Marlee Ave., summer courses for adults, teens, pre-teens, all levels, 14 sessions starting the last week in May. Register. **Joseph Klinger** 787-0197.

SINGLES 25 TO 45
Tired of the pressure? Let's get together to plan exciting, mind-bending events and gatherings. **Rhonda** 905-731-9441.

JF&CS GROUPS
Jewish Family & Child Service groups. Register with **Pat Lieberman** 638-7800, ext. 215.

One Family: Two Homes, a three-session group for parents and children experiencing separation or divorce, begins May 28.

Successful Stepparenting begins May 26; The Challenge of Anger: For Women, begins in May.

BOOKS NEEDED
Recycle your surplus books through the University College Book Sale at University of Toronto. Proceeds support UC Library. For Toronto-wide pick-up 978-0372.

FOR SENIORS

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club: Oak Creek Boat Farm cruise, June 16; Kingston cruise, July 14; cruise, musical *Little Shop of Horrors* Aug. 19; *Man of La Mancha* at Stratford Oct. 27. **Lena** 785-5773. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel. **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). May 7, general members meeting. May 14, Israeli movie *Hagasasim.* **Aaron Dahary** 661-4689 or **Malka** 630-5771.

Wagman Centre Bereavement Group for older adults who have recently lost a spouse meets every other Friday at the Wagman Centre. **Paula David** 785-2500, ext. 2271.

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: May 11, Casino Niagara; May 14, Casino Rama, members $5, non-members $8; May 27-29, Ottawa Tulip Festival, Thousand Islands; July 13-19, Catskills $965 Canadian, all inclusive. Membership open $12. 395-7881.

LZA Seniors Club: Registration for *South Pacific* at Stage West June 17 and *Man of La Mancha* at Stratford Sept. 10. **Libby** 782-2059. or **Belle** 633-5841 or Borochov Centre 630-9444. Ladies Folkdancing Thursdays 1:30 p.m. Cultural Discussion Group Tuesdays 10 a.m. Centre is open Monday to Friday 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Young at Heart Seniors trip to Catskills kosher hotel, the Raleigh, two weekends Aug. 14-23. Great price. **Helen** 635-6343.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE
Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. 225-2112.

Laughter is Good Medicine and It Doesn't Taste Bad, **Dr. David Saul,** Monday, May 11, 1:15-2:15 p.m.

A Pinch of Love, stories of familial relationships, with author **Alvin Abram**, Tuesday, May 12, 10 a.m.

Therapeutic Touch, nurse **Florence Baum,** Tuesday, May 12, 11:30-1 p.m. **Joan**

Hearing Aid Checkup with **Barry Katz**, Tuesday, May 12, 12:15 p.m.

Parkinson's Support Group, nurse **Cynthia O'Beirne**, volunteer at Sleep/Wake Disorders Canada, discusses How to Get a Good Night's Sleep, Tuesday, May 12, 1:15 p.m.

Mother's Day spring luncheon dance, **Edward Rubin** and **Michael Khinkis**, Wednesday, May 13, noon to 3 p.m. Members $10, non-members $12. Tickets at Information Desk.

North York Concert Orchestra, conductor **Janez Govednick**, soloist **Stephen McNie**, oboe, Wednesday, May 13, 7:30 p.m. Members $4, non-members $6.

Myths My Bubby Told Me, about safe food handling, **Michael Brodsky,** environmental microbiologist, Thursday, May 14, 1:15-2:15 p.m.

Israeli Club Etrog meets 7 p.m. Tuesdays for movies, sing-alongs, lectures, dances, bingo. Club is cosponsoring North York Concert Orchestra May 13. **Anna.**

Movie Sunday, May 10, *Addicted to Love* 2:30 p.m.

Dance Sunday, May 10, 7:30-10:30 p.m.

BLOOR JCC

Bloor Jewish Community Centre, 750 Spadina Ave., 924-6211.

Seniors Club: Thursday, May 7, Israel at 50: Life and Politics in Israel Today, **Hershel Sahian,** Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario region, 2 p.m., followed by tea in honor of Israel's birthday. Thursday, May 14, Canadian film, *Lies My Father Told Me*, 2 p.m. **Judy.**

SINGLES EVENTS CAN BE FOUND ON PAGE 24

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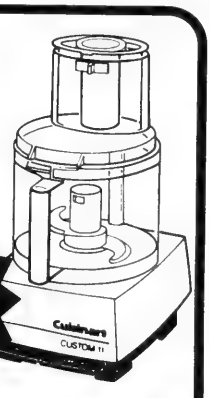

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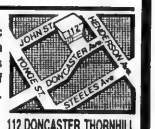

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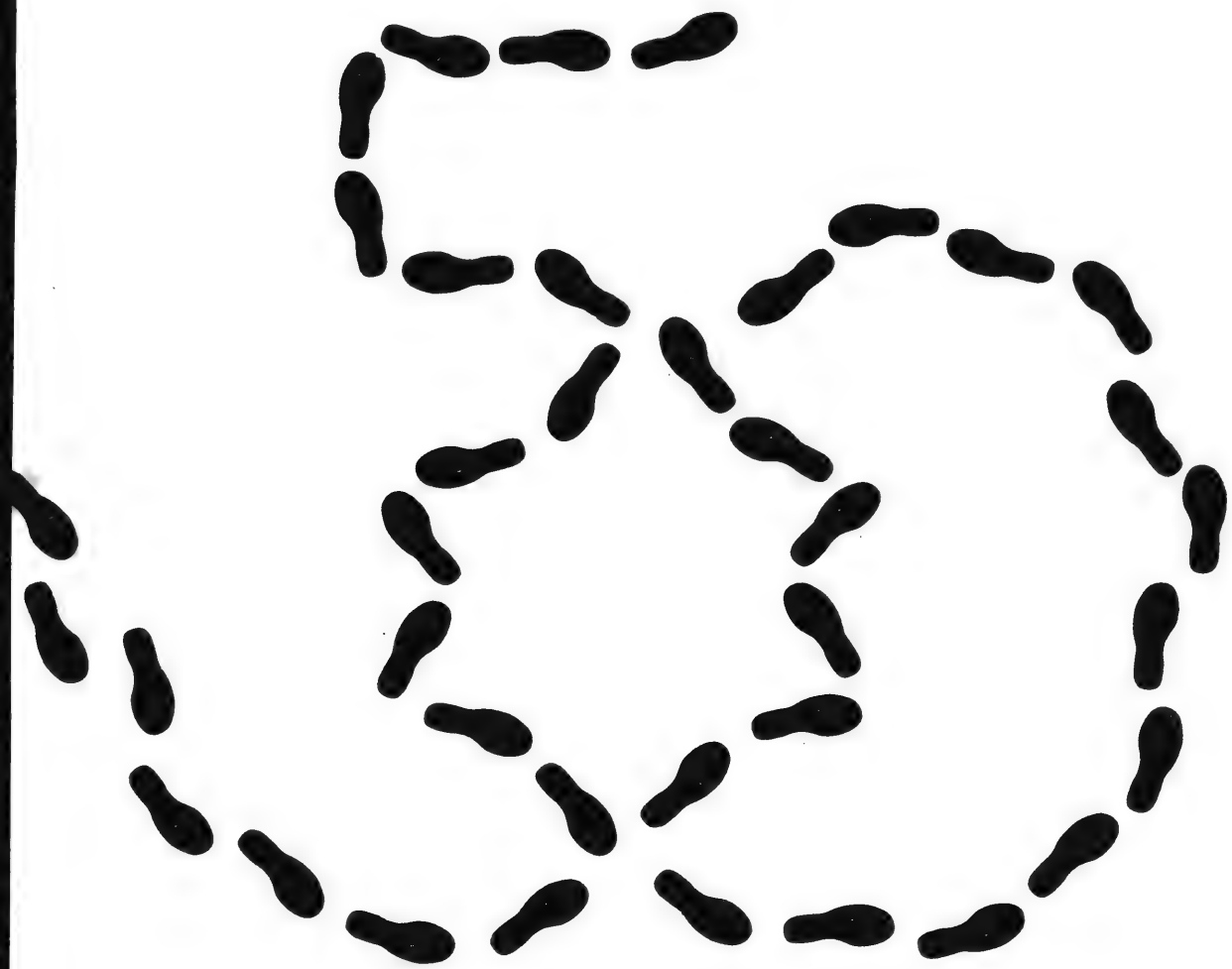

Come to the Israel at 50 Fun Walk and Festival.

City Hall to Ontario Place. Sunday May 24, 1998.

Registration 9:15 a.m. Walk 10:15 a.m.

Then join us for the Israel at 50 Festival

Ontario Place, noon to 5:00 p.m.

Enjoy a fun-filled day of Israeli entertainment, food, crafts and prizes. For more information call the **Fun Walk and Festival Hotline at 416-631-5700.**

From coast to coast

New charges laid in cemetery vandalism case

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

ST. CATHARINES — The cousin of a man charged with desecrating this city's only Jewish cemetery late last month was arrested last week for vandalizing the same cemetery.

Niagara Regional Police made the arrest at the front door of B'nai Israel Synagogue, after the shul's rabbi, Martin Applebaum, received a telephone call from someone asking for a meeting.

Rabbi Applebaum told *The CJN* he was suspicious of the call, and alerted police, who arrested a suspect.

Members of the 150-family Jewish community here learned of the arrest as they gathered on the front steps of St. Catharines city hall for a press conference last Wednesday, along with Mayor Tim Rigby, Niagara Regional Police Chief Grant Waddell, Rabbi Applebaum, congregation president Sam Walters and Michael Silverman of Canadian Jewish Congress, (CJC) Ontario region.

Police arrested and charged Daniel Youmans, 30, of St. Catharines, with mischief under $5,000 and 11 counts of causing indignity to human remains, in connection with the second desecration.

Youmans is a cousin of Warren Soles, 20, who is charged with vandalizing the cemetery the first time, on April 25.

In that incident, 43 headstones were toppled or damaged, windows smashed and flower beds trampled.

Damage was estimated at between $5,000 and $8,000.

Soles was charged with mischief over $5,000, attempted break and enter and possession of a dangerous weapon.

But in an unusual move, police last week further charged him with 40 counts of causing indignity to human remains.

Soles was in jail awaiting a bail hearing when the second attack occurred just two days later.

Cemetery officials discovered that of the 16 headstones that had been righted from the first attack, 11 were turned over again.

Both men are scheduled to appear in court this week.

Police are considering the first attack a hate crime, which would allow a judge to impose a stiffer sentence.

Police say they are investigating the second occurrence to determine whether it too constituted a hate crime.

Soles is affiliated with several neo-Nazi organizations, police said.

The community feels "anger, disgust, sadness" at the attacks, Rabbi Applebaum said.

He said a "major" memorial and re-dedication service will take place at the cemetery in the coming weeks, involving members of government and representatives of faith groups.

Local MPP Peter Kormos and MP Walt Lastewka issued statements condemning the attacks.

Doctor not responsible for arsons

CJN News Services

LONDON, Ont. — A Jewish doctor who set two fires at local synagogues in February has been found not criminally responsible because of a long-standing mental disorder.

In a recent ruling, provincial court Judge Alan Baker ruled that 38-year-old Jonathan Bishinsky suffered from a manic-depressive disorder, with related psychotic delusions when he set the fires on Feb. 26.

The court accepted the testimony of forensic psychiatrist Dr. Simon Chiu that Bishinsky, a cardiologist, poses no threat to society as long as he is under treatment and taking medication.

The court gave Bishinsky a conditional discharge and said he may continue working as long as he is monitored.

Bishinsky faced one count of arson related to a fire at the Orthodox Congregation Beth Tefilah, and one count of attempted arson in connection with a similar blaze at Congregation Or Shalom, a Conservative shul.

Damage in the fires was estimated at less than $500 but the incidents left many in London's 2,700-member Jewish community shaken.

At both scenes, officials had found cardboard boxes containing paper, twigs and artificial fire logs.

Israel's 50th celebrated in Ottawa

By DIANE KOVEN
Ottawa Correspondent

OTTAWA — Yitzhak Rabin High School and Congregation Agudath Israel recently joined forces to mark the 50th anniversary of the State of Israel as well as the 50th anniversary of the discovery of the Dead Sea Scrolls.

Dr. Adolfo Roitman, curator of the Dead Sea Scrolls, presented an audiovisual program on the discovery of the scrolls and the latest developments in dating, photographing and deciphering them.

Curator visits

Roitman, who holds a PhD in ancient Jewish thought from the Hebrew University, and a rabbinical diploma from the Latin-American Rabbinical Seminary, has been curator of the Shrine of the Book in the Israel Museum since 1994.

He described the largest international convention ever held on the Dead Sea Scrolls which he hosted in Jerusalem last year. Jewish scholars and Christian clergy from around the world, he said, presented papers and discussed the ancient manuscripts.

Roitman's appearance in Ottawa was part of his lecture tour in North and South America.

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From coast to coast

Hadassah-WIZO honors women parliamentarians

By DIANE KOVEN
Ottawa Correspondent

'Education is the key to success of women'

OTTAWA — As part of its national executive meetings, Canadian Hadassah-WIZO held a recent luncheon at the Chateau Laurier Hotel to honor women parliamentarians, judges and ambassadors.

The 150 guests were welcomed in English by national president Patricia Joy Albert and in French by national vice-president Diana Shadowitz.

The luncheon was held to mark the 80th anniversary of the founding of Hadassah-WIZO and the 50th anniversary of the establishment of the State of Israel.

Albert said that to celebrate the two anniversaries, the organization is setting up a scholarship for women's studies at the University of Ottawa.

Adina Sultan, wife of David Sultan, Israeli ambassador to Canada, delivered greetings from the State of Israel.

Sultan, who had visited some of WIZO's projects in Israel prior to coming to Canada, said "I was very much impressed with what I saw and I believe that you should be very proud of these institutions. We are grateful for what the organization has done in the past and continues to do."

Guest speaker Hedy Fry, secretary of state for multiculturalism and the status of women said "education is key to the success and advancement of women across the world, around the world, and here in Canada."

Fry was presented with a Hadassah-WIZO Women to Women pin and said "I have trees growing in Israel; I have my name on an ophthalmology ward in Israel. Through you, I am contributing in an even bigger way outside of Canada than I could ever have done otherwise."

Special presentations were made to the honored guests. Among these were MP Sheila Finestone; Susana Ruiz Cerutti, ambassador of the Argentine Republic to Canada; Senator Erminie Joy Cohen; MP Shaughnessy Cohen; Michelle Falardeau-Ramsay, chief commissioner, Canadian Human Rights Commission; and Judy Gingell, commissioner of the Yukon Territory.

Marion Mayman, national vice-president, made the closing remarks.

CORRECTION

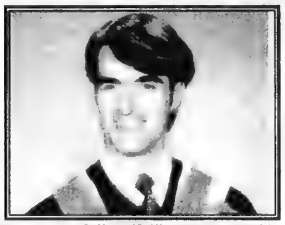
In the article titled "Our soldiers' seder, Germany 1945" (*CJN*, April 9), the name of the United Synagogue of Ottawa rabbi should have been Rabbi O.Z. Fasman.

מזל טוב Mazel Tov

We cannot guarantee the date a picture will appear. Please limit all greetings to 25 typewritten words. We reserve the right to edit all items and condense any that are longer than that.

Label the back of all photos and enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope for return. Send all your photos to *The CJN*, Mazel Tov, 1500 Don Mills Rd., Suite 205, North York, Ont., M3B 3K4.

Happy third birthday on April 23 to our son Joshua Nicholas Bayer. Love, Maureen & Jonathan and proud grandparents Rose & Alex Bayer.



Mazel tov to Jeffrey Kulik on obtaining his MBA from York University. Your family is proud of you.

Dorothy & Arthur Beitel and Mary & Avie Aaron announce the engagement of Heather & Michael. Proud grandparents are Esther & Morris Mendlowitz.

Leon Wasser celebrated his 40th birthday on March 13. Happy birthday with love, from your wife Bonnie and your children Shoshana, Ezra & Rebecca.

Mazel tov to Mr. & Mrs. Jack Crone (formerly Cudzynowski) on your 50th wedding anniversary. Love, David, Sandy, Danielle, Joseph, Mark and Nicole.

Mazel tov to Abe & Esther Schwartz on your 50th wedding anniversary from your children and friends.

Mazel tov to Mollie & Paul Finewax on your 50th wedding anniversary from your children and grandchildren.

Mazel tov to Sonia & Benie Lant on your 50th wedding anniversary. With love from your children, grandchildren and the whole family.

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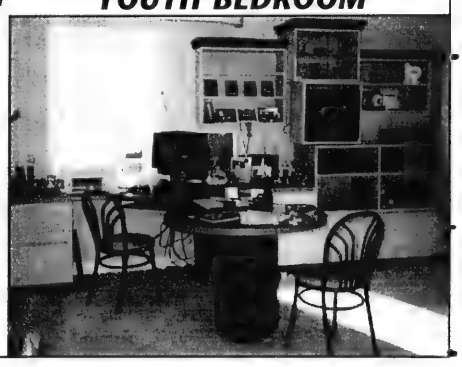

"Just Between Us"

Robinson was leader of NCJW

MONTREAL — Antonia Robinson, a leader and active member of the National Council of Jewish Women of Canada (NCJW) for almost 60 years, who inspired many of its pioneering community projects, died recently less than a month away from her 103rd birthday.

Known as "Tony," Robinson was president of the NCJW's Montreal section from 1944-48 and again from 1949-50, and national president from 1955-57. She served as president of the International Council of Jewish Women (ICJW) from 1957-63, the first Canadian elected to the position, and continued to sit as one of its officers almost until her death.

Robinson, wife of the late Quebec Superior Court Justice Benjamin Robinson, first became involved in community work during World War II helping Jewish refugees and orphans from Europe resettle in Montreal.

Among the innovative projects launched while she was Montreal president were a children's library in a largely immigrant district and the first golden age clubs for seniors. The NCJW Tony Robinson Boy's and Girls' Library still exists on Darlington Avenue, and the Golden Age Association has grown into a major agency with thousands of members.

In 1953, she attended Queen Elizabeth's coronation.

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עם פרוס היובל, היחסים הקשים בין שלטון הרוב הישראלי לבין המיעוט הפלשתינאי הם כמובן הענן המעיב ביותר מעל מדינת ישראל, הם מקור הטרור, המשך הקונפליקט וכל מה שבא איתם. לפני כשבועיים כתב אריה כספי ב"הארץ" תחת השם "כל מה שרצינו לשכוח" את הדברים הבאים. אני מביא קטעים ספורים:

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עד כאן אריה כספי. הדברים האלה מצלצלים כל כך נכון, שכמעט לא שמתי לב שהם מתעלמים מן העיקר: אני מאמין באמונה שלמה, שלו, חס ושלום, היו כובשים את ישראל, היו ערבי ארץ ישראל אכן נוהגים בנו כמו שהנאצים נהגו באבותינו! הם היו משמידים פיזית את אזרחיה היהודים של ישראל. למי שמאמין בעובדה זו, ואני סבור שרוב יהודי ישראל מאמינים שכך, קשה מאוד להתיחס לבעיה הפלשתינאית כאילו זה סכסוך בין שוודיה ודנמרק, או בין קוויבק ואונטריו. קשה לקבל את הפלשתינאים אל משפחת האדם בידיעה שבהזדמנות הראשונה הם היו מחסלים אותנו, יש פה ניגוד חמור בין תפיסה מערבית ליבראלית שכולנו מאמינים בה, לבין מציאות מזרח תיכונית אכזרית. האם אפשר לחתום חוזה עם נחש ארסי שנוכש לא מתוך רצון רע! Well, חתמנו. אבל יש לנו את כל הזכות להיות חשדניים. תחשבו על זה ואם בא לכם להגיב עשו זאת במספר פאקס: 416-633-6557

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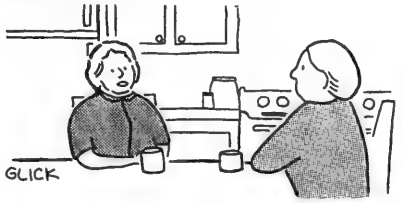

"My optometrist gave me a really thorough eye examination. After I was done with the eye chart, he handed me ten grocery items to see if I could find the kosher symbol on each one."

From coast to coast

Reject pluralism: UK chief rabbi

By PETER CAULFIELD
Pacific Correspondent

VANCOUVER — Rabbi Jonathan Sacks, chief rabbi of Great Britain and the United Kingdom, called on Jews to support inclusivism and reject pluralism.

"The solution to the present disunity within the Jewish people is to embrace only one Judaism, but to be tolerant of the way in which other Jews worship."

The chief rabbi was speaking at a recent community lecture in the Norman Rothstein Theatre at the Jewish Community Centre of Greater Vancouver. The lecture, sponsored by Lubavitch of British Columbia and the Lohn Foundation, attracted some 250 people.

Rabbi Sacks began his speech on Healing the Rifts in the Jewish People, Pluralism or Inclusivism with a word of caution: "The only approach we can take should be based on honesty, no matter how painful. That way will allow us to see each other as members of a single extended Jewish family."

He noted the long history of Jewish disunity. "Three times the Jewish people have been sent into exile, and each time it was due to internal divisions," he said.

The examples he cited included Joseph and his brothers, where sibling rivalry led to the enslavement of the Jewish people in Egypt; the division of Israel into two kingdoms, of which only the northern kingdom survived; and internal dissension during the Roman siege of Jerusalem, which led to the loss of the Second Temple and 1,900 years of exile.

"Greater powers, such as Nazi Germany and the Soviet Union, have been unable to destroy us," said Rabbi Sacks. "We survived all of them. Only we can destroy ourselves."

According to the Rabbi Sacks, the unity of the Jewish people has been based on religious commitment. "Until the 19th century, Torah was the portable homeland of the Jewish people," he said.

During the 19th century, however, there arose a new and radical redefinition of Jewish identity, one of the results of which was religious disunity. "One hundred years later, the situation is the same as it was in the 19th century, except that it has been intensified."

In the past, Rabbi Sacks said, disunity was dealt with in one of two ways. "There was the 'exclusivist' approach, in which the majority told dissenters, 'It's our way or the highway.' But there was also an 'inclusivist' tack, based on tolerance and open-mindedness, and more accepting of Jewish non-conformity

"Not all Judaisms are Judaism, but all Jews are Jews, that was the watchword of the inclusivists," the rabbi said.

"Concentrating on people allowed us to preserve the integrity of our faith."

The late 20th century concept of pluralism, which holds that there is more than one form of Judaism and that they are all equally valid, is opposed to inclusivism.

"Pluralism is not a solution," Rabbi Sacks stressed. "It is a problem."

He said the concept of pluralism founders on the issue of conversion.

"Imagine when someone becomes a citizen of Canada," he said. "You can't have more than one standard of citizenship. It's the same with Judaism. You can have only one standard."

Rabbi Sacks concluded with a suggestion: "We as Jews need to follow the ways of peace, and show respect for one another."

Even though we may not follow Jewish tradition, we should not reject it, he said. "We must keep Jewish heritage alive by staying open to Judaism and to every Jew."

Ottawa celebrates Israel's 50th

By DIANE KOVEN
Ottawa Correspondent

OTTAWA — The 1,500 tickets for Israel's 50th anniversary celebration were sold out weeks before the event.

This year's Yom Ha'atzmaut celebration was preceded by a solemn Yom Hazikaron memorial ceremony. Everything was choreographed by a large committee of volunteers, headed by chair Naomi Lipsky Cracower, together with staff members of the Jewish Community Centre and the Jewish Community Council of Ottawa/Vaad Halr.

Local radio personality Saul Jacobson acted as MC, along with Max Lipson. The Yom Hazikaron program included the lighting of a memorial flame by Barbara Farber, president of the Jewish Community Council of Ottawa/Vaad Halr; followed by a minute of silence; a rendition of *Bab El Wad* by Max Lipson by Cantor Daniel Benlolo and the Ottawa Community Choir; and a wreath laying ceremony.

Following the raising of the flag, and Hatikvah, the shofar was blown to signify the end of mourning and beginning of celebration.

David Sultan, the ambassador of Israel to Canada, brought greetings to the audience. "By every yardstick, the 50 years we are marking today has been a success story...To those who point out that these achievements have not been flawless, my answer is that even miracles have their limits. We have every reason to be proud of our state and our people."

The support and encouragement of the Jews around the world have helped to make this miracle of Israel possible, he added. "Israel belongs and will always belong to all the Jewish people."

Deputy Prime Minister Herb Gray began his remarks with the Shehechianu prayer.

"This occasion also marks 50 years of friendship between Canada and Israel and therefore I am delighted to bring greetings," he continued. "We have so much in common: our pluralistic democracy, our high-tech ambitions, our free-trade agreements. The hope is that Israel continues to grow and flourish, increasingly at peace with its neighbors."

The lights were dimmed, and as the names of all of Ottawa's Jewish organizations were read aloud, representatives of the various groups held up a light. Immediately following this Points of Light interlude, Sultan lit the 50th candle on a birthday cake.

Festivities in Halifax

By JOEL JACOBSON
Atlantic Correspondent

HALIFAX — More than 200 members of the Halifax Jewish community celebrated Israel's 50th anniversary at Beth Israel Synagogue.

The evening featured an Israeli style supper of hummus, falafel, salads and three birthday cakes; and Israeli music by Montreal entertainers The Shalom Duo. It was sponsored by the Atlantic Jewish Council.

Gali Brock, who was born in Israel and has lived in Halifax for four years, said the event made her homesick. "Israel has achieved so much in such a short time. I'm very hopeful for the future."

Mani Suissa, who lived in Israel for 21 years before moving to Canada said, "I've never left Israel, but I'm still here. I'm thrilled Israel is prospering after 50 years."

Halifax lawyer Joel Pink, a one-time visitor to Israel said, "I was impressed how a country that had been built in a desert is viable in all areas of agriculture. And they blended the old with the new."

Prior to their performance, The Shalom Duo (Yehuda Pinto and Jacques Abicidan) led the crowd in a rendition of Hatikvah. "Would we like to be in Israel tonight?" they said. "Oh, yeah! But we're privileged to deliver the spirit 10,000 miles away from Israel to you. This gives it an authentic touch."

Family Matters

by

John Syrtash, B.A. (Hon.), LL.B.

New Child Support Guidelines contain hidden complexities

In the April 9 issue we noted that for any new child support agreements or Court Orders, the basic monthly amount payable is not tax deductible. Moreover, the amount of child support is determined by a Table based on the payer's gross income, the number of dependent children, and the province in which the paying spouse ordinarily resides. If the paying spouse's residence is unknown or if this spouse resides outside of Canada, then the Court applies the Table for the province in which the *recipient* spouse resides.

Each province has a different Table. For instance, the non-custodial parent in Ontario who earns $100,000 and has three children pays $1,613 monthly to the custodial parent (as compared to $1,592 in B.C.), except in certain narrowly defined situations.

Split custody and other exceptions

One of these situations is called "split custody". If one or more children reside with each parent, then the Guidelines demand that the Court assess the gross incomes of each parent. If, after the incomes of both parents have been assessed and the Tables applied, the wife owes the husband $300 monthly for one child living with him, but is in turn owed $1,613 monthly for the three children living with *her*, then the "net" amount payable by the spouse with whom the one child resides is $1,313 monthly.

What many parents and commentators fail to realize is that *these basic monthly payments can be treated under the new legislation as minimum, not maximum, obligations.* Under the Guidelines, a Court can order "add-ons" or extras for: (a) child-care expenses incurred as a result of the custodial parent's employment, illness, disability, or education or training for employment; (b) medical and dental insurance premiums attributable to the child; (c) health-related expenses not covered by medicare or private insurance, including orthodontic care, glasses and prescription drugs; (d) extraordinary expenses for primary or secondary school education, which in certain cases can mean a contribution towards private school tuition, including Hebrew Day or Sunday schools; (e) post-secondary education; (f) extraordinary expenses for extracurricular activities.

If the Court feels that these expenses should be paid as child support, then they are shared in proportion to the parents' respective gross yearly incomes. However, before these amounts are allocated, one must first deduct from the costs any contribution that the child can make, given his or her means.

Court-ordered "extras"

If these "extra" contributions are paid directly to the receiving spouse each month, then the province's Government enforcement agency (which in Ontario is the Family Responsibility Office) will enforce such an agreement or Court Order. For example, if the basic "Table" amount is $1,613 monthly plus an additional $200 for ballet lessons, then the agreement or Order should stipulate that the total monthly payment is $1,813. Then, in the event the Government agency seizes part of the payer's wages, tax refund or other income, it will do so with a view to satisfying a monthly payment of $1,813. However, if the agreement or Order allows for the ballet lessons to be paid directly to the Ballet School in the amount of $2,400 yearly — or as a separate payment — then the Government often does *not* enforce this payment, notwithstanding the recipient's legal entitlement to it. In this case the Government will only enforce the basic payment of $1,613.

Enforceability of payments

Child support is becoming as complex as the computation of income tax. Ironically, the Guidelines were intended to simplify the process.

John Syrtash is a partner and family law lawyer with the Toronto firm of Basman Smith. Neither B'nai Brith Canada, Basman Smith or John Syrtash is liable for any consequences arising from anyone's reliance on this material, which is presented as general information and not as a legal opinion. John Syrtash can be reached at (416) 365-0300, ext. 22.

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Michaels creates extraordinary piece

A. M. Klein
Leonard Cohen
Irving Layton
Adele Wiseman
Shel Krakofsky
Anne Michaels
Miriam Waddington
Matt Cohen
Mordecai Richler

LITERARY SCENE

In the first in this three-part series on the Canadian-Jewish literary scene past and present, writer Bill Gladstone examines the phenomenal international success of Anne Michaels' 1996 novel Fugitive Pieces *and discusses the centrality of Holocaust themes in the current Jewish literary imagination.*

By BILL GLADSTONE
Special to The CJN

Anne Michaels' bestselling novel *Fugitive Pieces* tells the story of Jakob Beer, a Polish-Jewish child who, alone of his family, survives the Nazi onslaught. Jakob is rescued by Athos, a Greek archeologist who nurses the child's traumatized spirit back to health. The duo go to Greece, and then to Toronto, where they rebuild their lives.

Michaels, a Toronto writer who has also produced two slim volumes of poems, took 10 years to complete the manuscript for what would be her first novel. In interviews, she has explained that the writing took a decade because she wanted the full meaning and significance of the story to seep from her subconscious onto the printed page.

Her publisher, McClelland & Stewart Inc. of Toronto (M&S), was quick to accept the manuscript. Ellen Seligman, the company's editorial director for fiction, had seen an early draft when "Anne hadn't yet found the structure that she wanted. Six years later, when she revised it and brought it to me, I signed it up and worked very closely with her in the final stages of the book's completion."

Seligman, who also edits Margaret Atwood, Michael Ondaatje and Jane Urquhart, chooses not to discuss the nature of the editing she performs on any particular book. However, she does divulge that in the late stages of production of *Fugitive Pieces*, as the editors and artists were conceptualizing its appearance in the world, "There was certainly a growing sense that this book was somehow extraordinary.

"On the other hand, there was also some uncertainty about how it would do because it was a first novel. But the moment that people began reading it – from the very first responses – it was clear that the reaction would be very extraordinary and very widespread."

According to M&S publicity manager Kelly Hechler, the excitement over *Fugitive Pieces* began even before it was published, when Seligman took the manuscript to various publishers at the influential Frankfurt Book Fair in late 1995.

"Right off the bat, you had three of the world's most esteemed editors excited about this book," says Hechler. "And from there, it leaked to the media and you had this big buzz that trickled down to booksellers, many of whom read the book in galleys and talked about it with their customers. And then customers began to read the book and that incredible thing started to happen called word of mouth."

In the less than two years since *Fugitive Piece's* initial publication, M&S has reprinted it nine times and sold about 100,000 copies in Canada. It has been on the *Globe and Mail's* bestseller list for most of that time. (In the Canadian book industry, sales of 5,000 copies are traditionally considered enough to deem a book a bestseller.) *Fugitive Pieces* has also won at least nine major literary prizes, including the Martin and Beatrice Fisher Award of the 1997 Jewish Book Awards in Toronto; the 1997 City of Toronto Book Award; a Trillium Prize with a cash value of $10,000; the Lannan Literary Award for Fiction, worth $75,000 (US); and the British Orange Prize for Fiction by Women, worth about $66,000.

And *Fugitive Pieces* is still going strong. Last month in England, it netted the 1997 Jewish Quarterly Prize for Fiction, worth about $9,000. Including this latest purse, the book has garnered an estimated $250,000 in prize money. Sales of some foreign-language rights have also reportedly earned six-figure amounts. So far, the novel has been published in 17 languages, including German, Hebrew, Japanese, Chinese and some Scandinavian tongues, and has been distributed in some 25 countries. Not surprisingly, it has done especially well in Germany, where the Holocaust remains an inescapable cultural issue of colossal proportions.

"It's impossible to compare this success to anything," Hechler remarks. "This is a first novel by a relatively unknown writer. She was a poet with two previous books with very modest sales. So these sales figures are incomparable."

Although *Fugitive Pieces* is one of the most successful books yet to emerge from the astonishingly prolific Canadian-Jewish literary sphere, Michaels disputes the definition of *Fugitive Pieces* as a specifically Jewish book and prefers not to acknowledge her Jewishness in interviews. Instead she makes the reasonable assertion that the subject is universal and the book could have been written by anyone, a Greek Catholic for instance.

Anne Michaels

But her finely wrought prose carries strong Judaic philosophical elements along with its highly poetic quality. Some note that Michaels' style bears similarities to that of Michael Ondaatje; many agree that *Fugitive Pieces* is a deep and complex book.

"It's an extended poem in many ways," says Ruby Newman, a professor of women's studies, humanities and Jewish studies at York University. "It needs to be studied; it can't be read right through. As an extended poem, it requires an enormous effort to 'unpack' it. Like many people, I didn't find it easy when I first started reading it."

Despite the noteworthy attributes of *Fugitive Pieces*, a good part of its phenomenal success around the world invariably stems from the author's choice of subject matter. Once, few writers dared to tread into the sacred ground of the Holocaust, a thing supposedly beyond the power of language to describe. Many, perhaps, were mindful of German philosopher Theodor Adorno's famous decree that there can be "no poetry after Auschwitz." For roughly 30 years after the Shoah, the literary world at large, with only a handful of exceptions, kept a respectful quiet, unwilling to desecrate or diminish the unspeakable pain of the victims.

But now, as Michaels has pointed out, the moral imperative has shifted, and as the last generation of survivors fade into history, many creative artists seem to feel compelled to explore the subject in depth. In this era of recovered Swiss gold and looted art treasures, war-crimes trials, *Schindler's List* and Holocaust museums popping up like sacred shrines, Jewish popular culture seems focused on the Holocaust and its aftermath as never before, a therapeutic fixation shared by Western popular culture as a whole.

Dr. Shel Krakofsky, former editor of the Canadian Jewish literary journal *Parchment*, notes that roughly 70 percent of the submissions he used to receive at *Parchment* fell into the category of Holocaust literature.

Parchment's current editor, Adam Fuerstenberg, a professor of English literature at Ryerson Polytechnical University in Toronto, acknowledges that "the Holocaust or some aspect of it" is still the predominant theme of material received at *Parchment*. (Other major themes, he says, include the clash between traditional Jewish religious practices and modernity, and the complexities and frustrations associated with Israel.)

"It's hard to put out a Jewish representative anthology these days because so much is Holocaust stuff," Krakofsky observes. "People say, 'I'm a Jew; so I'll fight the Nazis, new and old.' And that's all they know; they don't know what the morning prayer is."

Last year, a *Parchment* short story shared first prize in the annual Journey Prize, worth $10,000. *Maladies of The Inner Ear*, by Gabriella Goliger, describes the plight of an elderly German-Jewish woman who is tormented by tinnitus, a persistent ringing in the ears, and by memories of her youth in Germany just before World War II.

At *The Canadian Jewish News*, which sponsors an annual literary supplement at Passover, approximately 80 percent of submissions received relate to the Holocaust, says *CJN* Editor Mordechai Ben-Dat. That is seemingly a strong indication of how deeply the Shoah has affected the contemporary Jewish literary imagination and perhaps temporarily distracted it from more traditional or original themes. For many creators and shapers of Jewish culture, apparently, the smoke from the chimneys of Auschwitz still seems to block out the sun.

Such signs point to the magnitude of the tragedy and its ability to shape our lives and culture after more than half a century. Is anyone still unconvinced of the veracity of Emil Fackenheim's most perceptive 614th mitzvah, "Thou shalt not give Hitler a posthumous victory" by forgetting?

Although thematically mired in the Holocaust, *Fugitive Pieces* focuses on the long, slow process of restoration, in a survivor, of normal human feelings of decency and trust in the post-Holocaust world. Although critics may complain that the book's presentation of a survivor who fully heals is unrealistic, *Fugitive Pieces* nonetheless carries the notion that it is possible, in time, to transcend the Holocaust, to recover from it, to rise above it and to see beyond it.

Marshall McLuhan called it "looking in the rearview mirror," a culture's attempt to look backwards for its bearings as it surges ahead. It is highly significant that, paralleling the heightened literary interest in the Holocaust are various popular cultural movements that seem to reach backwards in time to pre-Holocaust Jewish life in Eastern Europe. The continuing revival of Yiddish, the burgeoning popularity of klezmer music, the rise of interest in Jewish genealogy – all of these are attempts to recover the lost worlds of the past, to connect with life rather than death.

The current popular preoccupation with the Holocaust may also be regarded as an attempt to absolve guilt. North American Jews know they did not do enough to try to save their European cousins from destruction, nor to assist the survivors in establishing new lives here. Perhaps we are rushing to obey Fackenheim's 614th commandment now to atone for our previous sins of omission.

Part II: The continuing legacy of A.M. Klein.

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Final currency reforms unveiled by Neeman

By DAVID HARRIS
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — As of this week, Israelis will be able to carry out any transaction in any currency at home or abroad, Finance Minister Yaakov Neeman announced at a press conference at Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's office.

Meanwhile, two foreign financial institutions issued shekel-denominated bonds on the European market for the first time.

The International Finance Corporation sold one-year bonds worth NIS 200 million, while Merrill Lynch sold a further NIS 175 million.

The central bank's supervisor of foreign currency will next week issue a general permit enabling the following changes:

• Israelis will be allowed to freely invest overseas, including in real estate.

Yaakov Ne'eman

• Citizens and companies will be able to hold bank accounts abroad in shekels or foreign currency. Until now this had been restricted to exporters.

• All restrictions on quantities of unilateral transfers overseas will be abolished. This includes gifts and transfers abroad by residents who emigrated.

• Israelis will be able to make payments here to anyone by cash or cheque in any currency.

• Israelis will be able to take any sum of shekels out of the country.

• The need to provide documentation when carrying out a transaction in any currency with a non-resident with be abolished. However, documentation will be required at a later date for analyzing capital flow.

• Citizens will be able to use credit cards via overseas intermediaries and not just through local banks.

Along with the new measures, the government intends taxing interest on foreign accounts and on receipts from property rented out by Israelis overseas. Central bank officials say these measures will be put into effect once the required legislation is passed by the Knesset.

Although the measures announced did not include the relaxing of regulations for institutional investors, Frenkel said they will eventually be allowed to invest additional sums overseas.

Another remaining restriction prevents foreigners from dealing in options and futures for more than 30 days. This restriction will also be lifted "very soon," according to Neeman.

"The decision is a dramatic decision in the sense that it changes the basic conception underlying the regime of our foreign exchange controls," said Netanyahu.

In the weeks ahead of the announcement the shekel fluctuated considerably. Analysts said this was the result of uncertainty about the contents of the package.

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Palestinians can do more to combat terrorism: report

By DANIEL KURTZMAN
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

WASHINGTON — The Palestinian Authority cooperated with Israel to combat terrorism last year, but it still needs to make greater efforts in this area, according to a recent State Department report.

In its annual report, *Patterns of Global Terrorism*, the State Department also said that despite Syria's stated commitment to the peace process, Damascus has not acted to stop anti-Israeli attacks by the Islamic fundamentalist group Hezbollah and other terrorist groups.

Some 304 acts of international terrorism occurred last year, eight more than in 1996, the State Department said. But the figure for 1997 was still one of the lowest annual totals recorded since 1971, when the State department began keeping track of such acts.

The attacks killed 221 people, compared with 312 in 1996 and 177 in 1995.

The number of wounded also was down as compared with last year – 693 as opposed to 2,912.

The report said the Middle East witnessed some of the world's most horrific acts of terrorism in 1997, including three deadly suicide bombing attacks carried out against Israelis by Hamas that killed 24 and wounded more than 420.

The region also had the largest number of terrorist victims – 105 dead and 375 wounded. The deadliest attack of the year occurred at a temple in Luxor, Egypt, where Islamic extremists slaughtered 62 people.

As Israel continued to face terrorist attacks by Palestinian groups opposed to the peace process, the Palestinian Authority pre-empted several anti-Israeli attacks, including several planned suicide bombings, the report said.

"At the same time, more effort is needed by the PA to enhance its bilateral cooperation with Israel and its unilateral fight against terrorism," the report said.

Iran remained the world's leading "state sponsor of terrorism," carrying out at least 13 assassinations, according to the report.

The State Department designated the same seven countries as last year – Iran, Cuba, Iraq, Libya, North Korea, Sudan and Syria – as state sponsors of terrorism, making them subject to U.S. sanctions.

It said there was no evidence directly linking Cuba, Iraq, North Korea or Syria to terrorist acts last year, but that those countries continued to harbor terrorists.

The report said Syria continues to provide safe haven and support for several terrorist groups, while it "assists the resupply of Hezbollah and Palestinian rejectionist groups operating in Lebanon."

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German far-right party scores at polls

By DEIDRE BERGER
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

Alarm bells are sounding after a right-wing party scored an unexpectedly strong showing in a German state election.

Five months before German national elections, the German People's Union last week scored the largest percentage of the vote won by a far-right party in any state election held in the country since World War II.

The unexpected electoral strength of the party – which received 13 percent of the vote in the eastern state of Saxony-Anhalt – could pave the way for the success of a far-right party in upcoming national elections this fall.

Experts on right-wing extremism estimate there is about a 15 percent right-wing voter potential in Germany, similar to that in other European countries such as France and Austria. Right-wing parties in those countries are strongly represented at the state level and have become a force in national politics.

But until now, far-right parties in Germany have had little success capitalizing on the nationalist and racist sentiments that continue to fuel right-wing violence here.

Poor organization, a lack of charismatic leaders and political infighting have splintered the political strength of the leading right-wing parties.

But even if no such party can mobilize within the next five months, the necessary five percent of the vote needed to enter the federal parliament, the success of the People's Union is causing shifts in the campaign focus of the major parties.

After last Sunday's election, the conservative Christian Social Union, a member of Bonn's ruling conservative coalition, called for more emphasis on law and order and topics targeting the electorate's national identity in order to counter voter drift toward the far right.

Political observers say the strong showing of the People's Union has further weakened the re-election chances of Chancellor Helmut Kohl.

Many area residents blame the conservative Bonn government's economic policies for unemployment rates as high as 40 percent in some regions of eastern Germany.

As a result of this anger, Kohl's Christian Democratic Union captured just 22 percent of the vote in the state election, barely ahead of the Communist party. The opposition Social Democrats emerged victorious, with about 37 percent of the vote.

Gerhard Schroeder, the Social Democratic Party candidate for chancellor, has a substantial lead so far in national polls, and last Sunday's vote is likely to increase pressure on Kohl to step aside after 16 years at the helm and make room for a younger candidate to represent his party in the fall elections.

The xenophobic campaign mounted by the People's Union was especially popular with younger Germans: Exit polls show it was the most popular party for voters under 30, capturing 27 percent of their votes.

Ignatz Bubis, chairman of the Central Council of Jews in Germany, said he is alarmed that 32 percent of the voters between the ages of 18 and 24 backed the People's Union.

"Until now, it was a taboo," he said in an interview. "Many people said they could imagine voting for a right-wing party, but they did not. Now they have done it."

Bubis charges that the People's Union is the most racist and anti-Semitic of Germany's far-right parties.

Israel's ambassador to Germany, Avi Primor, designated the People's Union as a party of people "who want to revive the ghosts of the past."

He warned the German people not to be indifferent to the electoral success of the far right.

The surprise showing of the People's Union in Saxony-Anhalt marks the first time since Germany's 1990 unification that a far right party has entered one of the five eastern German state parliaments.

Until this election, the People's Union had few members and no political significance in these five states. During the campaign, the party distributed large amounts of literature with campaign slogans such as "Get Rid of Criminal Foreigners" and "German Money for German Tasks."

Talks on survivors' claims begin

By DANIEL KURTZMAN
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

WASHINGTON — Talks to resolve Holocaust survivors' claims against Swiss banks have opened – but no quick settlement is in sight.

The first round of talks, held in Washington under U.S. State Department auspices, comes on the heels of a pledge last month by Switzerland's three largest banks to negotiate a settlement that could end three multi-billion dollar class-action lawsuits and boycott threats by U.S. states and cities.

Representatives of Swiss Bank Corp., Union Bank of Switzerland and Credit Suisse, the World Jewish Congress and class-action lawyers met for more than six hours Monday in what some characterized as a positive sign.

But for now, neither side is talking. The U.S. undersecretary of state for economic affairs, Stuart Eizenstat, who arranged the meeting, issued a brief statement saying each of the parties signed an agreement to not comment publicly on the talks.

"This is a process that is complicated and will take some time," said Eizenstat, the Clinton administration's specialist on Holocaust restitution issues.

Since reaching an agreement in principle last month to start negotiations, the two sides have been deeply divided over what assets should even be on the table.

Jewish officials want the banks to agree to a global settlement – a lump sum payment covering bank deposits, insurance policies, confiscated real estate, artworks and other looted assets, as well as compensation for slave labor.

The banks, however, say they are only willing to address those claims related to the banks themselves.

The other claims could be passed along to the Swiss government, which remains opposed to the idea of a global settlement and is not a direct party to the negotiations. A representative of the Swiss banks said, however, that the banks do not intend to discuss any liabilities of the Swiss government or the Swiss National Bank.

The banks, meanwhile, find themselves in a precarious position back home. Some Swiss observers are questioning whether the banks might be stabbing the rest of the country in the back by arranging their own settlement.

Jewish officials say it is not their concern how the Swiss decide to reconcile that issue.

As for the amount of the cheque, Jewish officials have declined to specify what they want, though some sources have said an appropriate settlement could range between $1 billion and $3 billion.

The negotiators are expected to reconvene next week.

In a related development, the State Department postponed until later this month the release of a new report about gold transactions between Nazi Germany and wartime neutrals.

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Israel & the Jewish World

Netanyahu in confident mood as popularity rises

By EDGAR ASHER
CJN Israel Correspondent

In his interview with *The CJN* last week, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu was in a confident mood. This reflected his rise in popularity, not only with those predisposed towards right-wing thinking, but also with the non-committed voters who supported him at the time of the last election, but later became disenchanted with the Likud-led government over the failing peace process and the worsening economic situation.

A few months ago, which is a long time in politics, Netanyahu's popularity was at an all-time low. His coalition majority in the Knesset was being eroded almost daily. The strength of the right wing was being undermined by the resignations of his coalition partners, particularly foreign minister David Levy.

It is difficult to pinpoint the nadir of Netanyahu's popularity, but about two months ago it became clear that internal dissent was tearing the nation apart and detracting from the ability of the government to handle the stop-go negotiations in the peace process.

British Foreign Secretary Robin Cook, who came to Israel just over a month ago, antagonized every Israeli by his refusal to make the customary visit to the Holocaust Memorial at Yad Vashem and his subsequent meeting with Palestinian officials at Har Choma. Netanyahu was furious and backed out of a state dinner for Cook in order to protest the foreign secretary's arrogance.

It was clear that Netanyahu was showing a resolve and a consistency with his demand for security for Israel above all other considerations. In direct reference to his forthcoming London meeting he said, "Nothing will make me change when the issue of Israeli security is at stake. If I don't capitulate, will I be branded an obstacle to peace? Of course. I am already branded with this. I don't care. I am standing up for Israel's security interest.

"To treat the matter of security lightly is to abdicate our responsibilities as a government.. Jews everywhere must remain united in demanding that security be an integral, indispensable component of the peace process. Only then can we achieve real peace."

It was clear that Netanyahu's firm hand was reasonable and it began to ring a note of confidence with the man in the street. Perhaps now some of the world leaders, who are connected in some way with the peace process, can really see and appreciate that there are two sides to a peace agreement and that Israel also has a point of view.

Netanyahu does seem to have a blind spot as far as the economy is concerned. His credo, " I think we are doing all the right things with the economy," is not shared by the captains of industry. As prime minister, he has to show that he has a handle on the economy. It seems that he is not a realist and he would be well advised to listen to those with more business experience, in order to bring down unemployment and interest rates and revive Israel's export industries.

The liberalization of foreign currency regulations may be a jubilee gift with a sting in the tail. Not only has the liberalization been amended and re-amended even before its implementation, but the scope of the freedom offered to Israelis to invest abroad and buy property may once again destabilize the shekel and make the rich richer and the poor, poorer. If Netanyahu really wants to close the social gap, this is not the way to do it. At least, not now.

The prime minister also discussed the subject of Jewish unity, with special reference to the Diaspora. "The bond between Israel and the Diaspora is vital to our survival. It is what gives the Jewish people strength in the present, and confidence in the future.

"Ever since the struggling days of the state's beginning, unity has been our invaluable weapon. And whenever cracks seem to appear in this bond, we prove time and again that in times of trouble or when facing a national challenge we set aside our differences and act as one people."

Low expectations at London talks

[Cont'd. from page 1]

Arafat, who met with Gore in the West Bank town of Ramallah early Sunday morning, has accepted the U.S. proposal, but wants an additional redeployment by the end of this year.

Israel maintains that the proposal would be harmful to its security interests. It has offered nine percent, and balks at offering an additional redeployment, saying any further transfer of West Bank territory should only take place as part of the final-status negotiations.

Some western and Arab diplomats say Israeli officials have told them privately they might hand over as much as 11 percent.

Palestinian officials, who have been warning for months that the region could explode into violence, are now reiterating their impatience with what they view as Israel's intransigence.

Arafat told journalists in the Gaza Strip on Sunday that Israel would be squarely to blame if no progress was achieved in London.

The talks' success will "depend on Netanyahu's actions because the problem does not lie anywhere else," he said.

Palestinian negotiator Nabil Sha'ath charged that Israel's wrangling over the redeployment percentages proved that the Jewish state was refusing to accept already-signed accords.

"They are dragging their feet and hoping that the whole process will change," he said. "If it changes, it will be for the worse, not the better."

But, in the run-up to the London talks, Israel showed no signs of changing its stance.

On Sunday, Netanyahu spokesman David Bar-Illan reiterated the Israeli position, saying it would be "utterly impossible" for Israel to accept a 13 percent redeployment.

Claims Conference Extends Goodwill Fund Deadline to December 31, 1998

Individuals who failed to register claims for restitution of Jewish property in the former East Germany by the December 31, 1992 German Government deadline may apply to the Claims Conference Goodwill Fund.

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New crisis brewing?

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

Mideast Analysis

Two months after United Nations Secretary General Kofi Annan averted a war in the Middle East, Iraq is chafing at the bit again. It is demanding an immediate end to economic sanctions and trying to whittle down the UN arms inspection system.

Last week, as Iraq's president, Saddam Hussein, celebrated his 61st birthday, the Iraqi government issued a demand and levelled an accusation.

Tariq Aziz, Iraq's deputy prime minister and Saddam's spokesman, called on the Security Council to unconditionally lift sanctions that have been in place since Iraq's 1990 invasion of Kuwait.

In addition, Aziz accused the UN's chief arms inspector, the Australian diplomat Richard Butler, of waging a vendetta against Iraq and of spying for the United States. Washington, which still maintains an armada in the Persian Gulf capable of striking Iraq, has spearheaded the seven-year campaign to eliminate Iraq's long-range missiles and its deadly arsenal of biological, chemical and nuclear arms.

Iraq's pleas, however, fell on deaf ears. Despite Russian, Chinese and French sympathy for Baghdad's position, the Security Council decided to prolong the sanctions, which have crippled Iraq's economy.

"...there will be no lifting of sanctions because Iraq has failed to comply with the relevant Security Council resolutions," announced Bill Richardson, the U.S. ambassador to the UN.

By the terms of the resolutions, Iraq is obliged to destroy its weapons of mass destruction. According to a report issued by Butler on April 16, Iraq has in fact failed the test. By Butler's reckoning, UN monitors working in Iraq over the past six months have *not* been able to verify Iraq's claim that it has gotten rid of its prohibited weapons.

Iraq's foreign minister, Mohammed Said-al Sahhaf, told the Security Council last week that these weapons were demolished in 1991, the year the Gulf War – the "mother of all battles" – ended. He added that the United Nations Special Commission (UNSCOM), the body charged with dismantling Iraq's illegal armory, was disseminating propaganda and lies.

But within an hour of Sahhaf's disingenuous declaration, Butler presented the Security Council with dramatic evidence that UNSCOM had recently discovered active mustard gas in artillery shells found at an Iraqi ammunition depot in 1996.

That, he asserted, had raised concerns about some 600 similar shells still unaccounted for in Iraq.

It's clear that Iraq is still playing a cat-and-mouse game with the UN. But to be completely fair, Iraq has not been entirely delinquent.

The Vienna-based International Atomic Energy Agency claims that Iraq has successfully delivered a "full, final and complete" account of its past nuclear weapons programs. During the 1970s and 1980s, Iraq tried to build a nuclear bomb, but apparently ceased such efforts with the outbreak of the Gulf War.

In last week's Security Council debate over sanctions, China demanded that "the nuclear file be closed." Washington, while acknowledging a measure of progress in this area, described China's proposal as "premature," and urged the UN to reconsider the matter when UNSCOM releases its next report in October.

Iraq has also improved its record with respect to allowing UN inspectors access to so-called sensitive sites. The original crisis began last autumn when Iraq refused to cooperate with UNSCOM. But with the United States and its allies threatening to bomb Iraq back into compliance, Saddam finally relented. In March, UN monitors, accompanied by senior foreign diplomats, inspected eight previously out of bounds presidential palaces believed to contain materiel related to banned weapons programs.

That they found nothing of an incriminating nature was hardly surprising. Having expected the visits, Iraq "cleaned" the sites.

The question now is whether Saddam Hussein will honor his agreement with Annan to permit an unlimited number of inspections over an indefinite period of time. If he does not, a new crisis will erupt.

Neo-Nazi activities explored

By SERGIO KIERNAN
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

BUENOS AIRES — Security officials in Uruguay are investigating a surge of neo-Nazi activities in the capital of Montevideo.

In the most recent incident, flyers bearing a portrait of Adolf Hitler were put up on walls throughout the capital's downtown area.

Earlier this year, a Jewish-owned store was destroyed by Molotov cocktails. When firemen arrived at the scene, they found a large swastika painted over the store's entrance.

Last year, vandals burned down the Holocaust memorial in a park near the presidential residence in the capital.

Saul Gilvich, president of the Israelite Central Committee of Uruguay, believes that the increase in neo-Nazi activity in his country is linked to the surge of similar activity in neighboring Argentina.

"Every time there is trouble over there, we suffer here," he said.

Some 32,500 Jews live in Uruguay, and roughly 250,000 Jews live in Argentina.

The Week in Israel

April 27

• Five Israeli soldiers were wounded, one seriously, when Hezbollah members detonated a roadside bomb in the security zone of south Lebanon. In a separate skirmish with Hezbollah, an officer was wounded by mortar fire.

April 28

• The army saluted 450 volunteers from 37 countries who fought in the 1948 War of Independence.

• A one-minute siren and official ceremony at the Western Wall Plaza in Jerusalem signaled the start of Yom Hazikaron, in memory of the 18,748 Israelis who have died defending Israel, and in honor of the 77,126 who have been disabled through combat.

April 29

• Media reports speculated that Zalaman Shoval would soon replace Eliyahu Ben-Elissar as ambassador to the United States. Ben-Elissar would be named ambassador in Paris.

April 30

• Most Israelis celebrated Yom Ha'atzmaut.

May 1

• Media were full of reports of the withdrawal by the Batsheva dance troupe from the jubilee celebrations, due to what they described as "religious coercion" by the haredi establishment which had threatened to bring down the government.

50 Years Ago

JERUSALEM, May 2 — The Haganah announced today that attacks by some 8,000 invading Syrian, Lebanese and Iraqi troops on five Jewish settlements on the northeastern border facing Syria were repulsed yesterday, while the British revealed that they were rushing troops, tanks and heavy guns from Malta and Cyprus to Palestine because of the rapidly "deteriorating situation," which they said had resulted in the Irgun's attack on Jaffa.

A Jewish Agency spokesman commented sharply on the British attitude, asserting that "the situation has only deteriorated in that Jews have been scoring military successes."

With files from JTA

Canadian students join March of Living experience

By NAOMI HARRIS
Special to The CJN

I am a 24-year-old student who travelled as a photographer with the Coast-to-Coast contingent of the recent March of the Living.

The group was made up of about 120 participants from communities outside Toronto and Montreal, including Vancouver, Saskatoon, Calgary, Edmonton, Winnipeg, London, Hamilton, Ottawa, Kingston and Halifax.

We arrived in Poland on April 20. In an attempt to show us the rich quality of life that existed in Poland before the war, visits were made to the Gensha (Jewish) cemetery in Warsaw, the Jewish Quarter in Krakow and the shtetl of Tychochin.

The death camps of Auschwitz-Birkenau, Majdanek, and Treblinka told the story of how six million Jews died at the hand of the Nazis.

At the end of each day, students broke up into groups for debriefing sessions where they were able to express their emotions, listen to others' feelings and offer support to one another.

On Yom Hashoah, over 6,000 Jewish students and survivors from around the world marched with Polish supporters from Auschwitz to Birkenau. This three-kilometre stretch of broken road was transformed into a sea of blue jackets with Israeli flags dancing like sailboats upon it.

However, the closing ceremony at Birkenau was a disappointment. Most of the ceremony was conducted in Hebrew, leaving many of us unable to understand the proceedings. Furthermore, the presence of Israel's Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and his security staff created a sense of exclusion among the participants. Finally, survivors and students were virtually excluded from meaningful participation in the ceremony. Barry Rishikof, March of the Living's Canadian chair, said the general feeling was that the Yom Hashoah ceremony was not the place for political statements.

A most unexpected aspect of the trip was the participation of the non-Jewish group, the Polish Friends of Israel, who showed support by taking part in the march. This group is growing in number year after year.

Further strides towards reconciliation were made with a first-time program where the Jewish students of the Coast-to-Coast contingent met with non-Jewish Polish students from a local Warsaw high school. After lunch on Shabbat, these students asked each other about their schools, their recreation activities and their thoughts on the Holocaust and anti-Semitism. The discussion was honest and passionate, with both sides openly willing to acknowledge the difficulties of the past.

Canadians joined thousands of students from around the world for the March of the Living. [RNS-Reuters]

In another departure from previous marches, 11 Israeli students from Or Yehuda, a small development town near Tel Aviv, accompanied the Coast-to-Coast group throughout their travels in Poland and Israel. This pilot project is aimed at creating close friendships between Israeli and Canadian students of the same group in an educational framework.

Our group was fortunate to travel with Jury Cohen, an Auschwitz-Birkenau survivor from Toronto. On Oct. 7, 1994, Cohen's life was saved by the courageous actions of four women and the members of the Sonderkommando. These women, Ala Gertner, Roza Robata, Regina Safirstain and Estera Wajcblum smuggled explosives in their clothing from the factory where they worked. The Sonderkommando then used the explosives to blow up Crematorium IV in Birkenau, killing five SS guards. Cohen and others, who had already stripped for the "showers" were released.

As I write this, we are on our way back from Treblinka. Tonight we leave for Israel. Treblinka is an isolated green pasture surrounded by deep forests. The wind whistles across the landscape. There are 17,000 stones, each symbolizing a Polish community of 150 or more Jews destroyed during the Holocaust. On one stone is marked Radomsk, the town from which my grandmother's family originated.

As I lit a Yizkor candle to commemorate the memory of my family and all those who perished during the Holocaust, I thought of my grandmother who immigrated to Canada in 1928 and never had a chance to say goodbye.

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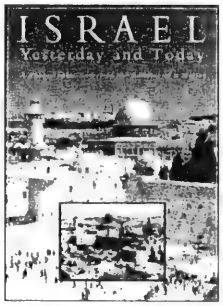

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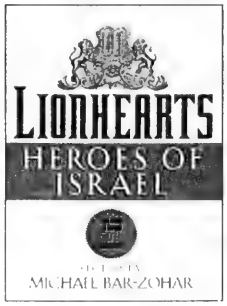
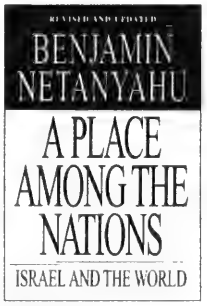


Lionhearts
Heroes of Israel
Edited by Michael Bar-Zohar

A UNIQUE LOOK AT THE ARAB-ISRAELI CONFLICT



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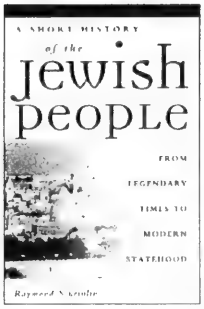

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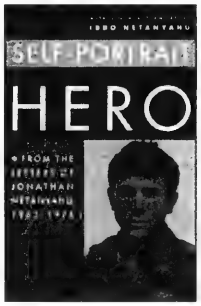

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WAITING FOR THE TORAH

Students at Associated Hebrew Day School's Kamin campus in Thornhill — and Grade 2 pupil Emma Csillag [inset] — await the arrival last week of a sefer Torah they helped to write, as part of the community's Israel at 50 celebrations.

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Yamaha Parent

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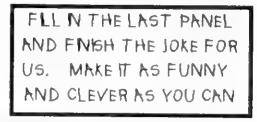

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A	C	O	O	K	J	N	G	N	R	I
N	J	K	D	E	U	J	J	C	A	S
I	L	S	Y	W	J	J	R	R	M	H
E	L	K	E	U	O	F	U	O	I	R
H	G	N	I	W	A	R	D	S	C	S
S	H	A	S	S	G	Q	K	S	S	E
T	J	L	O	N	N	I	E	W	J	S
A	O	Y	I	N	K	J	U	O	O	N
M	H	W	M	O	R	D	I	R	S	I
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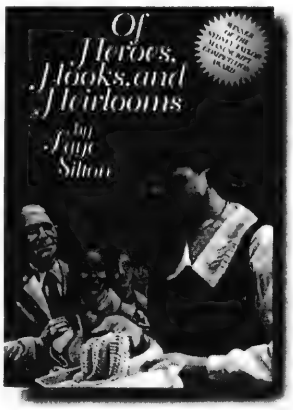
'Of Heroes, Hooks, and Heirlooms'

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter



Most kids enjoy bringing family mementoes to class and talking about what those things mean to them.

But what if you have no mementoes, nothing tangible left from your ancestors' past?

That is the dilemma facing Mia, in the book, *Of Heroes, Hooks, and Heirlooms* by Faye Silton (The Jewish Publication Society), when her teacher asks the students to research their family histories and bring in pictures and crafts.

Mia is the daughter of Holocaust survivors who had lost everyone and everything in World War II. Her mother only has one picture of her family, a very stiff and formal portrait.

Mia has always felt rather embarrassed by her home, which is very starkly and simply decorated. Her parents insist that "it's better maybe not to shine too much, not to wear red, not to be the best."

She finds to her pleasure, however, that when her classmates visit, they are impressed by the simplicity of her home and the warmth and artistic sense of her mother.

Over the course of the book, she also learns to appreciate the dignity of those lost in the Holocaust, and the courage of the survivors.

Mia learns to crochet very skilfully, and finds out that she has inherited that skill from her grandmother.

She worries about how the class will react to the lace collar she crochets for her presentation. Can she make everyone understand that what she inherited from Mutti (her grandmother) was real, that the lace collar stood for her dignity and faith in the face of terror, her special brand of pride.

Her class also learns to appreciate the heirlooms of the other students – from a native American dreamcatcher, to a quilt used on the cold Nebraska prairie, to Russian music.

And they also discover the common threads of struggle and accomplishment.

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STRUB'S Pickle Corner STRUB'S

Vol. 1, No. 2 • May 7, 1998

Hello! How are ya? I hope you had a wonderful Pesach. Wasn't the Beet Horseradish great this year? It cleared up my friend's cold on the first bite! Thanks to all of you who took the time to write me. I had quite a variety of questions, from the price of pickles during Pesach to where Strub's pickles can be purchased in Florida. Keep the e-mail, letters and pictures coming!

Question of the Month

Dear Pickle Guy:

My family and friends have loved Strub's pickles for years – yum!!! Over the past 70 years, what products have your "Pickle People" produced that aren't currently being made in your product line-up? And more importantly, what new products are you testing for the future?

Also, does Pickle Guy have a girlfriend? Maybe I can fix him up! — *Sincerely, B.W., Toronto*

The Pickle Guy Replies

Dear B.W.:

I'm glad that you and your friends are such great Strub's fans, but I'm afraid that I'm a "taken" Pickle Guy. I've been happily fermenting with the same Pickle Gal for quite some time now and really enjoy the bottled lifestyle.

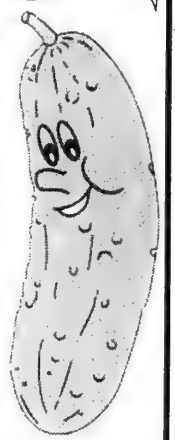
The product development team at Strub's is always coming up with new food ideas. Not all of them make it to your store shelves, but we do test many recipes and ideas each year. Our latest additions include Marinated Mushrooms, Bean Salad, Deli Mix Olives and Sandwich Snacker Pickles. If you can't find them at your favourite store, ask the manager to get them for you. He'll probably call me soon after.

In our seventy years of pickling, we have not deleted an item from our product offering, except for Tzatziki, which was available for a short time between 1991 and 1993. Thanks again for your letter. I'll be sending you one of my "Pickle Guy" T-Shirts and Hats.

Remember, send your letters, pictures, and postcards to me:

Pickle Guy
c/o Strub's Pickle Corner
100 Roy Boulevard
BRANTFORD, ON N3R 7K2
e-mail: STRUBPICKL@AOL.COM

I answer ALL my mail, and if I use your letter in "Pickle Corner", I'll send you one of my "Pickle Guy" T-shirts and Hats. Thanks, and talk to you next month in the June 4 issue of the CJN.



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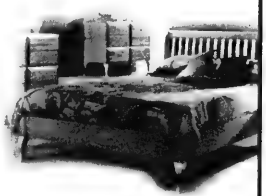

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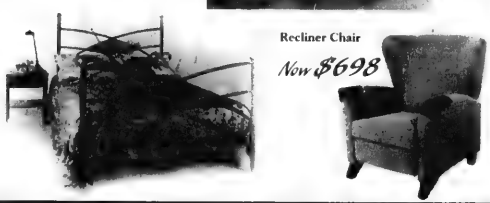

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And now that I'm a little older,
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THE DINING GUIDE

ADVERTISING FEATURE

AVE. & DAV.

The most recent addition to the LIBERTY ENTERTAINMENT GROUP roster is **AVE. & DAV.** near the well known Toronto intersection of Avenue Road and Davenport. Famous for its proximity to both the downtown core and the exclusive surrounding neighborhoods of Forest Hill, Rosedale and Yorkville, **AVE. & DAV.** is a new concept developed specifically for the area; combining a raw oyster and sushi bar with a casual dining menu, **AVE. & DAV.** redefines the notion of the stylish neighborhood bistro. The sushi and oyster bar is open continuously throughout the week and Saturday and Sunday brunch is featured from 11am to 4pm.

Lunch Tues.-Fri. 11:30am-3pm
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122 Avenue Road
Phone 416-925-5551

ROSEWATER SUPPER CLUB

Rosewater Supper Club is situated minutes from the heart of Toronto's financial and theatre district. Renowned for the beauty and elegance of its historical landmark building, it's perfect for enjoying cocktails, an exquisite meal or a special event. The diversity and décor of the restaurant will amaze you, whether you're in the main dining room, private Boardroom, the Mezzanine, the Supper Club or the Ember Lounge. Executive Chef Christopher Klugman's menu is an eclectic palette of culinary styles and achieves harmony with the elegance of the heritage structure. The highest standards of quality and meticulous attention to detail are ahered to by all staff.

Call for reservations
Hours: Lunch Mon.-Fri. 11:30-2:30
Dinner Mon.-Sat. 5:30-10:30

19 Toronto Street
Phone 416-214-5888

LA BUSSOLA RISTORANTE

La Bussola's new owners, Luigi and Eduardo Beccati, formerly chefs of Gamberoni, create a tempting, flavorful variety of moderately priced fresh seafood, meat, pasta and vegetable dishes. Sample the superb seafood casserole or try the tri-color penne with dried shitaki mushrooms and crab meat in a rosé sauce. The tender veal medallions topped with sauteed mushrooms or rack of lamb flambed in brandy make excellent choices. This cosy, enchanting ristorante with its homey, quaint decor offers an extensive wine list with over 60 Italian reds. Located near Highway 401 and Bathurst.

Lunch: Tues.–Fri. from 11 a.m.,
Dinner 7 days a week from 5 p.m.
Reservations recommended on weekends.

3434 Bathurst Street
Phone 416-789-4444

ABBONDANTE RESTAURANT

Come sample Abbondante's light spring menu, with delectations like grilled salmon, Cornish hen, seafood pasta, vegetable risotto and an ever-growing salad selection. The portions are abundant; the desserts are home-made; and the wines, grappas, cognacs and liqueurs are the finest. The ambience is relaxed, with its open kitchen and vibrant colors; patrons love to meet and shmooze here. Abbondante promotes community work too, currently sponsoring a cancer fundraiser with a trip to Vegas as first prize; and cooking classes and a fashion show are coming up. Normally reserved Sundays for private functions, Abbondante is open Mothers' Day, May 10th.

Hours: Mon.-Fri. 11:30-11, Sat. 5-11
Ample free parking
Wheelchair access.
Reservations recommended

10620 Yonge Street, Unit 16
South of Elgin Mills
Phone 905-780-0183

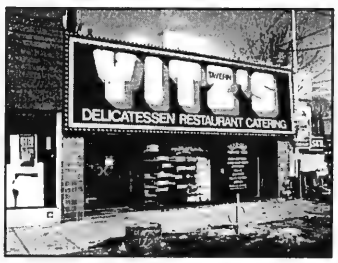
BUMPKIN'S

Bumpkin's, under the same owner since 1971, is situated in a Victorian house with an inviting atmosphere and warm fireplace. The huge menu includes duck a l'orange, quails and breast of chicken; for seafood, try the best-selling Shrimps Bumpkin's, fresh Atlantic salmon, stuffed rainbow trout, or fresh catch of the day. The choice of tender, juicy meat items includes roast beef, sirloin, filet mignon and sirloin butt steak; there are also fine vegetarian dishes, like pasta primavera. Daily specials include tiger shrimp, pasta aux fruits de mer, and surf 'n turf. Appetizers are from $2.95, entrees from $8.95; lunches include soup or salad. Best escargots & mussels in town! Newly renovated with wall to wall famous paintings.

Hours: Lunch Mon.-Fri. 12:00-2:30 p.m.,
Dinner Mon.-Sat. 5:00-11:00 p.m.
Reservations requested for 5 or more

21 Gloucester Street
Phone 416-922-8655

YITZ'S DELICATESSEN



A Jewish Deli serving hearty foods prepared fresh daily with many favourites like homemade soups, corned beef, knishes, big salads and bagels. Voted #1 for Chicken Matzoh Ball Soup, Baby Beef, Lemon Meringue Pie and Chunky Chocolate Cookies. Boasts a 'lighten up' low fat menu. Baking on premises all day long. Unique Feature: A well stocked Humidor with the finest Cuban cigars at the city's best prices.

Hours: 10:00 am-9:00 pm
Take Out: 9:30 am-9:00 pm
7 days a week
Wheelchair access to main floor

346 Eglinton Avenue West
Phone 416-487-4506

O MEI RESTAURANT

For 14 years, the O Mei and its owner Ringo Ip have been synonymous with the finest Szechuan and Peking cuisine and the friendliest personal service. Now that the Sheppard location, pictured at left, has undergone a spectacular renovation, you can enjoy the O Mei experience in unrivalled elegance.

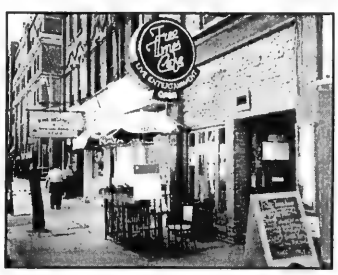
The new dining room features soft, soothing shades of teal, sea-green and lilac. The menu — which many regulars know by heart — includes legendary favourites such as Spicy Chicken, Crispy Beef, Five Spices Lemon Chicken, and Mango Chicken in season.

Each of the O Mei's locations has a private room ideal for parties of all kinds, and professional sound equipment is supplied by the O Mei. Ringo may even sing for you!

Hours: Mon.-Thurs. 11:30-10
Fri. 11:30-11; Sat. 12-11; Sun. 12-10
Also at 248 Steeles West 905-889-8282;
and 420 Hwy. 7 East 905-881-8188

618 Sheppard Ave. West
Phone 416-635-5050

FREE TIMES CAFE



After 17 years as Toronto's premier folk club and "real food" eatery, the Free Times Café now reigns as Toronto's foremost Sunday Brunch destination. **"BELLA: Did Ya Eat?"** is an amazing All-You-Can-Eat authentic Jewish feast. Sundays from 11 to 3 ($11.95, children 1/2 price), the Brunch includes over 40 delicious items, such as blintzes, latkes, lox eggs and onions, and gefilte fish, plus freshly-squeezed orange juice, tea and coffee. For an additional $4 cover, you can enjoy live Jewish cultural entertainment such as Klezmer, Yiddish and Hebrew music.

An ongoing major expansion will see the Free Times grow 50%, just in time for Mother's Day!

May 10: Klezmer with Hu-Tsa-Tsa • **May 17:** Tribute to Israel with Stephen Reich & friends **May 24:** Klezmer with Martin Van De Ven & Sasha Luminsky • **May 31:** Medina.

Hours: Mon.-Sat. 11:30 a.m.-2:00 a.m.
Sun. 11 a.m.-2 a.m.; Brunch 11-3
Fully licensed. Wheelchair access

320 College Sreet East
Phone 416-487-4506

THE DINING GUIDE

ADVERTISING FEATURE

The Lobster Trap Restaurant

Still serving satisfied patrons after 35 years. The Lobster Trap is Toronto's original lobster house. Unique in Canada, The Lobster Trap offers live lobster in the tank from one pound up to four pounds, prepared the way you like it; and the lobster bisque sets the standard for all others. Besides our delicious lobster, scampies, Alaska king crab legs, shrimps and mussels, there is also a selection of other fine fish dishes. Casual dress goes with the cozy atmosphere; and there is a special kids' menu. Lunches start at $4.95, dinners at $16.95. The Lobster Trap accepts all major credit cards.

1962 Avenue Road
Phone 416-787-3211

Hours: Lunch Mon.-Fri. 11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.
Dinner 5:00-10:00 p.m.,
7 days a week

Mediterraneo Restaurant

For fine Mediterranean cuisine, Italian or Californian wines, and an ambience that welcomes you whether you're in a business suit or weekend shorts, visit Mediterraneo. Savor appetizers like wild rice soup or grilled calamari, and entrees like linguine with lobster or risotto with scallops and saffron, or roast rack of lamb with mint and thyme emulsion with couscous; or choose a fresh fish from the display counter.

Prefer pizza? There are many choices; try pizza al pesto with grilled chicken and basil sauce. Finish with a crispy top lemon tart, or chocolate tower filled with white chocolate mousse. There's a separate room and menu for private functions, too.

2075 Yonge Street
Phone 416-322-0161

Hours: Mon.-Sat. lunch until 3
Mon.-Sun. dinner 4:30-11
Reservations recommended

The Wineyard

"For people who appreciate good value, generous portions and friendly service.
Sara Waxman/Toronto Sun

"In these hard times, running a restaurant is an act of lovable folly. One with a large choice of honestly cooked and interesting foods for under $70 a couple deserves our patronage. The Wineyard is that place."
Joanne Kates/The Globe and Mail

"Tuscany at-harvest mural and swelling wine list give credence to the tag. Lengthy menu on East & West harmonious results."
Toronto Life

Private function rooms for special occasions.

2110 Yonge Street
2 blocks South of Eglinton
Phone 416-489-4929

Hours: Mon.-Fri. 11:30 am-midnight
Sat.-Sun. 5:00 pm-midnight
Wheelchair access

Village Loft, Eaton's Yorkdale

The Village Loft Restaurant at Eaton's Yorkdale is a family dining oasis for both in-store shoppers and the general community. Especially popular is the All-You-Can-Eat Buffet, served daily: $9.95 M to F 11:30–2:30; $13.95 M to W 4:30–8, Thurs. & Fri. 4:30–9; $10.95 Sat. 11:30 to 8 and Sun. 11:30 to 3. The Thurs. & Fri. Night Buffet features an all-you-can-peel and eat Shrimp Festival. Children under 8 eat for half price, children under 4 eat FREE, and seniors enjoy 10% off every day!

Licensed under LLBO, the Village Loft also offers an exciting à la carte menu. Its large, sunny dining room is a cheery destination for all your special occasions, and a private room is available. There is ample free parking and direct subway access.

Eaton's Yorkdale, 2nd floor
Phone 416-256-5018

Hours: Open daily; see hours above
Reservations recommended

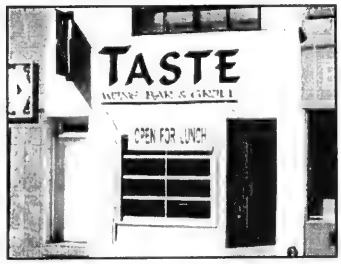
Furama House

Looking for ambience, fine dining and a varied selection of Cantonese and Szechuan cuisine? Look no further than Bobby Peng's Furama House, which boasts all of the above plus the city's most spectacular Dim Sum, available from 10 to 4 seven days a week for your dining pleasure. Ongoing specials include Live Lobster (buy 1 get 1 free, $18.95 eat in or $20.95 take out), and Live Lobster & Whole King Crab, $22.50. Mon. to Fri. except holidays, enjoy 20% off the Dim Sum if paying cash, and 15% off the dinner menu, not including specials.

Hours: 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m.,
7 days a week. Dim Sum 10-4 daily.
Eat-in or take out.
Fully licensed. Wheelchair Access.
Reservations recommended.

100 Steeles Avenue West
Phone 905-731-3288

Taste Wine Bar & Grill



In Your Kitchen, Catering & Event Planning has a kinship with a delicate little restaurant called Taste Wine Bar & Grill, where head chef Joe Rovito tempts us daily.

The food – modern Italian, with a fusion of flavours. We offer appetizers to tease, homemade soups, fish, chicken, veal, pastas, pizzas, salads daily + nightly specials. Specialty breads are baked on the premises along with a host of desserts that are prepared daily in our kitchen. All of this wonderful food is complemented by our extensive wine list.

Come and see if the TASTE doesn't leave you coming back for more. Take out available.

Hours: Monday to Saturday
Lunch: 11:30-2:30
Dinner: 5:30-10:30
Reservations recommended

1734 Avenue Rd. (at St. Germain)
Phone 416-256-1707

Chung King Garden

Under the management of chef- owner Chun Pek Hui, the original Chung King Restaurant brings over 20 years' experience to this newly renovated location (1 light north of Steeles Ave. East, entrance at Kennedy Rd.). In this relaxed, friendly setting, you and your family will enjoy the best authentic Szechuan and Mandarin cuisine. There are many hot, spicy dishes like Szechuan shredded beef, garlic shrimp, spiced chicken with garlic peanut sauce and the famous hot and sour soup is still the best in town. Any dish may be requested milder or vegetarian style. Licensed.

Hours: Mon.-Thurs. & Sun. 11-10
Fri.-Sat. 11-10:30
Wheelchair access
Call for reservations

Market Village Shopping Centre
Steeles Ave. E./Kennedy Rd. (outside unit)
Phone 905-513-8788

Lobster Royale

As special as mothers are, they should be treated as such. Dine at The Lobster Royale where lobsters range from one to three pounds, live from the tank, prepared for you either broiled or steamed. Start your meal with a superb Lobster Bisque or a divine Clam Chowder. Other fine fish delicacies are Alaska King Crab Legs, Orange Roughy and Halibut Steak; and the meat menu includes Filet Mignon and New York Striploin. There is a certain tone here, not too formal; smart-casual dress goes well with fine table linen.

Hours: Mon.-Sun. 5:00-10:00 p.m.
Reservations advised for groups
of 4 and up
Wheelchair access

7323 Yonge Street
Phone 905-707-0546

Travel, Arts & Business

Sensitive film captures Israel's deep political strife

In this article Bill Gladstone reviews three of the many films that will be shown during the sixth annual Toronto Jewish Film Festival, May 7 to 14 at the Bloor Street Cinema, Toronto. For tickets, phone 416-324-8600.

By BILL GLADSTONE
Special to The CJN

Israeli Daniel Katzir, 24, grew up under the shadow of violence: his grandfather was killed in a terrorist attack at Lod Airport in the 1970s. As a soldier in the Israel Defense Forces, he had a second initiation into violence during the intifadah.

Like most young people, Katzir is searching for love, but what makes his quest different is that he decides to chronicle it on film. The result is *Out For Love...Be Back Shortly*, an engaging and sensitive 55-minute documentary that captures both Katzir's personal romantic hunt and the deep political strife that beset the Jewish nation in the days leading up to the Rabin assassination.

In a society where terrorist bombs explode with alarming frequency, Katzir can't express his love for his girlfriend, Iris, who is about to be initiated into the army. As ordinary people are blown apart all around him, Katzir seems afraid to love. At times, he even seems to hide behind the camera rather than be drawn emotionally into a fractious, brutal world.

The film begs the question, can love bloom, unencumbered and uninhibited, in a society that is in a psychological state of war?

Out For Love...Be Back Shortly does not resolve the questions it raises, but it stands as one artist's personal statement of deep alienation from Israeli society. The filmmaker managed to capture some extraordinary footage of political demonstrations and of his grandmother as she reveals the heartbreaking story of her tragic loss.

Katzir's girlfriend, Iris Arie, is expected to attend the screening May 10 at 7:30 p.m., as well as the student-program screening, May 12 at 12:30 p.m.

* * *

Like many young-to-middle-age American and Canadian Jews, filmmaker Alan Berliner was bitten by the genealogical bug. His award-winning 1996 film, *Nobody's Business*, is an attempt, not only to document some of his family's history, but also to explore the relationships within his own nuclear family, especially between himself and his father Oscar.

The elder Berliner sees no point whatsoever in family tree research; he's of the generation that needed to distance itself from its immigrant past. The hour-long film is a fast-paced, witty progression of discoveries and dialogues, with the son pushing for answers about the past and the father professing indifference, even antipathy, to recovering lost family links and secrets. A lonely and feisty old man, the filmmaker's father stubbornly insists that the sleeping poodles of the past should not be disturbed.

Berliner also explores the relationship between his mother and father, which may be compared to an ever-widening chasm that finally became too large to bridge. In one brilliant, gut-wrenching scene, a house is shown falling over a cliff into the sea, symbolizing the couple's painful divorce.

This powerful metaphor highlights the eternal significance of family relationships in our lives. Must viewing for anyone with an interest in family history, Berliner's riveting documentary is scheduled for May 14 at 5:30 p.m.

* * *

Ever since the Chinese conquered Tibet, forcing the Dalai Lama and many loyal Tibetan nationalists to flee, the spiritual leader of the Tibetan people has been seeking ways to preserve and unite his people in exile.

It seems natural, therefore, that the Dalai Lama should approach a contingent of Jews to find out how the Jewish people have survived in exile for 2,000 years.

Author Rodger Kamenetz joined a 1990 Jewish mission to meet the Tibetan holy man in Dharmsala, India, at a point when his own spirits were at a low ebb. He and his wife had lost a son shortly after childbirth, and he had then written a book that his publisher had outrightly rejected. This dialogue between two ancient cultures was somehow the key to rejuvenating Kamenetz.

He returned home and wrote *The Jew In The Lotus*, which became a bestseller.

Also titled *The Jew In The Lotus*, this 57-minute documentary by American director Laurel Chiten captures the exotic, impoverished flavor of India, as well as the feelings of the Jewish Americans that they had landed on another planet.

The film's interplay of Judaism and Buddhism was bound to generate some interesting philosophical discussions, but to my mind, the film presents these in a superficial manner. *The Jew In The Lotus* really tells the tale of John Kamenetz's media success; the film acknowledges his limited knowledge of Buddhism. Viewers are left wishing for deeper insights into both religions.

The Jew In The Lotus airs May 14, 7 p.m. with the director in attendance.

Ooh La La! Ooh La La! Ooh La La!

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Chinatown Centre (Furama Bakery)	9:45AM 2:15PM* 5:15PM 10:15PM	5:00PM 9:00PM* 12:00AM 5:00AM
EAST TORONTO	**DEPARTURE**	**RETURN**
Broadview & Gerrard (Kentucky Fried Chicken)	10:15AM 1:45PM* 4:45PM	5:00PM 9:00PM* 12:00AM
NORTH YORK	**DEPARTURE**	**RETURN**
Bathurst & Steeles Yorkdale Subway (Bus Lane 13) Jane/Wilson (Coffee Time)	10:15AM 10:30AM 10:45AM 7:00PM*	6:00PM 6:00PM 6:00PM 10:00PM*
SCARBOROUGH	**DEPARTURE**	**RETURN**
Dragon Centre (Hong Kong Bank)	9:45AM	5:00PM
MARKHAM	**DEPARTURE**	**RETURN**
Kennedy Rd. & Steeles Ave. (Baker's Dozen Donut)	10:45AM 2:15PM* 4:15PM 9:45PM	5 & 7:00PM 10:00PM* 12:00AM 5:00AM
RICHMOND HILL	**DEPARTURE**	**RETURN**
Commerce Gate (505 Hwy 7 Second Cup)	11:15AM 2:30PM*	5 & 7:00PM 10:00PM*
MISSISSAUGA	**DEPARTURE**	**RETURN**
Golden Square Centre Mississauga Chinese Centre (Rear Entrance, Tung Hing Bakery)	10:15AM 10:45AM 2:45PM*	6:00PM 6:00PM 9:00PM*

Passengers must be 19 or above.
Schedule subject to change without prior notice.
Arrangements can be made for Departure from Casino
* Come in May *

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Travel, Arts & Business

Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

TICKET SALES UP FOR JEWISH FILM FEST

One week before the May 7 opening of the Toronto Jewish Film Festival's (TJFF) sixth season, **Shlomo Schwartzberg**, its director of programming, reports that ticket sales "are running almost 50 percent above last year at this time. People are saying it's our most diverse program yet."

However, tickets to all screenings are still available as of this writing. While the festival has come very close to selling out its allotment of 350 festival passes, there are still some passes available.

According to Schwartzberg, a short film about the TJFF has been included as one of several last-minute additions to the program. Made by Ryerson film student **Chris Trebilcock**, *Beyond Bathurst: The Making of the Toronto Jewish Film Festival* features interviews with Schwartzberg, TJFF producer **Helen Zukerman** and **Debra Kwinter**, TJFF's director of development.

It is scheduled for May 10 at 7:30 p.m., as a prelude to the wonderful Israeli flick *Out For Love... Be Back Shortly*.

Another short film added to the program is *Sara – The Diary of the Free World*, which was supposed to be part of last year's fest but never arrived. It's a 14-minute Romanian-made impressionistic documentary about a movie projectionist's fantasies related to events in the Holocaust. Watch for it May 13 at 3 p.m. as a prelude to *Poland: Creating a New Jewish Heritage*.

As another last-minute development, the festival is bringing in **Richard Trank**, producer of *The Long Way Home*, the closing film on May 14 at 9 pm. Although this time slot corresponds with the last episode of *Seinfeld*, fans of the popular TV show are advised to videotape it so as not to miss this astonishing Academy Award-winning documentary, which features extremely rare footage of Jewish refugees on the arduous journey from postwar Europe to Palestine. For tickets, call 324-8600.

* * *

Humor As Tonic: The La'Briyut Wellness Department of the Bernard Betel Centre presents the second annual Brenda Zalken Memorial Lectures, focusing on Humor as the Best Medicine. **Dr. David Saul**, family physician, speaks on May 11, 1:15 p.m., and actor-author **Howard Jerome** is featured on May 21, 1:15 p.m. Free. 1003 Steeles Ave. W. 225-2112 (Joan).

* * *

Therapeutic Art: Shedding Skins: Dream Art and Text is an exhibition of paintings by **Susan Schellenberg** that chronicle the slow healing process and recovery from a mental illness diagnosed as schizophrenia. Dreamlike and evocative, Schellenberg's paintings probe the meaning and dimensions of madness. On view in the Galleria of BCE Place, 181 Bay St., May 4 to 8.

* * *

Arts Briefs:

• Reflections, an exhibition of photographs by **Martin Kellerstein**, is on view at Gallery Gabor, 587 Markham St., Toronto, to June 4. 534-1839.

• The **Steve Lawrence** and **Eydie Gorme** concert previously scheduled for May 14 and 15 at the Hummingbird Centre has been cancelled.

• Juten Gallery (1236 Kingston Rd., Toronto) presents Form and Fantasy, featuring works by Canadian sculptor **Ruben Zellermayer**, which are "characterized by a whimsical play on the anatomical form employing mixed metals and hammered bronze." Opens May 7, 7 to 9 p.m., and continues to May 28. 691-4999.

* * *

In the Spotlight: Since he came to Canada in 1941, **Walter Homburger** has been involved in the Canadian performing arts scene in many roles. After completing his service in the Canadian Army, he established the International Artists Concert Agency through which he brought great artists to perform in Toronto. The roster has included **Artur Rubinstein**, **Vladimir Horowitz**, **Charles Laughton**, **Marian Anderson**, **Itzhak Perlman**, **Luciano Pavarotti**, **Victor Borge**, **Louis Armstrong** and **Sir John Gielgud**.

Homburger was the artistic manager for Glenn Gould and helped to shape the careers of other outstanding artists such as **Victor Braun**, **Jan Rubes** and **Louis Lortie**. He was the first manager of the National Ballet of Canada and managing director of the Toronto Symphony for 25 years.

He is currently manager of renowned Canadian violinist **James Ehnes**, who is one of six featured Canadian artists on the line-up for a May 24 concert presented by the Women's Musical Club of Toronto at the Ford Centre for the Performing Arts, North York. Homburger is a patron of the Women's Musical Club of Toronto, which celebrates its centennial this year.

Other artists to perform in the May 24 concert are **Russell Braun**, **Angela Hewitt**, **Stephen Ralls**, **Catherine Robbin** and **Michael Schade**. Tickets are $75, $50 and $25. 923-7052.

Still Running: Wendy Wasserstein's *The Sisters Rosensweig* is playing at the Alumnae Theatre until May 9. 70 Berkeley St. 364-4170.

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD ANSWERS

I	T	S	■	S	T	A	■	B	I	O	■	S	A	D
S	H	O	W	E	R	S	■	A	N	N	■	E	L	I
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History Television marks Israel's 50th

To mark Israel's 50th anniversary, History Television is running four special shows.

It begins May 11 at 8 p.m. ET with the re-broadcast of the Academy-Award winning documentary *The Long Way Home*.

On May 12 at 8 p.m. it is running *Israel: The First Fifty Years* which charts the course of the Israeli- Palestinian conflict.

The movie *Exodus* will be seen over two nights on May 13 and 14 also at 8p.m. Featuring Paul Newman, Eva Marie Saint and Ralph Richardson, Exodus follows the story of the rusty old freighter which carried Jewish immigrants to Palestine.

Jill Clayburgh stars as a public defence lawyer who has come to Jerusalem to begin a new life in *Hanna K.*, May 15 at 8 p.m.

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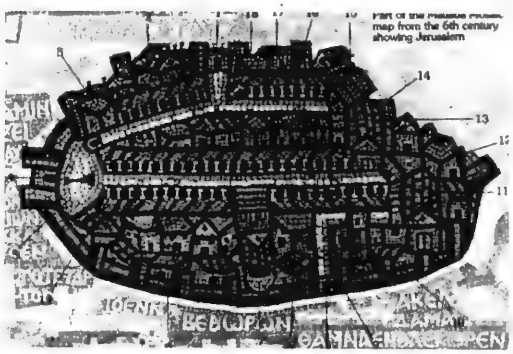


Part of the Madaba Mosaic map from the 6th century.

SIXTH CENTURY MAP OF JERUSALEM ON VIEW IN JORDANIAN TOWN

A tile mosaic on a church floor in the Jordanian town of Madaba, about 32 kilometres south of Amman, contains a remarkable treasure: the earliest known map of the Holy City of Jerusalem. Dating from the 6th century, the stylized oval-shaped map is prized by archeologists, historians and theologians because it shows churches, gates, streets and other landmarks clearly, thus providing an excellent indication of what Jerusalem looked like in the Byzantine era some 15 centuries ago.

The mosaic is made up of more than 700,000 ceramic tiles. It was probably laid down during the reign of the Emperor Justinian (527-565).

Running through the centre of the map are two straight rows of white and tan tiles, representing the Cardo, the main boulevard from the Roman period which is still the main street of Old Jerusalem.

At the "nine o'clock" position on the map is the Damascus Gate, known as St. Stephen's Gate in the 6th century. Beside the gate is a courtyard with a single column, which probably once supported the statue of an emperor, perhaps Hadrian. Although the column has long since disappeared, it is still remembered in the Arabic name of the gate, Bab el-Amud, or Gate of the Column.

Scholars have identified some 18 churches in the Madaba mosaic, including the complex of buildings known collectively as the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. Other buildings and structures shown in the map include a monastery, a staircase that was recently excavated on the southern wall of the ancient Temple Mount, and a public bath.

Conspicuous by its absence is any sort of grand depiction of the Temple Mount, the site of the former Jewish Temple, which is indicated only by a line of black tiles.

The Romans had thoroughly destroyed the Temple in 73 AD and by the 6th century the platform upon which it had stood was a desolate ruin, possibly used as a garbage dump. It was more than a century before the rise of the Mohammedan religion, and nearly two centuries before the first Islamic building, a precursor of the Dome of the Rock, was erected on the Temple Mount.

The Madaba mosaic was uncovered in the late 19th century, after Ottoman officials permitted a group of Greek Orthodox Christians to build a new church on the ancient ruins of a cathedral. The builders were clearing away debris and rubble from the older building in 1884 when they uncovered the mosaic map, which they repaired and incorporated into the floor of the new building.

The mosaic is preserved in the Church of St. George. Except when religious services are in session, visitors may tour the church and view the map, which is roped off so as to prevent the public from walking on it. For those not planning a trip to Jordan, a large replica of the Madaba mosaic is on view along an arcaded section of the Cardo in Jerusalem.

* * *

A few miles from Madaba is another site which no one interested in Biblical history should miss. Offering an exquisite panoramic lookout of the Jordan Valley, Mount Nebo is the spot from which, according to tradition, Moses glimpsed the Promised Land before dying at the age of 120.

Moses never arrived in the Promised Land. Tradition asserts that G-d buried him in a secret location on Mount Nebo. Stretching into the distance, the desert vista is painted in pale shades of brown, mauve, turquoise and purple. Along the bottom of the valley a thin black line – actually the River Jordan – snakes through a pale patch of green. To the southwest, the mirrory Dead Sea lies like a vast pool of mercury on the desert floor.

On clear mornings, the towers and domes of Jerusalem are visible on the distant horizon. These days, one is also apt to see a gray industrial haze darkening the azure sky.

As in Madaba, some superb ancient mosaics are on view here, in the structure that the Franciscans constructed in the 1930s over some Byzantine-era ruins.

AN EVENING OF NOSTALGIC MELODIES

Gevatron, Israel's Kibbutz Folk Singers will be performing in Canada for the first time at a grand celebration at the Ford Centre, NorthYork on May 9 at 9:30 p.m. The choir from Kibbutz Geva composes, arranges and sings the classics that have become associaed with the folk and dance of Israel's Kibbutz movement. Tickets are $28.75-$34.75. 416-410-3887 or TicketMaster 416-872-5555

Five-part TV series focuses on Emil Fackenheim

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

Emil Fackenheim, the German-born Canadian philosopher who now lives in Israel, is the subject of a five-part Vision TV series which starts on May 12 at 8:30 p.m.

Entitled *Emil Fackenheim: A Spiritual Declaration*, the series explores his early life in Halle, his engagement with Western philosophers from Plato to Heidegger, his ordination as a liberal rabbi in Berlin, his flight from Germany, his studies and career at the University of Toronto, his immigration to Israel and his reflections on the Holocaust and the Jewish state.

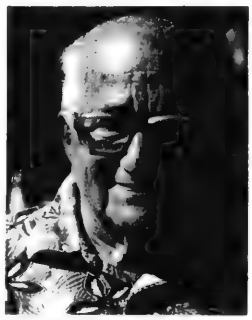
In the first episode, *The Promised Land*, Fackenheim acknowledges that he was once an anti-Zionist who considered Berlin as the "new Jerusalem" and German culture as the apotheosis of human expression.

As well, he extols Israel as "a unique celebration of life," characterizes Jerusalem as the capital of the Jewish people, tearily recalls seeing his first public sign in Hebrew, and describes the Arab-Israeli dispute as a "tragic conflict between right and right."

In the second segment, *Exiled Survivor*, Fackenheim, son of a successful lawyer, leaves Germany and escapes to Canada, where he finds his bearings and rises to prominence as an academic.

In the next three parts, *The Dead Do Not Praise God, When Christianity Died* and *Faith in the Secular Age*, he talks about being an accidental survivor, claims that churches were unfaithful to the tenets of Christianity during the Holocaust, and responds to the question of why God allowed it to happen.

Not surprisingly, *Emil Fackenheim: A Spiritual Declaration* is both stimulating and provocative. Judging by the opening episode, it is television that engages the mind and refrains from pandering to the lowest common denominator.



Emil Fackenheim

Israel's foreign correspondents

By JOSEPH SERGE
Arts editor

It seems as though every day, televisions around the world show pictures from Israel – Palestinians wielding stones and Molotov cocktails and Israeli troops firing rubber bullets.

What is it about Israel that draws so much valuable air time and newspaper space? One of the reasons is that for such a tiny country there are so many journalists. In fact, there are as many foreign correspondents in Jerusalem as there are in Washington or Moscow.

Primetime War, airing on *The Passionate Eye*, CBC May 10, 8 p.m. ET, examines the lives of two cameramen working in Israel, Alon Bernstein, an Israeli who works as a freelancer for Associated Press and Jimmy Michael, a Palestinian who works for the BBC.

The two, obviously at opposite ends of the battle, work together and have become friends after covering one atrocity after another in the past year – intifadah-like uprisings in the West Bank and the suicide bombing in the Machane Yehuda market in Jerusalem.

Bernstein, perhaps because he is older, is more cynical about his profession. Face it, he says, "Israel is the most comfortable news gathering place on the planet. You can live a nice, comfortable life, then get in your car, drive a few miles and take pictures that people back home think is the end of the world. It is ridiculous but that's the way it is."

"In Israel you can live in the city and be near a war zone. The foreign press finds that very attractive," Bernstein says.

One powerful moment in this excellent documentary is the day of the tragic suicide bombing in Jerusalem. After the rush of filming the day's events and sending them off to their respective agencies, the two cameramen – both visibly shaken – get a moment to reflect on the day's events.

"People have a right to feel bad about us [journalists]," Bernstein says. "We deliver horrible things to them."

"At the same time," the younger Michael says, "people can learn something out of this."

"Like what? We've been taking horrible pictures for 50 years. What have people learned from it?"

"I disagree," Michael says trying to put this all in perspective, but perhaps he isn't as articulate as Bernstein. "It will make people see what's happening here."

"All people will learn," Bernstein says, "is when you plant a bomb, you go live on CNN."

Primetime War is worth watching. It shows us, through example, how much of the "news" as we see it is only news because cameramen were present. In one incident, bored journalists urge a Palestinian boy to bait Israeli troops by waving a flag in front of them. "This is clearly journalism gone wrong," one journalist says.

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Business Profile

A year of laurels for master Toronto builder

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Harold Green's name has been synonymous with construction for decades in Toronto. But Green has also demonstrated that he's something of a renaissance man in the building business.

He's been in the construction trade for 53 years, and has lent his name to dozens of single-family, highrise-condo, commercial and industrial projects.

But unlike some builders who have clashed with trade unions in their efforts to get projects built, Green has also worked the labor side of things, and his efforts have led to lasting peace among the trades, as well as more equitable working conditions.

He helped pioneer the building of pre-fabricated structures in Toronto, had a hand in the construction and selling of homes in Canada's first fully planned community, and built Toronto Jewry's central address – the Lipa Green Building – bearing his late father's name.

He's also devised a number of innovations in construction techniques, both in materials and labor, which have speeded the building process and made it more cost-efficient.

It's been a long time coming, but this has been, and will be, a year of laurels for the master Toronto builder.

In February, Green was inducted into the Greater Toronto Home Builders Association Hall of Fame in recognition of his contributions to the city's construction industry and its labor unions.

A few days later, he was honored by Mount Sinai Hospital for his involvement on its executive and his supervision of more than 30 hospital projects, including the Marvelle Koffler Breast Cancer Clinic.

Finally, on June 2, Green, his wife Miriam, and 18 other couples in the city's Jewish community, will be awarded the Canada-Israel Children's Centres' Peace Prize for their support of social and recreational complexes in Israel, which benefit more than 200,000 Israeli kids a year.

Green, a man of few words who still puts in a full day's work at age 71, takes it all in stride. Surrounded by photographs of his many projects, his three sons and nine grandchildren (soon to be 10) at his company's headquarters, the Yonge-Eglinton Centre, he reminisces about his humble origins.

He learned bricklaying while still a teenager, following in the footsteps of his Polish-born father, who came to Canada in 1910. Green and his brothers Al, a carpenter, and Sam, also a bricklayer, started out by building some of Toronto's best-known Jewish bakeries, as well as factories in the city's garment district.

During World War II, Harold trained as a wireless air gunner for the Royal Canadian Air Force, and completed his course on May 8, 1945 – the very day the Allies declared victory in Europe. He never did see any action.

But three years later, his father, together with Toronto's Weinstock family, launched the Greenwin Construction Company, which provided plenty of action for the following 30 years.

Greenwin began modestly by building single-family homes and small plants. Harold started managing the company's construction division in 1952 – the same year he looked at the peaceful, rolling farm hills of Don Mills, and saw an opportunity.

The developer of the lands was having trouble getting homes built there. Many builders resisted the concept of the day, namely, that it was the developer who retained control over all aspects of the project, including the building of components of homes in off-site factories. The notion of subdivision control of almost every visible exterior component was new and strange to both purchasers and builders.

But Greenwin embraced it, and launched the now-standard method of mass producing prefabricating house components. For the first time, walls, windows, floors, roofs, trusses and stairs – all were manufactured at the plant and installed on site. The length of time it took to produce a home was reduced dramatically, and what Green calls Canada's first "master-planned" community was born.

He never looked back. Green estimates he built between 300 and 400 homes a year for the following 10 years in Don Mills.

The year 1961 was a watershed. "We did our first highrise that year," Green recalls, "at Eglinton and Winnett. It was 3½ storeys. That was a highrise in those days." Another was put up on Sherbourne Avenue, and soon, Greenwin-built highrise apartments and condo suites were dotting the Yonge-Davisville area.

A technique borrowed from European construction methods later yielded three of the world's tallest prefabricated concrete structures in the world, each averaging 26 storeys, and all in Toronto.

It was during this period that Green first noticed something was amiss in highrise construction methods. Large structures at the time were built using the "craft" system, meaning a building was put up by one specialized tradesman working after another, each completing only his craft. Carpenters would start and finish; to be followed by steel workers, then concrete pourers, and so on. The system was slow and laborious.

Harold Green

Greenwin, through negotiations with the powerful trade unions, devised a new tack: a multi-trained tradesman called a formworker, who could perform all tasks, one after the other, with no stoppages.

In addition, Greenwin also experimented with a new system of highrise construction called the "flying form," which allowed large chunks of a structure to be assembled and then hoisted onto the floor above.

The efficiency of the new systems represented a 30 percent improvement in overall building costs and timing.

But not all had been calm on the labor front.

"Traditionally, every April 30, there would be a strike," Green says. "You could count on it." Having assisted his father in helping to re-settle and train many post-war refugees, Green saw the need to deal fairly with construction workers. So in 1967, he founded and served as first president of the Metro Toronto Apartment Builders Association, which formed a link between the city's construction laborers and the high-rise builders.

The association forged the industry's first collective agreement between workers, employers and the union, and set up medical, dental, and legal aid plans, as well as pensions, for construction workers. Green himself spearheaded the committee that established a grievance mechanism, which is still in use today.

He also founded a fund to help rehabilitate injured construction workers, or to re-train them.

A peace pact with the unions was finally sealed in 1969. "And it's been quiet ever since," Green notes with just a hint of pride.

Green wrapped up the construction side of Greenwin in 1978. Today, he, his brother Al and Albert Latner are the principals behind Greenwin Properties, which owns or manages more than 45,000 rental apartments and townhomes, and oversees a portfolio of more than three million square feet of office space.

Twenty years ago, Green created Verdiroc Construction, which is building, or has built, over 2,000 condominium units. Some are luxurious (Highland Green in Aurora), but over half of them are government non-profit housing, including the Moshav Noam project at Bathurst and Lawrence. Verdiroc has also built over one million square feet of industrial, retail and health care projects.

Today, his sons are all in the business. Eric, 44, handles construction; Cary, 41, runs development; and Kevin, 39, looks after marketing and sales.

Green is taciturn when it comes to his achievements. "It's a tough business," he allows, "but I wouldn't want to be anyplace else."

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New procedure produces babies free of Tay-Sachs

By LESLIE KATZ
Jewish Bulletin of Northern California

SAN FRANCISCO — Neil and Ann Wolff are both carriers of Tay-Sachs disease.

But with the help of a relatively new technique called pre-implantation genetic diagnosis, the Wolffs' 5-month-old daughter, Rachel, is free of the genetic disorder, which afflicts a disproportionate number of Ashkenazi Jews.

"The real beauty of this technology is that it holds the promise to completely eliminate this disease," says Ann Wolff.

When both members of a couple are carriers, there is a 25 percent chance of conceiving a child with Tay-Sachs, which attacks the central nervous system. Before Rachel's conception, the couple aborted two fetuses shown by amniocentesis to have the disease.

"We were very much at the end of our rope," says Ann Wolff, 38. "We were overwhelmed with the loss and grief and disappointment. We were really ready to give up on having children."

Instead, they turned to the genetic diagnosis, a procedure they had unsuccessfully tried after their first abortion. Performed at only a handful of clinics around the country, the procedure involves developing embryos outside the mother's body and screening them for certain genetic diseases before implanting them in the uterus.

Fewer than 100 children worldwide have been born with the help of the technique.

Last year, at the Jones Institute for Reproductive Medicine in Norfolk, Va., doctors put Wolff on fertility drugs to stimulate egg production. After extracting four eggs and fertilizing them with her husband's sperm, they waited until each of the embryos included eight cells.

They then took a single cell from each embryo and used the latest technology to analyse the DNA and determine which embryos were free of Tay-Sachs.

Genetic technique

As it turns out, all four developing embryos were found to be free of the disease – two were carriers. To increase Wolff's chances of becoming pregnant, all four embryos were implanted in her womb.

According to Susan Gitlin, a specialist in pre-implantation genetic diagnosis, women undergoing the procedure typically have more than one embryo implanted. Gitlin, who is an instructor of obstetrics and gynecology at Eastern Virginia Medical School, says the chances of a multiple birth are 10 to 15 percent.

The Wolffs, who live in Mountain View, Calif., were willing to take the risk.

"After all the losses, twins would have been a blessing for us," Ann Wolff says. In the end, only one embryo thrived. Rachel was born on Nov. 5, 1997.

There is no treatment or cure for Tay-Sachs, named after two doctors who identified the syndrome in the late 19th century. Most victims of the disease, which destroys the brain and causes the body to shut down, die by age five.

While a large percentage of carriers are Ashkenazi Jews, other groups with high numbers of carriers include Cajuns and French Canadians. Sephardi Jews carry the gene at about the same rate as the general population – one in 200.

Pre-implantation genetic diagnosis takes about two weeks and costs approximately $10,000. Brittany Nicole Abshire of Louisiana, the world's first Tay-Sachs-free baby born using the procedure, is now nearly 4 years old.

A couple in which both partners are carriers has a number of other options when it comes to having children. They can adopt. The woman can be artificially inseminated. They can, as the Wolffs did, have their pregnancy monitored by amniocentesis and abort if the fetus is found to be affected.

Many couples choose the latter method, as it is cheaper and less elaborate than pre-implantation genetic diagnosis. But some abortion opponents oppose it, since affected embryos are discarded.

Neil Wolff, 39, first learned he was a Tay-Sachs carrier at age 15. Years later, while a law student, he had his blood tested again, hoping for a different result. "I had not liked the answer," he says.

In 1992, he told his wife-to-be of his carrier status.

She, on the other hand, had never been tested for the disease. "It was not something I thought about," she says. "I didn't know anyone who was a Tay-Sachs carrier. It was never an issue."

She refused to get tested until after the couple became engaged in early 1994. "She didn't want the answer to the question to affect our decision about whether or not we loved each other and wanted to spend our life together," Neil Wolff says.

A week after their engagement came the bad news: She, too, was a carrier of the fatal disorder.

The news shocked them both – and spurred Ann's family members to get tested. "We found out my father was a carrier, and two of my siblings were carriers," she says.

The couple plans to have another child as soon as possible. "We will make up our minds over the next couple of months whether we will go back to the Jones Institute or roll the dice again," Neil Wolff says.

But while the notion of rolling the dice and possibly having to terminate another pregnancy once seemed too painful to bear, it now strikes them as tolerable.

In any event, her father says, referring to Rachel, "We've got something to hold onto."

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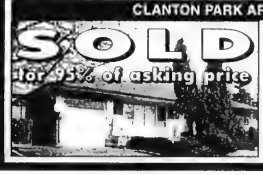

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*** CJN Boxes for Personal Companions Wanted ads are valid for 30 (thirty) days only (from 1st publication date). Replies must be received within this time frame in order to be forwarded to the correct CJN Box #.**

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will take place
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School principal is weightlifting official by night

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Karen Cohen would like to set the record straight.

Weightlifters don't generally look like those pectorally-prominent, muscle-bound bodybuilders you see in glossy magazines and on lowbrow TV shows like "rassling."

Not at all. In fact, the average Ontario weightlifter is not too distinguishable from the guy or gal next door, with better tone and bigger thighs. Most of their strength comes from their legs and they're able to lift enormous quantities of weight because of their technical skills, she says.

Cohen knows of what she speaks. The principal of Park Lane School by day, by night (and on weekends) Cohen is a member of the Ontario Weightlifting Association (OWA) and serves as "a Canadian level official. I officiate at local competitions, provincial level competitions and at the Canadian level too," she said.

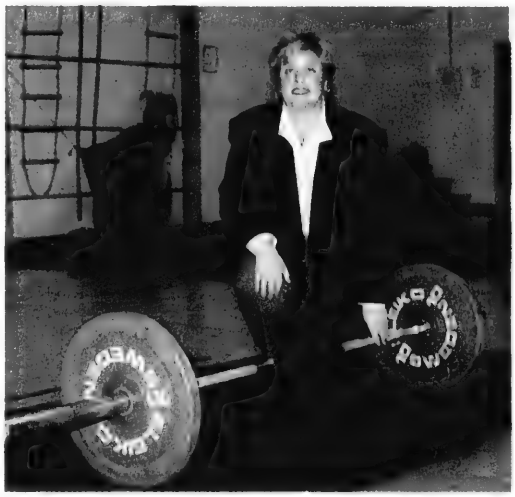
As an official at weekly weightlifting competitions, Cohen has many tasks. If she's serving as a technical controller, it's her job to get the athletes lined up for presentation, supervise the warm-up room, check that the equipment and platform are in good order and make sure that none of the competitors is wearing jewelry or has lubricated their legs.

If she's actually judging a competition, her tasks get more complicated. She has to make sure the lifts are all done according to the rules – and there's a 166-page rulebook to rely on.

The judges must watch the lifters to make sure their knee does not touch the floor during a lift; make sure they don't take more than a minute once they've lifted the bar above their knees; ensure they lift the weight in one continuous motion; and be sure they don't have bent elbows when the weight is above their heads, she said.

For an apparently simple sport, there's a lot of technical aspects to it. "To be successful," Cohen says, "the athletes have to work extremely hard. They have to have a combination of strength, speed and flexibility and really good coaching with respect to technique."

Though you're not likely to see much weightlifting on television or in the press outside of the Olympics and major international events, it's a sport with a broad grassroots support in Canada, Cohen said.



Weightlifting official Karen Cohen

There's a competition practically every weekend, keeping her busy driving from town to town to officiate.

Cohen's involvement in the sport goes back about five years to the days she was working out at the downtown YMCA. At the time, she was using free weights and Nautilus machines – and so were a bunch of OWA lifters. She became friends with some of them and eventually was asked by one to drive some athletes and officials to an event in Ingersoll.

Cohen agreed and when she saw the competition, she was intrigued.

"I went, I started watching and I was fascinated, particularly by the human dynamic. Everyone was so enthusiastic and supportive of each other, really urging other lifters on," she said.

After serving as a chauffeur on a few occasions, "I got tired of sitting there. I said I wanted to get more involved."

Her friends among OWA officials invited her to join in an apprenticeship program where she studied the sport's rules and learned the ropes. After taking a written test as well as a practical demonstration of her knowledge, she became an official.

Cohen points out that Jews have been involved with weightlifting for decades. A founding member of the OWA and its first president in 1968 was William Gryfe, who trained at the Bathurst Jewish Community Centre. The father-son team of Maurice and Joel Strauss trained at the Bloor branch of the Jewish Community Centre and Joel represented Canada at the Maccabiah Games in Israel.

Morty Stolzman, an Orthodox Jew and a super heavyweight, was known in weightlifting circles for arriving at hotels for weekend competitions before sundown on Friday. Because competition in his weight class was held last on Saturday (weights are added to the bar throughout the competition), the Sabbath was over by the time he had to lift, Cohen said.

Besides meeting interesting people and learning the lore of the sport, Cohen's been busy officiating at weekend matches in venues such as St. Catharines, Orillia, Sarnia and Elliott Lake. She also officiated at the Ontario Winter Games and the Canadian Junior Championships in Winnipeg. With more experience, she hopes one day to officiate at international events like the Commonwealth Games and the Olympics.

So how do Canadian lifters measure up at international meets?

"Lousy," Cohen replies: "In Canada, athletes try to be drug-free where that's not the case around the world."

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North York Senior Games get underway

TORONTO — The North York Senior Games are under way.

Competition in 16 different events got under way on May 3 with chess afficionados hovering over chess boards at the North York Central Library.

Other events in the two-month schedule include badminton, bocce, carpet bowling, contract bridge, cribbage, darts, duplicate bridge, euchre, five-pin bowling, golf, lawn bowling, shuffleboard, swimming, tennis and table tennis.

Established in 1982, the games bring together amateur competitors aged 55 and older. Included as part of the games is an awards night on Wednesday, June 24 at the North York Seniors' Centre, 21 Hendon Avenue.

Winners of the various competitions are eligible for the Ontario Senior Games, which will be held in Windsor from Aug. 18-20.

For more information, contact games vice-chair Gerald Berley at 449-6065.

The Inside Back

Jews and drugs

As I was saying...

By RON CSILLAG

In a nondescript office in a nondescript building in the Finch-Dufferin area, Jews addicted to hard drugs gather twice a week for group therapy led by a psychologist who is also an Orthodox rabbi.

The above sentence may have jarred some readers. Jewish drug addicts? Being counselled by an Orthodox rabbi?

Here's another zinger: The rabbi's wife, who wears a sheitl and modest knee-length dress, once had a $1,500-a-day heroin and cocaine habit.

Dr. Mordechai Blumenfeld, a PhD in psychology, is a graduate of Ner Israel Yeshiva, north of Toronto. At 54, he sports a medium-length, graying beard, glasses and a black velvet kippah – the standard "uniform." He is a soft-spoken, gentle father of seven. So it naturally checks the ear when he talks about mainlining heroin, smoking crack and popping codeine.

"I speak the lingo," he says.

Blumenfeld has a private practice, in which he specializes in family and marriage counselling. But the bulk of his time is taken up by the over 100 people who attend his clinic, the Alness Treatment Centre, set up about five years ago. He estimates that fully one-third of his patients are Jewish. Many are from Israeli and Russian immigrant families, but some are products of Canadian Jewish homes.

They're addicted to Tylenol, Percocet, morphine, but most are hooked on heroin via needles. The mean age is 30.

"By the time they get here, they're desperate," says Blumenfeld. "They've lost spouses, children and businesses. They've stolen and lied. They used to get high just to get high. Now, they're getting high to avoid getting sick."

The centre's two medical doctors, Michael Kirzner and Sheldon Hershkop, prescribe methadone, a synthetic opiate substitute that satisfies the craving without inducing the "high." After a week or two of that, it's on to two years of twice-weekly group therapy.

Blumenfeld has borrowed somewhat from Avraham Twerski, the chassidic American rabbi and psychiatrist who runs an addiction clinic in Pittsburgh. "Our philosophy is that addicts have lost respect for others and themselves. It's a question of self-esteem. They don't want to do drugs. By the time they get here, they've hit rock bottom."

Blumenfeld's approach combines rebuilding self-esteem along with healthy doses of spirituality. "Here, they get a sense of respect and worth," he says. He points out that seven of the traditional 12 steps toward recovery from addiction have spiritual components.

He remains diplomatic to a fault; even when asked how the Jewish community – traditionally very skittish when it comes to confronting social unpleasantness – has handled the problem. "There's a discomfort with it," he understates. "Rabbis have hidden the problem."

Limor, his Israeli-born, Toronto-raised wife, is more blunt.

She openly admits that she did everything short of selling herself in order to fund an addiction to barbiturates, LSD, cocaine and heroin, before finally getting help from Chabad-Lubavitch. That was after she contacted several local pulpit rabbis. "The denial from them was atrocious," she says. "They still don't know, or deny, what we're dealing with. Jewish children are dying! My husband and I already buried two Jewish kids from this clinic."

A religious woman, she refrained from shooting up on Shabbat. She was finally cured at a Chabad-run centre in Los Angeles, and has been "clean" for eight years. (She married Blumenfeld five years ago). The Toronto clinic, she says, was her idea because she felt that Jewish addicts should be treated in a Jewish environment.

While most addicts come from broken or dysfunctional homes, according to Blumenfeld, "Ben" (not his real name) grew up in what he calls a "model" Jewish household. Now 40, he, like many of his peers, began smoking pot and hashish in high school. By his 30s, he was addicted to heroin. "My life was a wreck," he recalls.

He's been clean for five years. His marriage survived the terrible strain, and his business has recovered. "This place saved my life," he says.

But, he adds, "A lot of people would be shocked to know how much drug use there is the Jewish community. Nobody's immune."

The centre can be reached at 416-736-6279.

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1/2 cup mayonnaise	1/4 cup grated Parmesan cheese
1/2 cup sour cream	2/3 cup chili sauce or chunky salsa
125 gr pkg light cream cheese	2 green onions, chopped
213 gr can salmon or tuna	2 tblsp. finely chopped parsley
1/2 cup shredded cheddar cheese	1 pkg. ridged potato chips or tortilla chips

Beat mayonnaise, yogurt and cream cheese together until smooth. Spread in shallow serving dish. Arrange tuna or salmon over this mixture. Sprinkle with cheddar and Parmesan cheeses. Spoon chili/salsa sauce over cheeses. Sprinkle with green onions and parsley. Chill for 30 minutes, or until ready to serve. Makes 12 servings. Preparation time: 15 minutes.

About Seniors

Dear Jesse,

I am a 52-year-old man. My mother, 75, was always an alert, very business-minded woman. She managed the pharmacy that she and my father owned together. He always depended upon her for any decision-making. After his sudden death eight years ago, she continued on her own in the pharmacy.

Suddenly, she is having severe memory lapses, dizziness, depression and some incontinence. I am desperate, as I have no siblings or wife to help me deal with this terrible problem.

Please help me!

Dear Please help me,

Sudden changes in physical and psychological condition are indicators that point to the need for a rapid assessment by your mother's family physician or geriatric assessment clinic. There are many factors that can be contributing to these sudden changes. The sooner she is seen and assessed by a physician, the quicker a treatment plan will begin.

Readers are invited to send any questions they have for Jesse to The CJN. *Jesse is the executive director of Jewish Support Services for the Elderly (JSSE) in Montreal.*

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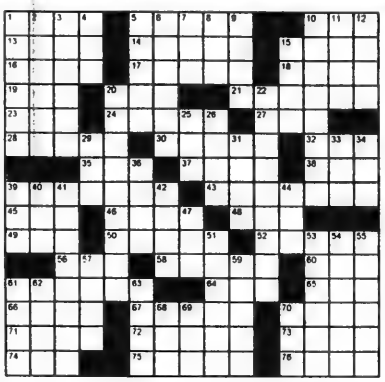
Crossword Puzzle



Across

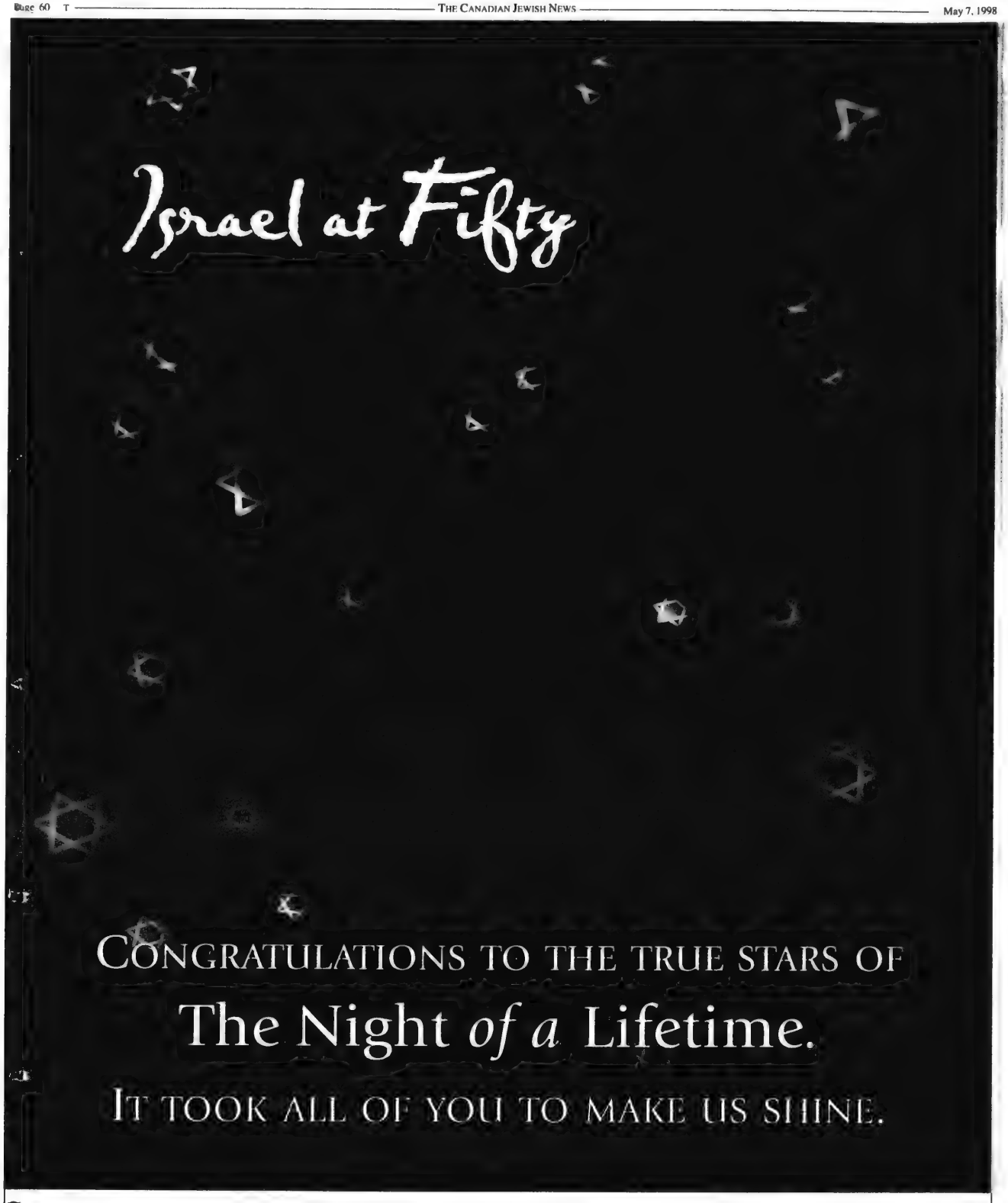
1. Alike
5. Angel's sign
10. Meshuggeneh
13. "__ Gadya"
14. Bandleader Miller
15. Shulchan Aruch writer
16. Response to Haman's name
17. Emulate Abba Eban
18. Arms for Tsahal
19. Campaign org.
20. Mt Hermon activity
21. Baseball player Cal
23. Yeled (Eng.)
24. Kippot holders
27 Over to Bialik
28. Oasis offering
30. "Never Again" to JDL
32. Literary initials
35. Possess
37. Search
38. Zeta Beta __ Fraternity
39. Israel peak (2 wds)
43. Wailing wall today ?
45. Geller
46. Seder plate item
48. Depot (abbr)
49. Faint
50. Witch's dwelling
52. Simeon to Gad
56. Top for Crottex
58. David's weapon
60. Shikker's choice'?
61. Adloyadah
64. Gaza to Be'er Sheva (dir)
65. Alephbet member
66. Ender
67. Remembered by Yahrzeit
70. Preserve
71. Instructed
72. Lauder
73. Methuselah
74. Eat (Yid)
75. Use for Tzedakah
76. Revisionist action

Down

1. Temples
2. Prophet
3. Josephus subject
4. Goldman and Koch
5. Prepare Lox
6. Sister to Moses
7. Arkia stat
8. Imitate Hoffman
9. Perlman
10. Samson
11. "A priest with __ and Thummim"
12. Tashlich crumbs
15. Chicken soup?
20. Temple offering
22. Brentano biz
25. David O. Selznick
26. Cholent
29. Reason for shiva'?
31. Tets (Eng)
33. __ Kochba revolt
34. Blessed every 28 yrs.
36. Midday
39 Golem source'?
40. Three combined form
41. Miriam's instruments
42. Staffs for Moses
44. Prayer for dew
47. Dreidel
51. Observed the Sabbath
53. Destroy
54. Brothers to Joseph
55. Solution
57. Writer Ayn __
59. Sacrifice residue
61. Chopped liver?
62. Writer Oz
63. Adam's homeland
68. Haifa to Jerusalem (dir)
69. Enjoyed manna
70. Tish B'Av mood

These puzzles are the work of Kathi Handler of Waterbury, Connecticut.

(Last week's answers are on page 49.)



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This Week

National

Ya'acov Ne'eman holds forth on unity and financial issues. *Page 3*

Fulltime beit din needed in Toronto, conference on Halachah told. *Page 5*

Scottish-born Bible scholar will deliver Rosenberg lecture. *Page 20*

Lucien Bouchard urges Israel to accommodate Palestinian aspirations. *Page 23*

Business

Israel open for business, Israel's Finance Minister Ya'acov Ne'eman says. *Page 42*

Sports

Holtzer brothers love life on the open water. *Page 50*

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Candlelighting: 8:17
Iyar 19, 5758
Havdalah: 9:22

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Washington summit still a go

Last minute compromise staves off crisis

Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Palestinian Authority (PA) Chairman Yasser Arafat are expected to meet in Washington within the next two to three weeks, after Netanyahu and U.S. Middle East peace envoy Dennis Ross worked out a yet-to-be-detailed compromise on the IDF's next pullback in the West Bank.

A firm date has not yet been set, but the high-level conclave will be under the aegis of U.S. President Bill Clinton.

Neither Israeli nor American officials would specify the precise terms, but they were widely believed to involve an initial IDF evacuation of nine percent of the area in question by mid-summer and up to an additional four percent of territory to be designated for transfer to PA civilian control at a later date.

"The sense is that things should be worked out in a few weeks," a senior Israeli official said.

Ross left Israel late Sunday afternoon, shortly after his third round of talks with Netanyahu.

Bilateral efforts to iron out the remaining differences will be pursued while Netanyahu is in the United States.

The senior Israeli official said "the pending issues need refinement and further elaboration." He said the Ross mission resulted in "all sides" working toward a successful conclusion, but the last hurdle to be overcome for the summit to take place is the requisite understanding of Israel's position and the concomitant approval by the cabinet of the pullback terms.

Netanyahu spokesperson Shai Bazak issued a statement saying that Netanyahu will "meet

Continued on page 35

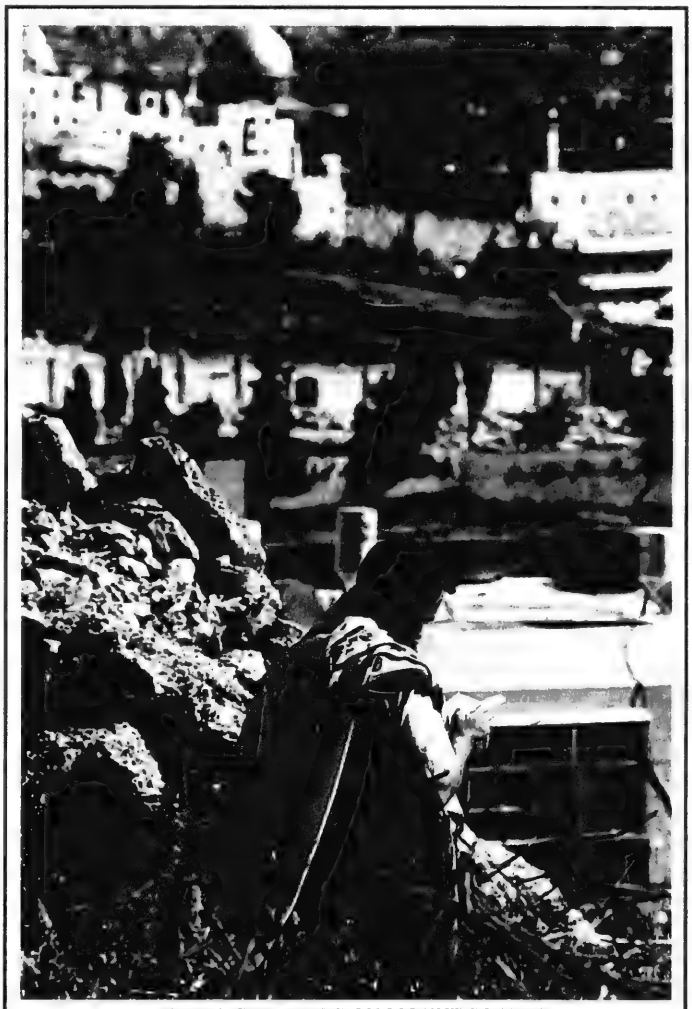
Halifax gets eruv

By JOEL JACOBSON
Atlantic Correspondent

HALIFAX — The Halifax Orthodox Jewish community finally has an eruv – and an enhanced capability for strict Shabbat observance.

"We were concerned we should have a viable Jewish community," said committee chairman Dr. Barrie Ross, a retired dermatologist who worked closely with Rabbi Saul Aronov, some community engineers and officials from the municipal government, the power company, the Halifax Bridge Commission, the Halifax Harbormaster and the federal coast guard to implement the eruv.

The idea was presented four years ago by Rabbi Shlomo Grafstein. Rabbi Aronov was asked to revisit the plan when he arrived 18 months ago. By last summer, the committee started work with the appropriate officials.



MORNING PRAYERS ON MOUNT SCOPUS
Perched high on the hill, this worshiper faces the Old City as he starts his day with the Shacharit prayers. *[Israel photo]*

INSIDE

A special feature about Tchines, women's praye
Please see page 9.

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Is the Palestinian police force an army? — please see page 33

The News in Brief

CANADA

Kanee Receives Medal

WINNIPEG — Sal Kanee, honorary president of the 25th National Plenary Assembly of Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC), will be presented with the Nahum Goldmann Medal at the plenary, to be held May 24 and 25. Among his activities, Kanee served as national president of CJC from 1971 to 1974 and is a member of the board of governors.

Also at the plenary, former Canadian ambassador to Cuba, Mark Entwistle will receive the Saul Hayes Human Rights Awards.

Extradition Laws

TORONTO — Justice Minister Anne McLellan last week tabled legislation that would modernize Canada's extradition laws and make it easier to remove war crimes suspects. Once passed, the bill will allow Canada to extradite suspects to international tribunals, such as those currently investigating atrocities in Bosnia and Rwanda and to a proposed United Nations permanent international criminal court. Under current law, Canada can extradite suspects only to 50 countries with which we have treaties.

ISRAEL

Joint Centre Planned

BEERSHEVA — Israel's first joint conversion institute could be established within two months, says the chair of the seven-member board set up for the institution. Earlier this year, as part of a compromise to avert a crisis over who would perform conversions in Israel the suggestion was made to create this kind of institute.

Ben-Porat Report Critical

JERUSALEM — Miriam Ben Porat, Israel's state comptroller, has released a report charging the government with giving too much money to the haredi community, and the Israel Defense Force with failing to take effective action against terrorists and criminals.

Ben-Porat attributed what she called the preferential treatment given to yeshivot to political pressure on the government and the coalition agreements Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu signed with the haredi parties when he formed his government.

Book for Deaf Published

HAIFA — The first video book in Hebrew designed especially for the hearing impaired has been produced by the University of Haifa. The book presents Hans Christian Andersen's *The Emperor's New Clothes* in sign language. The story is acted out and told in sign by deaf actress Tami Salomon. The video book is available from the sign language laboratory at the University of Haifa.

WORLD

Kalejs Case Dropped

SYDNEY — Australia has dropped an investigation into war criminal Konrads Kalejs, a former lieutenant in a Latvian killing unit who holds Australian citizenship. Police officials cited insufficient evidence against Kalejs, 84, while Prime Minister John Howard said Australian law prevents the country from stripping Kalejs of his citizenship.

In 1997, Kalejs was removed from Canada for participating in war crimes. Earlier, Kalejs lost his American citizenship and was deported for taking part in the persecution of civilians during World War II.

Austria Holds Memorial

VIENNA — Austria recently held its first annual national remembrance day for Holocaust victims. The government chose May 5 because the Mauthausen concentration camp in central Austria was liberated by Allied troops on that date in 1945. A nationally televised session of both houses of Parliament was one of the day's events.

Racist Attacks Up

BERLIN — Racist and anti-Semitic attacks by German far-right extremists rose in 1997 over the previous year, according to government statistics. In its annual report on militant groups, Germany's internal security service said there were 790 such attacks last year, a 27 percent increase over 1996. The estimated number of incidents in recent German newspaper reports was even higher.

Astronaut Wins Award

INDIANAPOLIS — Astronaut David Wolf, a local resident, has been named the 1998 recipient of the annual HIA-Life Award for distinguished leadership by the Hasten Hebrew Academy of Indianapolis, the city's only Jewish Day School.

The award is presented annually to a person or couple who advance the cause of education in the city. Nobel Peace Prize laureate Elie Wiesel is a past recipient.

Rohatyner Sought

NEW YORK — Rohatyn Societies and Affiliated Individuals is seeking people who originate from the towns surrounding the Rohatyn ghetto (in western Ukraine during World War II), to attend a dedication this summer to honor those who died in the Holocaust, and to mark 600 years of Jewish existence in the area. For information call Herman Shkolnick, 718-633-2030 or Donia Schwartzstein 718-897-2110; or write Schwartzstein, c/o D. Schwartz, FDR Station, Box 1265, New York, N.Y. 10150.

Women Warned About Drug

NEW YORK — With the recent news that tamoxifen, when taken prophylactically, may prevent breast cancer, health experts at Hadassah, The Women's Zionist Organization of America, are concerned that Jewish women may be jumping to conclusions about the usefulness of the drug to combat certain types of breast cancers genetically inherited by the Ashkenazi population.

"We are encouraged by the clinical study on tamoxifen, but it is important that the Jewish community does not rush to embrace the results of the study before further investigation concerning the gene alterations take place. As of now, we have no proof that tamoxifen will act prophylactically in cases of genetic alteration," said Dale Mintz, director of health education at Hadassah.

Genetically inherited breast cancer runs in families, with multiple members of the family getting either breast or ovarian cancer. "If you have reason to believe that you are a member of a family that is at high-risk, you should seek genetic counselling," Mintz said.

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Ne'eman holds forth on unity, financial issues

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Israeli cabinet minister Ya'acov Ne'eman recently treated a select group attending a roundtable luncheon to his views on Jewish unity and financial issues.

"Despite the Holocaust, we have not learned the lesson that we have to be a united nation," said Ne'eman, who serves as Israel's minister of finance and who chaired the Committee for Conversion Law. "Unfortunately, we do not cope with the main problem of Jewish existence."

The venue for Ne'eman's address was a luncheon sponsored by the Canadian Friends of Bar-Ilan University and Counsel Corporation. Punctuating his remarks with biblical references, Ne'eman described the work of the conversion committee as "more important than anything else."

Assimilation rates in San Francisco approach 85 percent, Ne'eman said. What Hitler did not accomplish in gas chambers, "we are accomplishing with the souls of Jews."

He quoted the rabbinic sage, Rambam, commenting on the book of Vayikrah that a precondition for peace with Israel's neighbors must be peace among Jews. Ne'eman called for Jewish unity founded on "basic principles of Judaism – that God created us, gave us the Torah and that the Torah can't be changed by a human being" and that is the duty of every Jew to perform mitzvot.

"Each one of us can perform mitzvot and it's not up to us to impose [anything] on anyone else," he said.

Turning his attention to the work of the conversion committee, Ne'eman said three Orthodox rabbis, one each from the Reform and Conservative movements and two laymen participated in its deliberations. After seven months, they were able to reach "an understanding," not a compromise, he stressed.

The committee suggested forming an Institute for Jewish Studies under the umbrella of the Jewish Agency to introduce primarily Russian immigrants to the world of Judaism. That would open the door for them to seek conversion.

In Israel, 80 members of the Knesset endorsed the report and the cabinet approved it. Only the "ultra-Orthodox and the ultra-left opposed it," he said.

"Unfortunately, when the committee issued its report, rabbis from the Diaspora started to intervene and bring the disagreements they have imported to Israel," he added.

Ne'eman said one problem that spurred emotions in Israel was an announcement that the U.S. Reform movement would officiate at same-sex marriages.

"It's even hard for me to admit that this is Judaism," he said. "I think this is a slap in the face of trying to find unity. I definitely object that this is a Jewish marriage. Nevertheless, despite this spit in the face of Jewish unity, I think we should go ahead and try to find [it].

"There are hundreds of thousands of immigrants from[Russia] who are not Jewish" but who have immigrated to Israel. Some have been killed on duty in Lebanon. While Judaism does not encourage conversions, "things today are different," Ne'eman said.

Israeli Finance Minister Yaakov Ne'eman (centre) is flanked by Phil Schwartz (left), national president of Canadian Friends of Bar-Ilan University, and Friends' executive director, Jerry Tollinsky, at the roundtable hosted by the Friends and Counsel Corporation.

Turning to economic issues, Ne'eman said Israel is in a transition period, moving "from textiles to technology." Israel can't compete with the salaries workers receive in the Far East, so it must focus on the high-tech sphere. Israel today is second in the world in startup companies in high-tech industries while last year the country increased its exports of high-tech products by 25 percent, he said.

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From the editor's desk

Coverage of Israel's 50th

The extent of the media's coverage in Canada, and indeed throughout the western world, of Israel's 50th anniversary, was in and of itself a remarkable phenomenon of some significance.

That the Jewish press would provide "extra special" coverage of the anniversary was to be expected. But rarely have we seen such concentrated journalistic treatment in the Canadian media – newspapers, magazines, radio and television – dedicated to the national celebrations of another country.

Now that the stories and features appear to be winding down, it is worthwhile to try to place both the extent and the nature of the reportage of the 50th anniversary into some broader context and framework. To do this, I called one of the community's, and I would even add, one of the country's sharpest observers of the media.

Paul Michaels has been the communications analyst researcher at the Canada-Israel Committee for more than a decade. He brings to his work an academic's disposition, a philosopher's curiosity and a historian's approach.

For most of his adult life, he has keenly observed the traffic that careens off the pages and around the airwaves at the West's four-way intersection of journalism, reporting, news and bias.

In a modest midtown Toronto office, crowded in every corner with stacks of files, reams of articles and journals, and piles of books, Michaels monitors the media's coverage of Israel.

I asked his opinions not only on the substance of some of the stories that we read or heard or saw in the last few weeks, but also on the "coverage phenomenon" itself.

What follows are excerpts of the notes I took from our conversation.

Michaels agreed that the sheer volume of the media reports and commentary was, of itself, a statement about the media. As he eloquently said, the "Jewish saga," which of course in our day and age includes as its centerpiece the State of Israel, continues to captivate the western media.

One of the incidental benefits of the special occasion coverage of Israel at 50, he pointed out, was the fact that many reporters and commentators, some for the first time, found it appropriate to discuss the idea that Israel's creation in 1948 was the fulfilment of thousands of years of attachment by a people that persisted in the face of overwhelming odds and refused to give up hope.

In typically analytical fashion, he suggested that a "media dynamic" was created by the anniversary in which it became "acceptable" for some journalists to acknowledge some of the "metaphysical" facts of Jewish-Israeli history.

We both agreed that a particularly effective example of this manner of exploration into Jewish-Israeli history was the commentary by Michael Enright on the special Israel at 50 edition of *This Morning* on Sunday, April 26.

"What it must have been like to have been in that room that day, or outside where crowds had gathered in the heat! I'm a non-Jew, but I think I would have wept and sung as well, because in a real sense, the creation of Israel was a political miracle, born of a dramatic mixture of courage, sacrifice, will and an overarching sense of destiny.

"But despite the tentativeness [of the mood], the story of Israel from the three millennia [to] this very morning, is wondrously bold in its unfolding. It is a story of blood and beginnings, of small miracles and great disasters, of majesty and pain, and fulfilment and loss…

"Certainly I was confused. Yet the more I listened, the clearer there began to form an image of people unlike any other in western history, the Jews, and how they created a tiny national home east of Eden; because that is where the promise of their God would be fulfilled." *(Excerpted from the transcripts.)*

Statements such as those above by Enright, however, were more the exception than the rule. Michaels noted that several familiar "shortcomings" still predominated in the media's presentation of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

Some of those shortcomings are:

• Simplistic and non-contextualized reporting of the Arab refugee situation that developed as a result of the fighting in 1947 and 1948. The picture most frequently painted was that the Israelis simply dispossessed the Palestinians of their home and property. It is the view propagated by the Palestinians. It ignores the larger truths of the context of the war and the behavior of the Palestinians themselves and of their own leaders.

• Conversely, virtual silence on the plight of the Jewish refugees who were forced to flee their Muslim host countries after the creation of Israel. The number of Jewish refugees was approximately equal to the number of Palestinian refugees. Their respective fates make for an illuminating contrast. But that contrast was left unexplored.

• No broader regional perspective was given to the conflict.

• No mention whatsoever was made of the use by Palestinian political institutions of terrorism as a weapon or, conversely, of the total rejection, before 1993, of compromise and diplomacy as a means of procedure.

There was much more that Michaels explained to me. My conversation with him was a personal seminar in media analysis.

MBD

Israel's Jubilee 50 — *from the archives*

DOING THEIR LAUNDRY

New immigrants at a camp near Na'an in the early '50s wash their clothes in the communal "laundromats."

[Keren Hayesod - UIA Communications photo]

*****

For the latest in *Israel at 50* news, check out the *Israel at 50* Web site: [www.feduja.org] or call the *Israel at 50* hotline 416-635-2883 ext. 706.

Greater Toronto Area

Fulltime beit din needed here, conference on Halachah told

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Toronto needs a full-time, professional beit din (rabbinical court), rather than the ad-hoc, volunteer-based beit din it currently has, a Toronto lawyer says.

A beit din here could be modeled on the system in Britain, where rabbinical courts have full-time, professional administrators and registrars, Gene Colman said last week at a conference entitled Justice and Jewish Law.

The inaugural conference brought together Jewish lawyers and experts on Halachah for a day of sessions on how secular and religious law need not conflict, and could even complement each other in the modern world.

Beit dins, comprised of three rabbis or experts on Halachah, are now "in" again, said Colman, a family lawyer, because the legal system prefers that cases be settled outside the clogged courts.

Legal wrangles in Canada are often settled by Alternate Dispute Resolution (ADR), a mechanism in which the parties agree to abide by private arbitration. Colman said "there is no better time" than now to establish the beit din as an ADR.

Jewish lawyers must be persuaded that their Jewish clients would be better served by a beit din, while non-Jewish lawyers have to be convinced that a beit din can serve as a valid ADR, Colman said.

However, procedures must be "adapted" so that parties stay out of secular courts, and the beit din must "insulate" itself against appeals to secular courts.

Two requirements are needed for a full-time beit din, said Colman: accessibility and public education. Aggrieved parties must know they can have access to a beit din, and lawyers should be allowed to examine witnesses before the rabbinical panel.

If lawyers are excluded from a beit din, he cautioned, it would have no chance of becoming established.

Another problem, he warned, is testimony from women and non-Jews. Denying those, as beit dins often do, would render their judgment open to appeal to secular courts.

Colman said he sees "no reason" why the problem faced by agunot (women denied a Jewish divorce) could not be "eradicated" by a full-time beit din in Toronto.

Rabbi Michael Broyde, director of the Beth Din of America, said the "essence" of a modern beit din is to have members who have sufficient knowledge of the society and culture in which it functions.

"If you want a beit din that works and has respect, you have to establish rules that reflect the realities of the times," said Rabbi Broyde, who also teaches law at Emory University in Atlanta.

Dayanim (judges) must be familiar with common, commercial practices and the rules of society of general, he said. Pulpit rabbis are excluded from his beit din because they are not perceived as impartial, he added.

It's not hard to establish a full-time beit din, Rabbi Broyde said, just expensive. The Beth Din of America has an annual operating budget of $250,000.

Other topics examined at the conference included wills and estate planning; legal and halachic issues of reproductive technology; and intellectual property and Halachah.

The conference was co-hosted by Beth Jacob V'Anshe Drildz Congregation, and Kedma, an Israeli-based university student organization.

The conference was organized and co-hosted by Rabbis Jay and Maury Kelman.

CORRECTION

In the article, "Aish HaTorah to hold celebration" (*CJN*, May 7), John Sereny should have been identified as president of Greenforco Holding Corp.

LESSONS FOR RWANDA

Seraphine Bizimungu, wife of the president of Rwanda, examines a concentration camp uniform during her tour last week of Toronto's Holocaust Education and Memorial Centre. She was in the city to raise funds for the 300,000 children orphaned in Rwanda's 1994 ethnic genocide. Bizimungu said she hopes to use the centre's twin mandates of education and memorial to keep alive the memory of her country's genocide. [Ron Csillag photo]

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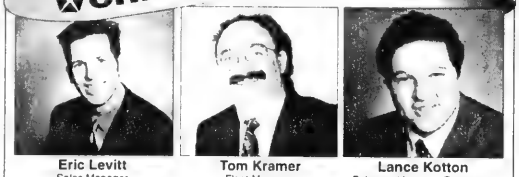

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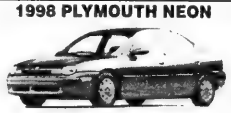

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Greater Toronto Area

Israel must keep talking about peace: Burg

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Peace talks between Israel and the Arabs must continue "because without talking about peace we will never have it," former Israeli cabinet minister Dr. Yosef Burg said here.

The 90-year-old head and founder of the National Religious Party (NRP), a key part of the present Israeli cabinet, said without peace Israel will not have the friendship of the western powers. "Nobody in the world will be with us," he said "If we don't have friendship with the United States there will be no investment in our economy and no aliyah."

At the same time, he said Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu faced "an impossible mission in his negotiations in London.

"I don't recall a prime minister having so many problems," said the man who has been in the cabinet of every Israeli government from 1952 to 1988.

Burg was speaking to a breakfast meeting of Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario region, chaired by Rabbi Dow Marmur, Holy Blossom Temple.

The situation has changed since he was a cabinet minister "because now we are dealing with the second and third generation of sophisticated Palestinians."

No solution is possible without understanding Yasser Arafat, he said. "If Arafat means what he says I can't tell you. I'm in favor of a skeptical attitude."

Burg said he was glad to see outspoken right-wing ministers in the cabinet. "I see something good in that. "

He added: "Why should Arafat give in to us when the Jewish people want to give up land?"

The majority of Israeli people do not want another conversion centre he said in answer to a question about the Ne'eman Committee.

"In the Diaspora a converted person is accepted by the community, but in Israel it is by the country as such. Give us time, we'll find a solution."

Burg peppered his speech with lots of Yiddish to explain difficult political positions.

In an earlier interview, Burg commented on the rift between secular and observant Jews in Israel, saying "the extremists on the extreme religious right and the left are over-acting. I have no doubt that as before, the NRP will again be the force of the middle. Middle of the road does not mean mediocrity.

'I am in favor of a tough stand'

"We believe in the unity of the Jewish people and the unity of national religious values and we have to act accordingly," he told *The CJN*'s Paul Lungen. "I am against blowing up certain conflicts. We are fighting for survival and should not raise issues that have divided the Jewish people for more than 150 years [since the rise of the Reform and Conservative movements].

"There should not be import of religious issues that exist in the United States much more than in Israel."

On the question of giving up land, Burg said "I am in favor of a tough stand..."

"As always, there's a question: What are the alternatives? To plunge the country into election struggles just when the maximum fortitude is called for would be disastrous. The choice is not between good and bad but between bad and worse."

He said the NRP should stand behind Netanyahu in "trying to get a compromise with the Arabs that will not affect our security. We cannot accept any proposal that would not give full security to Israel and to every one of our citizens," he said.

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Adding to misconception

When these words were being written, what was certain was that President Bill Clinton, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Chairman Yasser Arafat would not be meeting in Washington this week. It now appears, but is also far from certain, that such a summit meeting may take place in Washington later in the month.

Apparently, special U.S. envoy Dennis Ross flew back to Washington last Sunday after three days of negotiations with Israeli and Palestinian leaders with a new proposal related to IDF redeployment in the West Bank to present to the president.

That proposal, according to news sources, requires an unspecified amount of West Bank territory, presumably somewhere within the difference between the 13 percent further withdrawal that the Americans are "suggesting" and the nine percent that the Israelis are offering, to be held in escrow, and to be transferred to the Palestinians at a later date pending the fulfilment of certain conditions.

If the White House accepts this newest proposal, the summit will yet be convened before the summer.

What was also certain as these words were being written, was that the leadership of the Palestinian Authority (PA) must have been enjoying the sight of Israel negotiating directly and apparently quite fiercely with its ally, benefactor and friend, the United States, over issues that the PA has manipulated in the public's mind as a possible peace process meltdown.

And it's a ploy Arafat has used a number of times.

In the agreement that enshrined the terms of the IDF withdrawal from Hebron, Arafat agreed that Israel alone would have the right to determine the extent of the three troop redeployments prior to final status talks. But some months ago, as soon as Israel announced the extent of the next intended troop withdrawal, Arafat publicly denounced it as unacceptable and a violation of "Oslo." He thus reneged on the commitments he had signed and in doing so cast further doubt among Israelis who follow the details of the process and not merely its rhetoric, on the reliability of his promises and on the promise of his reliability.

He used exactly the same tactic after the announcement by Israel that it would build housing on Har Choma, a hilltop in southern Jerusalem.

The Oslo accords specifically exclude any prohibition against Israel of building in the Jerusalem area. And yet, Arafat suspended the peace process on the pretext, factually false, that Israel's plan to build houses on Har Choma , to "Judaize" Jerusalem as he called it, was a violation of Oslo.

The peace process has been in suspended animation ever since, with Israel cast on the stage of public opinion as the intransigent party and the PA as the willing, but unrequited peace partner.

This, of course, is an inversion of the truth. Unfortunately for Israel, and more importantly, for the peace process, the recent posturing by the American administration is adding to the public's false conceptions of responsibility for the stalemate in the talks.

Commendable change of heart

Premier Mike Harris of Ontario is to be commended for changing his mind last week on the possibility of assisting all victims of the tainted blood scandal. The premier's decision caused Federal Health Minister Allan Rock to convene a meeting today of all the health ministers of the country with a view to reaching a new consensus on financial assistance to all the victims.

Since Harris' announcement, Premier Lucien Bouchard of Quebec has also performed an about-face on the issue. Some other premiers may soon follow suit.

The impact of the announcements by both Ontario and Quebec was only slightly diminished by the accompanying tired and tawdry polemics against the principled, closely-reasoned, if misguided, position of the federal government. Pouncing into the opening created by the prime minister's heavy-handed insistence that the vote in the Commons last week be considered a vote of confidence, the premiers were merely settling more old scores.

WISDOM OF THE AGES
"The eye believes itself; the ear believes others."
Folk Saying

Dry Bones
THE CELEBRATION OF THE 50TH WAS LAID-BACK RATHER THAN JUBILANT!
IT'S BECAUSE OF AN INNATE JEWISH UNEASINESS WITH SUCCESS.
YUP.
WE KNOW THAT BEHIND EVERY SILVER LINING...
THERE'S A CLOUD.

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Differs with Peter Munk on Swiss experience

Re: Peter Munk's defence of Switzerland (*CJN*, April 16).

Undoubtedly, it is praiseworthy that Munk and members of his family were saved by fleeing to Switzerland. But this is not about those of us who could financially afford the price to stay alive. My family left Germany in July 1939 for Belgium.

This is about the people like my aunt, who was refused entry when she attempted to flee from France to Switzerland in 1942 and was handed back to the Vichy authorities – to be gassed in Auschwitz.

This is about Switzerland's overall behavior toward Jews. Certainly, the country could have afforded to let the 30,000-odd Jews enter rather than condemn them to their certain death. It is true that other countries refused to allow Jews to immigrate, but here was a case where people appeared at the doorstep.

Could this be related to the fact that Swiss banks may have had to repay funds they had on deposit because some of these people had accounts there? If the Swiss had had to repay those funds at that time, it might have cut their overall lending capability to real estate, mining companies and others. After all, the funds they lent were intermingled with Jewish funds, which they are now asked to return.

Munk is right in telling us that his family paid to be saved, and he praises the Swiss diplomat in Hungary for saving Jews. But this is about the multitude and not the privileged few. Munk then, and again now, belongs to the latter.

Dr. Frederick L. Mann
Toronto

Disliked *CJN* coverage of Mimouna

As an Israeli-born Jew of Iraqi-Jewish descent, I find it disheartening to witness the stereotypical coverage of the Sephardi community here in Canada and in Israel ("Celebrating Mimouna, Here and There," *CJN*, April 23).

The unflattering photo portrayal of a Moroccan family's Mimouna picnic in a park in Israel was juxtaposed with a 2-inch x 2-inch photo of a grandparent holding a child while attending the April 19 community Mimouna at the Sephardic Kehila Centre in Thornhill.

This Mimouna celebration marking the end of Pesach was a hands-on Jewish experience for 500 Sephardim and Ashkenazim. *The CJN*'s coverage was not thoughtful or responsible.

Smadar Meiri-Ordynans
Toronto

Yom Hashoah in Israel

Israel, April 23/98, 9:59 a.m.

Even though I go to Israel once a year, this is the first time that I'm able to observe Yom Hashoah with the rest of the country.

The sirens start at exactly 10 a.m., and I am standing at the windows, looking out. The merchant across the street stops stacking his shelves with vegetables, two tomatoes still in his hand. Four soldiers get out of their car. They stand, two on each side, their heads bowed. A truck driver jumps out of his cab, and stands at attention.

Nothing moves for two minutes, except the blue and white flags.

It is so different experiencing these two minutes in person rather than watching them on TV, or reading about them in a newspaper.

It leaves me drained emotionally and proud that I am here to share it with all.

Ann Szedlecki
Rishon Le-Zion, Israel

Jewish brothers in the former FSU

I was most impressed by the article by James Nahon entitled "We must not forget Jewish Brothers in the FSU." (*CJN*, April 16)

This article has special meaning for me, as I was born in Drahobych, one of the shtetlach visited by Nahon and his group as part of the Pesach Project. I was touched to read about the seders that took place in Truskavec, Borislav and Drahobych with the remaining Jews of those communities.

I was forced out of Drahobych in 1944, when the Nazis evacuated the Jews, and I was sent to my first of several concentration camps in Plaszow. I never again saw my home town or my family.

I often recall that there were 14,000 Jews in Drahobych before the war, and Jewish life there flourished. The famous rabbi, Dr. Jacob Avigdor, presided proudly over the Jewish community. During my youth, I often travelled from Drahobych to Borislav and Truskavec, and was so familiar with these towns that I recognized every stone along the way. Although Jews in these towns were not wealthy, Yiddishkeit prospered.

Reading about Nahon's travels and experiences brought back many fond memories and the good times of my childhood years. It is comforting to hear that the few remaining Jews of these once thriving Jewish communities have not been, and hopefully will not be, forgotten. Nahon's efforts to remind us of our responsibilities to our Jewish brothers are commendable.

Salomon Braseliten
Montreal

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures.

The *tchines* of women's prayers

By BARBARA RAUBFOGEL

Through the ages when Jews sought wisdom, they looked to the sayings of the fathers as their guide. Learned men have always been our mentors. Traditionally, women's lives were also exemplary, although their role was more circumscribed. Wives and mothers who were excluded (or excused) from active participation in the cheder and the yeshivah created the necessary atmosphere for study in the home.

Although their formal religious education and their participation in the synagogue was minimal, these women constructed a framework to suit their devotional and intellectual needs. By the end of the 19th century, when Hebrew was taught to some women, many women continued to read *tchines*, devotional books written in Judeo-German.

Recently, thanks to the work of women scholars, many of these *tchines* have been translated into English. Chava Weissler, who has written extensively on the subject, based her translations on a 1796 edition published in Horodno. In her attempt to bring the reader as close to the original as possible, she retains the Yiddish spelling of the original and uses names and typical expressions in the English text.

The Yiddish texts were read with faith and devotion by eastern European women, and their enduring popularity can be seen in a short story by Y.L. Peretz. In *Der ziveg, oder Sarah Bas Tovim*, a *tchine* writer is depicted as a fairy godmother/folk heroine. This genre of voluntary "women's" prayers evolved over centuries. Derived from the Hebrew word *techinot*, *tchines* were supplications that were not time bound, and yet held religious significance for particular events in Ashkenazi women's lives. Recited in Yiddish, usually in the home, the majority of these were petitions concerning children and family. On reading many of the prayers, one notes that the focus is on what observant men might perceive as the religious domain of women.

Consequently, while the daily prayers addressed collective concerns, the *tchines* were intensely personal and proved popular with the "ordinary folk." Printed editions of siddur and Bible translations in early Yiddish had first appeared in the mid-16th century. Later, *tachanun* (supplicatory prayers for Mondays and Thursdays) appeared among the texts that were translated. These were based on a talmudic form known as *techinot*, originally intended to allow for individual private devotion during services. Women's *techinot* first appeared in the mid-17th century in the Ashkenazi communities of western Europe. Since then, the term *tchines* has been associated with women's prayers. Among the *techinot* which appeared in eastern Europe were those written by and for women.

Sarah Rebecca Rachel Leah Horowitz (c 1726-c 1800?) was an accomplished *tchine* writer. According to the memoirs of 18th-century writer Dov Ber Birkenthal, she was living as a young married woman in the home of her brother, who was the rabbi of Bolechow, a city in Polish Galicia in the year 1735. Birkenthal remarks on her great talmudic learning.

She wrote the *Tchine of Matriarchs*, which was intended to be recited in synagogue on the Sabbath preceding Rosh Chodesh, during the ritual of blessing the coming month. In the preamble, she assures us that she is not merely a woman but the daughter of the "brilliant and famous rabbi" Yokel Segal Horowitz, head of the rabbinical court of Glogau, and wife of the "brilliant and acute luminary," Rabbi Shabbetai, head of the rabbinical court of Krasny.

With such authority, Leah Horowitz insists that: "On the Sabbath, one should speak only words of Torah, each according to his ability. And he who cannot study Torah, and also women, should read in Yiddish; they should know how to observe their commandments."

Horowitz, who came from a famous Galician rabbinic family, understood the meaning of her religious acts somewhat differently than the male writers did. In the prayer, *Tchine Imohes*, we read about a woman's concern with the power and importance of prayer. In her Hebrew introduction to this prayer, which was omitted from later versions, Horowitz argues forcefully that women have greater religious importance and that therefore their prayers are more significant than was generally thought. Very few women at that time were educated in Hebrew, and Horowitz's two-page introduction literally had no audience. Had they known, the women of Bolechow might have been upset to learn that Horowitz did not regard them as sufficiently motivated. Women's prayers "counted" only when undertaken with proper devotion, Horowitz said, and it was women's inattention that was blocking the redemptive power of their prayers.

Using images familiar to her from her family background in her supplication, Horowitz argues that proper prayer is for the sake of Shchinah (the presence of God).

Finally, in taking up the famous talmudic passage, "By what means do women acquire merit?" (Berachot 17a), Horowitz shows her familiarity with the style of halachic debate. She tells her readers that they can achieve merit through erudition, above and beyond that merit acquired by sending their men off to study and pray as the rabbi would have them do. Horowitz would have known that the passage from Berachot ends with, "Greater is the promise made by the Holy One, blessed be He, to the women than to the men; for it says, 'Rise up ye women that are at ease; ye confident daughters, give ear unto my speech.' "

Horowitz was an exceptional woman. Her background allowed her access to the language of study and she could therefore read the sermons and discourses of the rebbes. By extension, she may have been able to achieve the status of tzaddik. A woman who lived in close proximity to a rebbe, as Horowitz did, *could*, through her intellectual accomplishments and her association with him, step out of the margins. The author of *Tchine Imohes*, however, remained within the margins.

These photos from *A Vanished World* by Roman Vishniac, (Farrar, Straus & Giroux), are of women who would have been among those described by the author as likely readers of tchines.

Weissler maintains that although Horowitz may have had a novel approach to the area of religious life reserved for men or those matters "of the world to come," in this life and in her world, men defined the religious domain. Horowitz knew that most women were unable to comprehend the regular services and hence were likely to lack *kavanah* (sincerity or devotion). She did not consider her prayers inferior, because Chassidism had never shown condescension to Yiddish prayers. Horowitz's attempts to legitimate participation in the traditionally male domains of talmudic discussion and halachic argument, however, should be seen as applying only to women such as herself, who were a distinct minority. This mixed picture of women's role can be substantiated by examining other *tchines*.

In the *Tchine Shloyshe She'orim*, attributed to Sarah Bas Tovim, we are told that inside one of the six chambers of paradise is to be found the chamber of the matriarchs. Only there could women engage in the most holy of activities — the study of Torah. The majority of eastern European women lived out their lives reading their prayers in the Yiddish vernacular or in Hebrew, a language they did not understand. A poignant case in point is a woman in 19th-century Germany who recalled notations in the margins of prayer-books suggesting the appropriate reactions and emotions: "One cries at this point." The sad fact remains that the majority of *tchine* readers would have to wait for the world to come to be *lernen toyre* (studying Torah).

* * *

The women writers, however, saw to their readers' spiritual needs, and were aided by popular demand and the advent of printing. The exact process by which this genre developed cannot be traced, but one theory is that the *zogerkes* or *firzogerins* (learned women) translated the prayers for the benefit of those less educated. They also instructed their readers as to how their prayers could be most effective.

Sarah Bas Tovim believed in the efficacy of her prayers to expiate the sin of pride and cancel the punishment of wandering. She was arguably the most popular of the *tchine* writers. Born in the Ukraine in the 17th century and the daughter of a rabbi, she was possibly a *firzogerin* in her synagogue. Aside from *Shloyshe She'orim*, she was also known for her book *Sheker Hacheyn*, literally "beauty lies."

Sarah Bas Tovim interpreted her life's travails as a punishment for her sins: "I the woman, Sore [Sarah], beseech the young women not to converse in the beloved holy shul. I am warning you [so] that you should not be punished, as I have been with wandering." She began to use her wealth – which she had once immodestly displayed – to help others. She served as a role model that men supported and even co-opted. It was a fairly common practice in the 19th century for male writers to appropriate Sarah Bas Tovim's name.

Although the authorship of many *tchines* is in dispute, there is no question that the majority of these prayers were written for the benefit of the women who read them. This is evident from their content. These women duly noted their status as wife of, sister of and daughter of; yet pride of authorship is evident in many collections. *Tchines* were more than a vehicle for spirituality; they were a means of self-expression for some women at a time when there were few such means.

In a Y.L. Peretz story, *Devotion Without End*, we are told that when the sainted Miriam's soul rose to heaven, the saints of paradise were waiting. When she was led to the Seat of Judgment, she was asked, "Did you study the Torah?" She replied, "Lord of the Universe, have you ever directed the daughters of Israel to study your Torah?"

Barbara Raubfogel is a Toronto teacher.

Opinions

Boycotting Jubilee Bells

When the bridge fell at last summer's Maccabiah Games, it was a disaster so horrible words couldn't describe it.

By Viva Press in Halifax

People rightfully questioned how it could have happened. Those responsible for the construction of the bridge, we said, should be charged.

One would think that after such a blunder the company responsible for the bridge would have gone under. Who would hire it again?

Israel's Ministry of Tourism, that's who.

The Maccabiah bridge was supposed to be one of the greatest pieces of engineering Israel had yet to see. So, when it was time to build a most glorious stage for Israel's Jubilee Bells – the national ceremony for Israel's 50th anniversary – who better to call upon than the builders of the bridge?

The stage looked magnificent. It didn't fall. The show was spectacular.

But for some reason, I still can't overlook the fact that Irgunit, the company responsible for the Maccabiah Games and for all the smaller companies that worked under it, was chosen for the jubilee. What an absurd choice.

My friend Joanna and I came to Israel from Toronto for a couple of weeks to celebrate the 50th anniversary here. Originally, we had planned to be in Jerusalem.

When we heard about the Jubilee Bells it sounded like a lot of fun.

This was a once-in-a-lifetime experience; so we agreed to splurge on tickets to the event.

Upon hearing who was in charge of the Jubilee Bells event, however, we agreed to boycott it.

Our boycott had no effect in the general scheme of things. But we couldn't justify handing over more than 100 shekels to a company that has all but overlooked the victims of the Maccabiah bridge tragedy.

Does government care?

Does Irgunit care that there is still – a year after the collapse – a 10-year-old Australian girl in hospital? Does Israel care?

I'm not sure the government cares. I know that many of my friends and family here care. They, too, "boycotted" the Jubilee Bells for the same reason.

What was the explanation for why this company – over all others – was given the Jubilee Bells contract?

Many of the people I've asked simply replied: "Protekzia. Someone's brother or sister or relative is in the government."

Whatever the "official" reason is, the question of whether or not justice will be served in the Maccabiah disaster remains.

Now that the Jubilee Bells celebration went off as a hit success, I hope that does not allow a slowing down in the investigation into the Maccabiah tragedy.

So, this anniversary turned out to be bittersweet.

Joanna and I did celebrate. Don't think otherwise. We went to Hod HaSharon, a town just north of Tel Aviv. There we – and about 5,000 others – celebrated Israel's 50 years of existence with fireworks, silly string, shaving cream, balloons, candy apples and music.

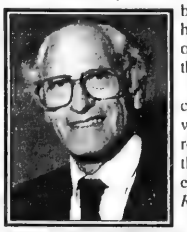
Actually, as it turns out, Hod HaSharon had one of the country's best venues. Rita, Israel's most celebrated singer – and the one who sang Hatikvah at the jubilee ceremony for an estimated 50,000 shekels – sang for us for free, as did Yehudit Ravitz and Chaim Moshe. It was a lot of fun.

Because Israel has overcome so much in its 50 years, I have faith that it can overcome and explain its reason for giving the jubilee contract to an organization still under police and court investigation. I also have faith that those responsible for the Maccabiah tragedy will be dutifully brought to justice.

And when that happens there will be nothing but praise for the little country that could.

Are we wired to be religious?

Readers of this column are by now accustomed to the fact that I read some far-out magazines. Only by plumbing some different and often startling ideas can I begin to comprehend the full range of contemporary thinking.



By Rabbi Gunther Plaut in Toronto

An article that caught my attention was written by Jeremiah Creedon in the March/ April edition of the *Utne Reader*.

Creedon calls our attention to two books published in the United States. One, by James B. Ashbrook and Carol Rausch Albright, is called *The Humanizing Brain*; the other is entitled *How The Mind Works* and was written by Steven Pinker.

One thesis of the first book is this: "Archeological evidence of religious observances indicates that we have been religious for as long as we have been homo sapiens, perhaps longer."

The human brain, the authors claim, has evolved to look for meaning in life – something that we do not (and perhaps cannot) know about other creatures on this earth. Thus our brains are hard-wired for meaning, so that most of us find religion a natural outlet and are not satisfied to believe that we are the "be all and end all" of creation, but that there is something beyond. That perception is as old as humanity, the authors believe, and therefore a most profoundly human capacity. The brain, they say, represents a basic and universal structure that underlies all belief systems.

Creedon ends his article with this observation: "What are we to make of these efforts to reconcile science and religion? Do they mark the birth of a new faith better suited to the modern mind, or another vain attempt to "prove" the existence of cosmic meaning? That's hard to say. But with neuronauts (the new scientists concerned with studying the brain and its functions) poised to replace both Freud and the physicist as the secular high priests of the next century, one thing seems fairly certain: The language of neuroscience could soon be taken for the word of God, even if it isn't."

But Pinker disagrees. He is of the opinion that the brain is nothing more than the application of two roles that are provided by the brain, which means that the brain is limited by its own capacity to solve problems. But religion poses problems that cannot be solved, and therefore the brain is, by definition, not a means of religious cognition.

"We are organisms," says Pinker, "not angels, and our minds are organs, not pipelines to the truth. Our minds evolve by natural selection to solve problems that were life-and-death matters to our ancestors, not to commune with correctness or to answer any questions we were capable of asking."

There you have protagonist and antagonist arrayed for battle against each other.

Does Jewish tradition have anything to say on these matters? It knew nothing of neuronauts, but it did perceive of the idea that all humans have basic obligations vis-a-vis their own existence, which means that they were indeed hard-wired to this extent. We are, in other words, not like blank sheets of paper on which nothing is written. There is a basic script for living that is instilled in all of us.

The Anatomy of an All-Nighter

In the final stretch of this semester, I have been striving to earn "credits" in a new course I created at McGill.

The title of the course is The Anatomy of an All-Nighter, 24-7-365B. The course is physically and emotionally demanding, but it motivates the students to literally see the light at the end of the tunnel.

By Justin Korda in Montreal

The course usually begins at around 9 p.m. At this point, the students, who are not yet sure of their commitment to the all-nighter class, begin working on whatever assignment is due the next day. At around 1 a.m., the students realize that they will be participating in the course with complete dedication.

At this point, the students' energy begins to flag. They falsely believe that time is now on their side as a result of the new course they are taking. Between 1 a.m. and 5 a.m., school work is inserted between waves of intergalactic cogitation indulgence – normally referred to as daydreaming.

The conclusion of the course usually begins at 5 a.m. and endures until the very last possible minute – or sooner, pending the completion of the assignment. It is in this concluding period that the students' productivity is tested as a function of adrenaline level. (If this scenario actually sounds remotely familiar to any readers, please look into joining my Study Club, where we do pretty much everything other than what our name suggests.)

I thought that it would be fitting to crown my final all-nighter of the semester with a course evaluation; hence the composition of this column as the clock ticks down the last few hours. The thoughts that have been surfing through my mind during the daydreaming period have been focused on my immediate future – after my all-nighter career.

Leaning back in my chair sipping coffee and staring out the window at the tranquil night, I was transported to an experience I had had a week earlier. I was attending a Job Fair convention, where students and employers are invited to respectively find employment and workers.

Surrounding me were many students who were desperately looking for summer employment in fields such as computer programming and mechanical engineering. On their resumes, which were superimposed onto large Bristol board, these students listed mathematical and scientific formulas as second languages, in order to demonstrate their proficiency. Needless to say, my political science background did not prepare me for this environment. And for that matter, neither did the fact that I had my Bristol board indicate my specialties as: "good humored, talkative, sleep deprived and prone to make workplace fun."

The experience at the Job Market was, however, quite fascinating. We were served freshly brewed coffee, which was a blessing since I had had my "class" the night before. Strolling back and forth from the coffee machine to my Bristol board, I recognized that I was at the threshold of summer, pending a decision that has lifetime ramifications. Although that first glimpse of sun is so uplifting and that first taste of warm weather is so delicious, summer is often the time that students are faced with a harsh decision. Will this be the last summer of fun or the first summer of seriousness and maturity?

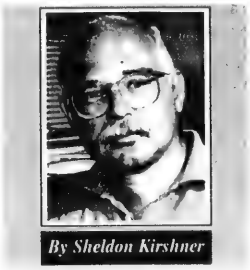
In the face of this choice, my palms began to sweat, my heart escalated in tempo and my teeth were clenched in panic. My inability to answer the above question stems from two wills that seem to be pulling in opposite directions. On one hand is the desire to remain young, high spirited and idealistic; on the other hand, is the eagerness to achieve an element of independence and take on personal responsibility. There is, however, some hope, for these are not necessarily opposites. Surely, the two can exist together. Right?

Well, I guess this is a query that I will inevitably be answering as soon as I complete the requirements of my final anatomy class, The Anatomy of an All-Nighter. In the meantime, I wish everyone a fulfilling summer, whatever their choices.

The Kirshner File

Israel as seen through a floodtide of books

According to the secular calendar, Israel's diamond jubilee falls on May 14. Israel's 50th anniversary is as good



By Sheldon Kirshner

an occasion as any to dip into the floodtide of books about Israel, Zionism and Hebrew that have been published of late.

Marlin Levin, a young American journalist, immigrated to Palestine in August 1947, three months before the United Nations General Assembly voted to partition the country into Jewish and Arab states. Among his possessions was a 35 mm camera and a supply of Kodachrome film. He put them to good use, judging by *The Birth of Israel* (Gefen), a vivid photographic record of contrasting images from then and now.

The 62 color pictures in this album are mainly of everyday life in Palestine and Israel. They call out for attention precisely because they are prosaic and unpretentious and, therefore, real.

Virtually all the photographs portray Jerusalem and its Jewish and Arab inhabitants. Levin's ubiquitous camera pans on a middle-aged man with a black beret manning a roadblock at the corner of King George Avenue and Ben-Yehuda Street; on an insouciant young woman in a yellow dress blithely sauntering down Jaffa Road during the Arab siege of the city; on a demure housewife cooking a meal on a wood fire in her garden; on a prideful military parade a year after the War of Independence.

Occasionally, he returns to the original scene, comparing the past with the present. By virtue of its naturalistic photos, *The Birth of Israel* ranks as a compelling volume.

Tom Segev, an Israeli historian, draws on declassified documents and personal diaries and correspondence to reconstruct Israel's first year of statehood. *1949: The First Israelis* (Fitzhenry & Whiteside), originally published to coincide with Israel's 40th anniversary, has been reissued in a paperback edition with a new introduction by the author. Writing with compassion and conviction, Segev paints a portrait of a society caught up in the wrenching and amazing drama of nation-building.

Beryl Ratzer, in *A Historical Tour of the Holy Land* (Gefen), provides readers with a sweeping survey of Israel from the Middle Bronze age to the present. This slim but informative volume, which appears geared to the younger set, contains useful maps and charts as well as striking photographs.

When modern Zionism emerged, it was, to some extent, embraced by assimilated European Jews, including Theodor Herzl. Michael Berkowitz, in *Zionist Culture and West European Jewry Before the First World War* (University of North Carolina Press), examines its mesmerizing appeal with scholarly thoroughness.

Mandate Days: British Lives in Palestine 1918-1948 (Douglas & McIntyre), by A.J. Sherman, is a fascinating and insightful account of a bygone era. Sherman, a skillful writer, looks at Palestine through the prism of the largely pro-Arab officials who governed the country before Israel's emergence as an independent state. Complemented by 61 black and white illustrations, this book is based on primary sources, and fills a yawning gap in what Sherman calls "one of the least glorious episodes" in British colonial history.

The Jewish State (University of California Press), written by American academic Alan Dowty, is a learned and lucid tour d'horizon of Israeli democracy. Dowty explores the wellsprings of Israel's political system and focuses on the challenges that lie ahead.

In the paperback edition of *Rubber Bullets: Power and Conscience in Modern Israel* (University of California Press), Yaron Ezrahi reflects on Israel's startling transformation from an embattled nation to a prosperous society trying to reconcile "the logic of military force in the pursuit of national liberation with the integrity of the original commitment to democracy." An intellectually bracing book.

Jerusalem's historiography has all too often been politically-motivated and self-serving. But in *City of Stone* (University of California Press), Meron Benvenisti, the former deputy mayor of Jerusalem, diverges from this well-worn path. A liberal, he describes the victories and defeats of all its residents and, in so doing, weaves an uncommonly complex tapestry of a city in transition.

The Haredim form one facet of Jerusalem's multicultural mosaic. In *At the Wall* (Gefen), Israeli photographer Ron Agam captures this insular community at prayer and in repose at the Western Wall.

Israel's peace treaties with Egypt, Jordan and the PLO notwithstanding, Arab-Israeli talks have often failed. Laura Zittrain Eisenberg and Neil Caplan, in *Negotiating Arab-Israeli Peace* (Indiana University Press), claim that "a pattern of negative behaviors" has historically stymied negotiators. Citing several case studies, from Israel's abortive 1983 peace pact with Lebanon to Israel's unsuccessful negotiations with the Palestinians in Washington from 1991 to 1993, the writers make their case.

In *Crossing the Jordan: Rabin's Hard Road to Peace* (St. Martin's Press), a seasoned Israeli journalist, Samuel Segev, spins a compelling tale of secret talks, back-channel bargaining and daring initiatives since the 1970s. Sometimes truth is stranger than fiction!

Israel's strategic relationship with the United States has been pivotal to its well-being. The 14 thoughtful essays in *U.S.-Israeli Relations at the Crossroads* (Frank Cass), edited by Gabriel Sheffer of the Hebrew University, enhance one's knowledge of the topic.

Through travail and adversity courageous men and women have risked their lives for Israel. *Lionhearts: Heroes of Israel* (Warner Books), edited by Michael Bar-Zohar, chronicles their exploits from 1897 to the present day. The 50 essays, nationalistic in tone, are by former Israeli presidents, premiers, parliamentarians, generals and scholars.

Lionhearts should be read in conjunction with *Self-Portrait of a Hero: From the Letters of Jonathan Netanyahu, 1963-1976* (Warner Books), which was originally published in 1980, four years after his death during the Entebbe raid. The revised and updated edition contains eulogies from his brothers, Benjamin and Iddo Netanyahu.

More than 50,000 Ethiopian Jews have settled in Israel in the past 25 years. Shmuel Yilma, who made his way there in 1980 via Sudan, was one of the many. In *From Falasha to Freedom* (Gefen), Yilma, a poster boy for successful immigrant absorption, recounts his trip and tells of his personal triumphs in Israel.

David Aberbach, a McGill professor of Hebrew and comparative literature, offers a cogent analysis of Judaism through an examination of Hebrew writing. His book, *Revolutionary Hebrew, Empire and Crisis* (New York University Press), is thought-provoking. A companion volume, *Hebrew Manuscripts at Cambridge University Library* (Cambridge University Press), is also worth perusing.

Last but not least, consider *One Hundred Years of Art in Israel* (Westview Press), Gideon Ofrat's stunningly evocative survey, which is supplemented by 350 lavish illustrations.

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JEWISH EDUCATION
The Next Generation

Unfettering Judaism's wings

By DR. ELLIOTT MALAMET

I often see powerful ideas that originated with Judaism appeal greatly to children once they are expressed in other forums.

Witness this example right out of contemporary culture. In the television series *Star Trek: The Next Generation*, an enormously popular program with children of all ages, there is a character named Lieutenant Warf who is not human, but comes from a race called the Klingons. The Klingons are a proud warrior-like people, who value traits such as duty and discipline; honor and inner strength; loyalty to a tradition — in short, many of the cornerstone values of Judaism.

In one episode, Warf is confronted by two fellow Klingons who want him to join them on a military expedition. He rejects their call to arms, and his answer to them exemplifies the concept of self-improvement that is so central to the Jewish philosophy of life.

The gist of his speech is as follows: "You look for battles in the wrong place. The true test is not without, it is within." (He points to his heart). "Here, here is where we meet the challenge. It is the weaknesses in here that one must overcome."

Now, had Lieutenant Warf consulted his Pirkei Avot, the ethics for living compiled by Jewish sages 2,000 years ago, he would have found a parallel statement at the beginning of Chapter 4: "Who is the strong man? – The one who conquers his evil inclination."

The very same kids who might be alienated from Judaism, who see it as a series of mechanistic and archaic rules and regulations, admire Lieutenant Warf's discipline, honesty and allegiance to an unbending code. I am not suggesting that Judaism be presented like science fiction. But what is clear is that religious education can succeed if we turn ourselves towards addressing children's imaginations and their deeply instinctive moral sense as well as engaging them with the idea of self-perfection. This is a start towards appreciation of Jewish wisdom and spirituality.

I once asked a congregant why he feels commandments are important; he replied that it is the will of God that we perform mitzvot. Beneath the slightly robotic feeling of this answer lies a deep religious truth. Any moral life that does not carry with it a feeling of unbreakable obligation to a higher authority, of the need to respond to a call outside of oneself, is inevitably doomed to narcissistic relativism. On the other hand, if Judaism is mere habit, answers without any questions, then it is reduced, in the poet's words, to a "paralyzed force/ gesture without motion."

Religious education must address the existential crisis of meaning that is symptomatic of life in the West today. To achieve this, our teachers have to be clear on the philosophical underpinnings and complexities of our religion. Do our schools, of all denominations and religious sensibilities, strive to convey to our children the spiritual depth of Judaism? Or do we offer instead a series of lists and facts, halachic minutiae and historical records, ethical exhortations without practical implications?

Translating religion into terms that a generation weaned on rock music and movies will still care about does not by necessity have to involve a dilution of the Jewish message. But it does mean having the courage to translate Torah into something more than simply tradition or ancient lore, and a lot more than the brief award-winning bar/bat mitzvah moment followed by spiritual oblivion.

Contemporary Jewry has been there, done that. It's time to unfetter Judaism's wings and let her fly.

Roots & Remembrance

Genealogical puzzles solved

By ZE'EV GLICENSTEIN

Peter Jassem's surname was always a puzzle to him as he grew up in a Polish home in Krakow. Jassem certainly wasn't a Polish name; neither was it Belarussian, Latvian or Ukrainian. His father said it may have come from the town of Jassy (Iasi) Romania but Peter wasn't convinced and suspected the truth even as a child.

Jassem, who came to Toronto 10 years ago, confirmed his long-held suspicions that he was descended from Jewish blood only 18 months ago. Conducting an Internet search, the 45-year-old architect found numerous Jassems in the United States and other countries, most of whom had originated in the same tiny region of Poland.

"All of a sudden I started contacting people who were positively Jewish, not half-Jewish, not formerly Jewish. That was basically the proof to the hypothesis that I had carried for years."

Jassem unfolds a huge sheet of paper, four feet by eight feet in size, and proudly displays an elaborate six-generational family tree. Since he began his genealogical research, he has corresponded with relatives on five continents and added 1,500 names to the tree.

"One of my greatest helpers in my research is my father. He's now going to the archives in Poland and sending me documents."

Jassem never knew until recently that his father's bar mitzvah had been scheduled for Sept. 4, 1939, the day the Germans invaded Krakow. Instead of celebrating, family members fled; most fell beneath the wheels of the Nazi juggernaut. Jassem's father, who survived with the aid of a false baptismal certificate, never returned to the Jewish fold.

Growing up, Jassem visited Auschwitz but never imagined that so many of his relatives had perished there. As an architectural student he made drawings and paintings of synagogues – "always from the outside."

He learned of one relative, a brother of his grandmother, who had survived the war by going to Turkey, then India, and who eventually wound up in Australia. Jassem traced a granddaughter of the great-uncle to Munich and discovered that she held a treasure trove of otherwise lost photographs of their extended family.

Jassem has collected enough family stories that he intends to write a book. He is determined to continue his research, since the links between many of the Jassems he has discovered are still unclear. "My hypothesis is that if people share the same unique name and come from the same small area, they must be related," he says. "I'm sure if I had information just one or two more generations back, I could solve many mysteries."

* * *

Recently Eric Greenberg, a reporter with the *New York Jewish Week*, telephoned Arlene Rich, president of the Jewish Genealogical Society of Cleveland, with an urgent question. "He wanted to know: 'Was Max Linder Jewish?'" Rich relates. "I think we had only one hour to deadline."

First, Rich checked her society's transcriptions of burials at Mayfield Cemetery, a Jewish burial ground, and found Linder's name. Second, she scanned the old Jewish Society Book, which told her that the one-time department store owner had been a member of The Temple, a prominent synagogue. Third, she called Probate Court and found a record of Linder's 1910 marriage to Stella Dryfoos, which had been performed by a rabbi named Moses Gries.

Still within the same hour, Rich spoke with several members of the Dryfoos family, a large and noteworthy Jewish clan in Cleveland and Fremont, Ohio, and confirmed that the Linders had a daughter, Louise, in 1911. She also found an entry for Max Linder's sister, Belle Israels Moskowitz, in the 1928 edition of *Who's Who in American Jewry*.

When the hour was up, Rich relayed the results of her research to Greenberg. "I basically told him, 'Go, man, go,'" she recalls.

That was all Greenberg needed to hear. The next *Jewish Week* conveyed the interesting information that Linda McCartney, the recently deceased wife of Beatle Paul McCartney, had been Jewish. A victim of breast cancer, Linda was the daughter of Louise Linder of Cleveland and Lee Eastman, previously Epstein, of Rochester, N.Y.

Books

By Bernard Baskin

A tragic inner world

***The Iron Tracks*, by Aharon Appelfeld (Random House, $28.95).**

Aharon Appelfeld is among Israel's best known and highly regarded authors. He takes his honored place with such older fellow-writers as Yehuda Amichai, A.B. Yehoshua and Amos Oz. At 66, he is read and appreciated worldwide, and his books have been translated into 27 languages. *The Iron Tracks* is his 11th novel to be translated into English; there are others to come.

Despite his reputation as a delineator of the Holocaust experience, Appelfeld has written stories about Jewish life in eastern Europe 70 or 80 years ago, and has produced three novels on the lives of Jews living in the Middle Ages.

As a child of eight, the author was deported from his home in Czernowicz to a concentration camp where he witnessed the murder of his mother. He escaped from the camp, wandered in nearby forests and when the war ended, joined the Soviet army as a kitchen boy. In 1946, he made his way to Palestine and after a period of 26 years, was reunited with his father. Neither knew that the other had survived.

No stranger to violence or privation, Appelfeld saw service in the Sinai Campaign, the Six Day War and the Yom Kippur War. By the time he was 40, he had become an officer in charge of culture. His responsibility was to teach soldiers a variety of subjects, including history, philosophy and literature, often out in the desert.

"To give a lecture on Maimonides," he remembers, "to troops who are about to go into combat was a very moving experience."

The Iron Tracks, like most of Appelfeld's novels, is brief and stark in its seeming simplicity. The protagonist of this unusual account, Erwin Spegelbaum, is a Holocaust survivor. The story takes place in the 1950s in Austria. Spegelbaum travels by train through small towns and villages in search of Jewish ceremonial objects – kiddush cups, menorahs, Hebrew and Yiddish books – objects that have survived their vanished owners, which he then sells to eager collectors.

Every year, symbolically, his journey starts and ends at the station where he and a group of survivors were locked into a train, just before liberation. But his real purpose in making this annual circuit of Austrian towns is to find and assassinate a brutal Nazi who was in charge of the labor camp where his mother was murdered.

When he finally closes in on his prey he agonizes over whether he has the courage to kill Nachtigel, the evil one. The eventual encounter between the two, the conclusion of his quest for revenge, is muted and strangely unemotional. The once proud Nazi is old and sad.

"At that moment it was hard to imagine that the man had once worn a uniform, shouted orders, abused people and shot them the way you shoot stray dogs."

[Cont'd. on page 14]

More of Israel at 50

By MARK MIETKIEWICZ

Israel is 50. Do you need a better reason to teach your computer how to read Hebrew?

There are many wonderful Hebrew language sites on the Internet and you can enjoy them if you invest a few minutes to make your browser Hebrew-friendly. Below, you'll find some sites that will walk you through loading Hebrew, step by step. First though, some of the places you can visit, b'Ivrit.

There were 37 signatories to Israel's Declaration of Independence. Now is your chance to add your name alongside David Ben-Gurion's and Golda Myerson's **[http://www.giga.co.il/atsmaut/]**. At this site, you'll find a duplicate of the original written on parchment along with a more legible Hebrew copy. An English one is over at the Israel Foreign Ministry **[http://www.israel-mfa.gov.il/peace/independ.html]**. Eventually, a list of all the new signatories to the declaration will be presented to President Ezer Weizman.

While most of the country is celebrating its 50th, the Knesset is a young 49. Did you know that Israel's Knesset met in six locations (including the Kessem Cinema in Tel Aviv) before the current Knesset building was opened in 1966? **[http://www.knesset.gov.il/knesset/]** Although it's not quite like being there, you can take a virtual tour of the Knesset **[http://www.knesset.gov.il/knesset/tour/heb_tour.htm]** and even download QuickTime movies of the building's various rooms.

You (or your browser) don't have to speak Hebrew to enjoy Album 50. The site was put together by the Ministry of Education, Culture and Sport **[http://www.education.gov.il/edu/album3.htm]** and it traces the country's history in pictures. Or you can focus on 50 years of settling the Negev **[http://www.negev180.k12.il/m-meida/negev50/]**. As for Israel's symbols, you can read about Hatikvah's roots in Romania in 1878 **[http://www.geocities.com/CollegePark/Classroom/5095/hymnon.htm]** and about the controversy that led to creating Israel's national flag **[http://www.cet.ac.il/history/semel/]**.

Finally, don't miss Yaeli's Israel at 50 site **[http://www.geocities.com/CollegePark/Classroom/5095/]**. The history is interesting, there's a great anniversary links page, a quiz and even a countdown clock to Israel's 51st anniversary!

* * *

If you want to visit these sites, then it's time to teach your Internet browser how to read Hebrew. But first, a bit of background about languages and the Internet.

When you type the letter "a" on your computer and send it off on the Internet, every other computer will recognize your "a" because of worldwide standards. Every font has room for upper- and lower-case letters, numbers, punctuation and even some specialized characters like á, ì and õ.

But what happens if you want to read the letter *aleph* on the Internet? Most of us really don't need fonts with characters like á, ì and õ. So new fonts have been created in which rarely used characters have been replaced by the letters of the Hebrew alphabet. When a Web page is created using this font and a similar one is installed on your computer, you will be able to read Hebrew on the Jewish Highway.

There are many pages with instructions about downloading and installing bilingual Hebrew/English fonts (Windows or Macintosh) for your browser (Netscape or Internet Explorer.) Unfortunately, many of them are incomprehensible. Here are some with clearer instructions: Worldindex **[http://www.worldindex.com/go/hebrew]**, SABRAnet **[http://www.sabra.net/hebrewfonts.html]**, Dapey Reshet **[http://dapey.reshet.co.il/help/2067.htm]**, the Hebrew University's Snunit **[http://www1.snunit.k12.il/heb.html]** and Thornhill, Ontario's Avrom Finklestein **[http://www.geocities.com/TimesSquare/2923/]** who offers some Macintosh fonts for the Web which I haven't seen anywhere else. You will come across several fonts that will work with your computer. Download them, install them and then choose the one that you find easiest to read on your screen and when printed out.

* * *

Mark Mietkiewicz is a television producer in Toronto with an interest in the Internet. He can be reached at [mdm@inforamp.net].

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Jewish Life

Yad BeYad gives as much to volunteers as to students

Guest Voices

By CAROL SEVITT

Yad BeYad, now in its seventh year, brings Canadians and Americans to various locations in Israel to teach two-week sessions of conversational English to Russian immigrants. This is a memorable experience that rewards the volunteers as much as their students.

Marilyn Jacobs, a former elementary school teacher, went on the program a year after she became a widow. "I felt it would be a good way of travelling on my own for the first time," she said. "Not only did I learn that I could take care of myself, I had a wonderful time and made lasting friendships."

Jacobs was very impressed with the calibre of her Russian students. "There were engineers, scientists and doctors who were all working in their professions."

For Jacobs, living in Jerusalem for two weeks was very exciting. "Because you only teach three hours a day, from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., you have plenty of time for sightseeing, shopping and going out with the other volunteers. I got a real taste of life in Jerusalem and saw all the important sites," she said.

Philip Covshoff, a businessman with no teaching background, said it's not necessary to be a teacher to do this program.

"I enjoyed stretching myself to meet the challenge of teaching a three-hour conversational English class. I viewed my students as 15 new friends; in fact, I still correspond with some of them by e-mail," he said.

Because teachers in Russia are quite formal, Covshoff said his students were a bit taken aback by his casual, friendly manner and his classroom attire – shorts and T-shirts. They quickly adapted to this informal atmosphere and eagerly questioned him about Canada, his family, his work and his home. He enjoyed it so much the first time, that he went a second time, and is now coordinating this year's program.

"It's a lot of fun and a bit like adult summer camp," he said.

To make Yad BeYad volunteers feel welcome, they can be paired up with host families for Shabbat dinner. One of the highlights of Covshoff's trip was having Shabbat dinner at the home of David and Esther Bar Tov.

"David Bar Tov had been chargé d'affaires in Moscow in the late 1980s and early 1990s when there was an active transfer of Russian immigrants out of Russia. I was fortunate to meet this impressive couple and hear their fascinating stories about the Russian exodus," said Covshoff.

Another volunteer, Sharyn Mandel, a director of her own preschool, said she appreciated teaching a beginner's class because of her work with preschoolers.

"I used a lot of movement and body language in communicating with my students. All my students had learned some English way back. I triggered their memories and they surprised themselves with the words they were able to retrieve – it was a question of confidence for a lot of the students," said Mandel.

Her students were so eager to talk that they always arrived early and didn't want a break. She found the experience exhilarating and memorable. "I couldn't sleep for two weeks, I was so excited."

On the last night, her students put on a surprise talent show, which she found extremely moving. "One of my students couldn't even say his name on the first night and was reciting a poem by Keats after only 10 sessions of English class. Others sang songs or told jokes in English – they were amazing! It was quite an ending to a very special two weeks," she said.

Yad BeYad volunteers pay their own way, but costs are reasonable. Locations include Tel Aviv, Jerusalem, Ra'ananah and Tiberius, and volunteers stay in hotels or bed and breakfasts.

"Our volunteers range in age from 24 to 68 and come from all walks of life," said Covshoff.

Training is provided prior to departure by people who have themselves been on the program. Volunteers are sent to Israel with many excellent ideas for activities, an ESL book and a handbook of teaching materials.

Yad BeYad runs July 1 to 19 or July 15 to Aug. 2, and includes a three-day mini-tour of Israel. Classes are held five days a week.

For further information, please contact Covshoff at 416-633-3531 or Elaine at 416-635-5157.

Yad BeYad volunteers, from left, Sharyn Mandel, Carol Sevitt, Ruby Newman, Marilyn Jacobs and Marjory Janoff.

Novel explores a tragic world

[Cont'd. from page 13]

But there is catharsis for both protagonist and reader – and the echoes of the event resonate in both mind and memory.

A disconcerting aspect of the story concerns the diverse non-Jews Spegelbaum meets on trains. They are uniformly and unapologetically anti-Semitic, and the Jews – total or partial – are furtive and broken in spirit.

Some years ago, the author wrote: "I think that the Jewish experience in the 20th century is, in all its manifestations, probably the deepest experience that human beings have had. I don't mean only the Holocaust. I am talking about all Jewish experience, religious, secularized, socialist, anarchic, liberal, nationalist. All the travels, all the illnesses, all the devotion. The range of this experience is a wonderful thing. It is what makes me so happy to be a Jew."

This sense of joy is not evident in this novel, but rather the tragic, complex, wrenching inner world of a survivor with a resolute mission.

Minyanim in the GTA

Synagogue	Address & Telephone	Fri. Night	Shabbat	Sun. A.M.	Daily P.M.	Daily
Abir Yaacob, (O)	7026 Bathurst St., 905-669-7654	6:40 PM	8:30 AM	8:30 AM	6:45 AM	8:25 PM
Beth Avraham Yoseph, (O)	613 Clark Ave. W. 905-886-3810	candle-lighting	8:45 AM	6:45 AM & 7:30 AM	6:45 AM & 7:30 AM	10 min. before sunset
Clanton Park Synagogue, (O)	11 Lowesmoor Ave. 416-633-4193	7:00 PM	8:30 AM & 9:00 AM	7:30 AM & 8:15 AM	Mon. & Thurs. 6:50 & 7:15 AM Tues., Wed., Fri. 7:00 & 7:25 AM	15 min. before sunset
Shaarei Tefillah, (O)	3600 Bathurst St. 416-787-1631	7:00 PM	8:30 AM & 9:00 AM	8:30 AM	6:30 AM & 7:30 AM	15 min. before sunset

This is not a comprehensive listing of the synagogues in the Greater Toronto area. The information is provided by the Vaad Harabonim of Toronto. In due course we hope to receive similar information regarding non-orthodox synagogues from the Toronto Board of Rabbis. The Va'ad and the Board will periodically revise the listings.

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Community Matters

UJA Federation

Mobilizing Volunteers for Campaign '99

Even though the launch of UJA Federation's 1999 campaign is more than three months away, efforts to build a strong team of campaigners are already underway to help make the last campaign of the millennium the most successful yet.

Axmith, who has campaigned at dozens of UJA Federation telethons, places a high premium on educating both donors and volunteers.

"We're asking our veteran campaigners to return," explains 1999 Campaign Recruitment Chair Marlene Axmith, "but we're also counting on attracting new people."

The 1999 campaign will be similar to UJA Federation's highly successful Three Year Vision campaign, initiated in 1996 under the chairmanship of Carol Kassel and Charles Gold. During that Three Year Vision campaign, more than 8,000 donors made pledge commitments for the 1996, 1997 and 1998 campaigns, allowing campaigners to focus more time on reaching out to new contributors.

"Now that we're beginning a new three year cycle, we have these 8,000 additional donors to contact," explains Axmith. "If we're going to raise enough funds to meet the community's current and future needs, we're going to need a strong corps of educated and dedicated volunteers."

Plans to recruit campaigners include matching veteran campaigners with novices, re-establishing contact with former campaigners through personalized letters and appointing volunteer recruitment coordinators in all UJA Federation division campaigns. Past Chairman's advisory groups have also been set up to provide expertise and advice to campaign leadership.

By the year 2001, UJA Federation aims to raise its annual campaign total to $50 million in order to meet its new funding agenda devoted to strengthening Jewish identity, protecting the vulnerable, and the ongoing rescue of Jews from unstable regions.

Volunteer Views

Ida Churney is a familiar face around the halls of North York General Hospital. Ironically, the retiree's frequent visits to the medical facility have more to do with the health of others than with her own.

Churney, who's been a Jewish Family and Child Service Chaplaincy Services volunteer for nearly ten years, visits Jewish patients at North York General to do what she can to lift their spirits and make them feel less alone.

"It's amazing how a personal visit from a volunteer can make someone feel better, even if it's just for a little while," explains Churney. "For some, it's the best kind of therapy they can receive and they're response is always heartwarming."

Churney, who can drop in on as many as 25 patients during an afternoon visit, is one of 150 Chaplaincy Services volunteers who stop by to check on thousands of community members in hospitals, nursing homes, prisons, mental health facilities and other institutions. In just six months, Chaplaincy volunteers make more than 800 visitations, most to the elderly and the sick.

"The majority of people I see are seniors who feel frightened, confused and sad," explains Churney. "I offer them whatever comfort I can, whether it be making them aware of how they can get kosher meals or providing them with prayer booklets during the holidays."

From left to right: Ida Churney, Toby Maskowitz Coordinator, Chaplaincy Services; Rev. Nancy Nagy, Chaplain, NYGH; and Rabbi Ronald Weiss, Director, Chaplaincy Services.

Churney proudly displays a gold Magen David on a chain around her neck so patients will feel a Jewish connection during the visit. "I want them to know the community has not forgotten them," says Churney. "It's a mitzva."

If you would like to become a Chaplaincy Services volunteer or to find out about other community volunteer opportunities available through UJA Federation, call Shelly Rotman at (416) 635-2883 ext. 137.

Bringing Joy to Seniors

UJA Federation's *Hands On Toronto* Young Leadership Program is helping make Jewish holidays and celebrations more meaningful for hundreds of seniors.

Recently, 15 members of the group of young adult volunteers helped nearly 200 seniors, mostly from nursing homes, participate in a community Seder at Temple Sinai. HOT volunteers helped seniors as they arrived, escorted them to their seats and encouraged them to partake in the singing and dancing throughout the program, which was co-sponsored by Temple Sinai Youth and Jewish Family and Child Service (JF&CS).

"Getting older people in and out of cars, removing their coats and getting them settled in their seats is a big job," explains Toby Maskowitz, co-ordinator of JF&CS Chaplaincy Services. "Our volunteers made things much easier and enjoyable for the seniors and also added a lot of spirit to the festivities."

"We were all very happy to share the holidays with these special members of the community," says Lori Winch, who chairs the division of HOT that concentrates on nursing home visits. "Many of the seniors were very emotional and thankful that we were there," adds Winch.

More than 60 HOT volunteers, aged 23-39, are active in a variety of hands on projects designed to provide direct assistance to those in need. Other areas of programming include Shabbat dinners, Jewish Big Brothers and Big Sisters, entrepreneurial assistance seminars and assistance to JF&CS clients, such as house painting and cleaning. HOT's latest initiative encourages Jewish youth to become active in social and political issues pertaining to the Jewish community.

HOT volunteer Jillian Lewis partakes in a hora with a Seder participant.

HOT's nursing home visitation team also recently helped seniors at Bayview Extendacare nursing home celebrate Israel's 50th anniversary. "It meant so much to them that we helped make them a part of this historic occasion," says Winch.

If you would like to find out about becoming involved in *Hands on Toronto*, call Elana Carr at (416) 631-5736.

UJA Visits The Big Apple

*Members of UJA Federation's Marketing Campaign, who participated in a New York Fly-In earlier this month, pose in front of the United Nations. Other Fly-In highlights included lunch with author Kevin Goldman and a visit to Bloomberg Financial Markets. **(left to right):** Marvin Martenfeld, Edward Trapunski, Alan Gee, Co-chair of UJA Federation's Marketing Campaign, Luke Sklar, Sara Feldman, Brad Robins, Jerome Shore, Co-chair of New York Fly-In. **Back row:** Leonard Gill, Hugh Furneaux, Howard Brown. **Missing:** Ellen Roseman, Co-chair of New York Fly-In and Paul Silvertown, Co-chair, UJA Federation's Fashion Campaign.*

Greater Toronto Area

Blind lawyer pushes for accessibility legislation

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — David Lepofsky finds it intriguing that while the Israeli Knesset has managed to pass legislation on accessibility for the disabled at a time when the country is dealing with peace negotiations and terrorism, booming Ontario is still dragging its feet.

Lepofsky is co-chair of the Ontarians with Disabilities Act Committee, which is putting pressure on the Ontario government to pass a law requiring public services, places and institutions to be accessible by the disabled. He also played a role in the events leading up to the passing of legislation by Israel's Knesset in February ensuring equal rights for people with disabilities.

Lepofsky, a Toronto lawyer who is blind, has volunteered for the past four summers at B'Zchut, the Israeli Centre for Human Rights for Persons with Disabilities. He is a board member of the New Israel Fund (NIF), which provides part of B'Zchut's funding.

On a 1994 visit, he became aware that Israel didn't have a comprehensive disability rights law, and that the existing laws were often disregarded,

David Lepofsky

he said in a recent interview.

Contrary to popular belief and despite the large number of war wounded, Israel has been "a terrible place for people with disabilities," said Lepofsky. "It's extremely hard to get around in a wheelchair. People face incredible barriers in seeking employment, and even as a tourist, I ran into a number of barriers and impediments.

"It occurred to me that what they should do was to get a disability rights law passed."

He pitched the idea to a small group that included American law professor and disability rights specialist Arlene Kanter (whom Lepofsky had met on an NIF day-tour in 1993) and lawyer Tzvia Admon, who worked for B'Zchut at the time.

Lepofsky's ideas became the impetus for a private member's bill introduced by MK Dedi Tzuker in the Knesset.

Although he gave input along the way and met last summer with Justice Minister Tzachi Hanegbi, Lepofsky emphasized that it was the people in Israel "who fought the fight. I don't want to give any other impression. I don't for a moment claim credit, nor am I a lead player."

Although the law has not been passed in its entirety, the parts that have not been passed are under consideration, said Lepofsky.

"It's in the works, which is great. I think it can't help but change things."

Because of the great influx of Russian immigrants to Israel in recent years, there was a proportionate increase in housing construction. Had legislation been in effect earlier, Israel could have had the world's highest proportion of accessible housing at virtually no added cost, Lepofsky said.

"There was no law to require them to make sure [the housing] had accessible units. If you're building a lobby anyway, do you have to put in steps?"

Lepofsky has been involved with similar events in Israel and Ontario at the same time. The coalition he co-chairs is putting pressure on Ontario Premier Mike Harris to fulfil an election promise to pass accessibility legislation.

"The mythology is things are getting better, and in some areas they are, but in many areas things are getting worse."

In an era of budget cuts, Lepofsky noted, "you need disability legislation to prevent us from suffering even more than everyone else, which, by the way, is a comparable issue in Israel because of downsizing."

Zilberman leaves centre

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Pnina Zilberman has resigned as director of the Holocaust Education and Memorial Centre of Toronto to become a consultant to organizers of heritage travel trips to eastern Europe and to authors and film producers working on Holocaust subjects.

Having guided the Holocaust centre through a period of explosive growth since 1989, Zilberman said she hopes the centre will continue to expand and serve as an important part of the Jewish community.

During her time as director, she developed Holocaust Education Week, which covers a diverse range of topics and has become the only project of its kind in the world.

The centre is being reorganized and there are no plans to appoint a director to replace her, said Zilberman, a former day school teacher who has been active in the community for 30 years.

Recently returned from leading a group of adults to Poland and Israel in the March of the Living as part of her former position, she leaves May 5 as a travel consultant with a group going to Prague, Vienna and Budapest for 12 days.

She will then go to Romania where she hopes to visit the birthplace of her parents in what was then Bukovina.

"Discovering our roots is important, not only for teenagers, but for adults," said Zilberman, who is the daughter of Holocaust survivors.

She wants to create personalized trips for those seeking their roots in Poland, the former Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Romania, Bulgaria and other countries.

She is already working on two films, one based on the experiences of survivors in Transnistria (in Ukraine), and she is a literary consultant for Winnipeg author Carol Matas.

Her main concern in working with authors and other artists is to ensure that their material on the Holocaust, Judaism or Israel is authentic.

"We know that there are deniers waiting around the corner to pounce on anything that is not authentic," she said.

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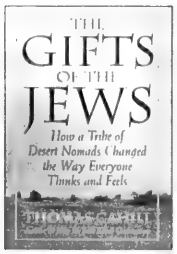

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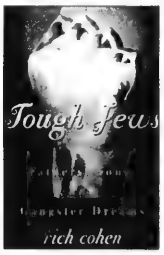

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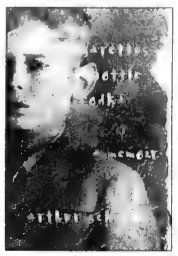

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Greater Toronto Area

Group wants Jews to live up to *tikkun olam*

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The object of Ve'ahavta, says its blunt-spoken executive vice-president, Avrum Rosensweig, is to get Jews to put their money, or labor, where their mouths are.

It's time, Rosensweig says, for the Jewish community to live up to its commitments to tikkun olam (repair of the world) and chesed (kindness) by doing more than attending meetings or signing petitions.

That's why he and Stephen Epstein founded Ve'ahavta (The Canadian Jewish Humanitarian and Relief Committee) late last year. The group, whose name is taken from the mishnaic injunction to love the stranger as oneself, has as its ambitious goal the alleviation of suffering around the world.

It will do that by raising funds and awareness, but also by dispatching teams of Jewish doctors, nurses and other health care professionals – a "Jewish service corps" – to countries whose populations are threatened by disease.

It also hopes to address natural disasters by raising money or, if needed, also sending "crisis response teams" of relief workers.

It's all designed, says Rosensweig, to reawaken the traditional Jewish commitment to social activism and the alleviation of suffering, no matter where it occurs and no matter what religion the victims are.

Inaugural mission to Guyana

Ve'ahavta recently held its official launch, at which its inaugural mission, to Guyana in February and March, was described by team leader Dr. Michael Silverman, head of infectious diseases for Durham Region.

The team spent two weeks in the South American country, bringing drugs that are cheap and plentiful in North America "to a place where no one can get them," Silverman said.

Even something as innocuous as children's vitamins probably saved lives in Guyana, he noted.

The team encountered a wide array of tropical diseases: malaria, worms, typhoid, as well as scabies, eye diseases and malnutrition in children.

The drugs the team took were donated by Apotex and Novopharm – both Jewish-owned – and by pharmacist Norm Stern, who's active in the Jewish community.

That's also one of Ve'ahavta's intentions: to get Jewish health professionals to donate goods and supplies.

Guyanese adults and children lined up by the hundreds for vitamins, mite-killing shampoo and medicines, said Silverman, who gave a moving slide presentation of the mission. Many people came from deep inside the jungles after word spread quickly that relief was available. The team was repaid with hugs and even songs, Silverman recounted, and their presence was widely reported in local media.

"We left feeling fulfilled," he said. "We had done something."

Ve'ahavta also hopes to share in relief projects with the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee. But the more immediate task at hand is to raise funds in the community.

The organization hopes to raise $225,000 in its first year of operation, to be boosted to $375,000 in its second year. Money will come from endowments, government grants and traditional fundraising.

Ve'ahavta is scheduling its next mission to Zimbabwe, which reportedly has the world's highest rate of infant HIV.

"After the Holocaust, we said 'Never again.'" Rosensweig stated. "Now, the rest of the world is asking, 'Where are we?'

"We'll be around as long as the world needs us."

Ve'ahavta can be reached at 416-487-5472 or on the Internet at [www.veahavta.org].

On this 50th anniversary, thousands of Israelis hope your name will be right next to theirs.

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As Israel enters its second half-century, hundreds of thousands of Israelis are *signing anew* their Declaration of Independence, through a campaign jointly sponsored by the New Israel Fund and *Yediot Aharonot*. They are reaffirming that, "The State of Israel will be open to Jewish immigration and the ingathering of the exiles. It will devote itself to developing the land for the good of all its inhabitants. It will be based on freedom, justice and peace as envisaged by the prophets of Israel. It will ensure complete equality of social and political rights to all its inhabitants irrespective of religion, race or sex. It will guarantee freedom of religion, conscience, language, education, and culture..."

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Scottish-born Bible scholar will deliver Rosenberg lecture

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

Avivah Gottlieb Zornberg

TORONTO — A lifelong love of words led Avivah Gottlieb Zornberg to pursue a PhD in English literature at Cambridge University, but for the past 18 years the Jerusalem-based lecturer has been unlocking the mysteries of Jewish texts for a wide variety of students.

Interpreting literature and interpreting the Bible are "close, but there is something additional in dealing with the Bible, a sense of spiritual depth and richness," Zornberg told *The CJN* by phone from her home in Jerusalem.

The Scottish-born scholar and author of *Genesis: The Beginning of Desire* will give the Rabbi Stuart and Hadassah Rosenberg Memorial Lecture on Encountering G-d in Unplanned Moments: Insights from the Book of Genesis, at Beth Tzedec Congregation on May 21.

Toronto, will be her only Canadian stop on a month-long North American speaking tour. Her husband Eric, who is from Montreal, has family here.

Zornberg has been acclaimed for the eclectic array of sources from which she draws her insights — everything from Kafka to Coleridge to Oliver Sacks, as well as traditional rabbinic writings and ideas she has picked up from students.

"I try to create a kind of tapestry," she said in a soft lilt still reminiscent of her native Glasgow, where her father, Dr. Wolf Gottlieb, was chief rabbi.

"I use Jewish sources and general sources, literary, psychological and philosophical [ones], and I'll try to weave them together to make a pattern that seems to me to be significant. When it works well, there's something quite exciting about it."

For her students, some of whom have been following her since she first taught Torah in a friend's living room, the effects can be dramatic.

"People are looking to understand themselves and these sources offer extraordinary ways of approaching human problems. Women particularly are looking for ways of understanding their role in the world and as human beings... I've known women who've given up their careers to spend all their time studying Jewish texts."

Zornberg, a mother of three, spends about half her time preparing for the classes she teaches at institutions like Pardes, Midreshet Lindenbaum, Matan and the Jerusalem College for Adults. She lectures on tour once or twice a year.

After she made aliyah in 1969, Zornberg taught English literature at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem until 1976. "I wasn't altogether happy with the general tendency of academia," she said of her decision to change paths. She finds her work now both engrossing and stimulating, she said.

Zornberg attributes an increased interest among non-Orthodox Jews in the so-called Jewish bookshelf, to the "joy and spiritual pleasure to be got from studying texts... and then it becomes an essential part of their lives."

Healing Project hosts conference

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — The Toronto Jewish Healing Project is sponsoring a conference for professionals and volunteers on Wednesday, May 27 at Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue.

The program, titled Healing and Holiness, will explore dimensions of healing from a Jewish perspective.

Etta Ginsberg McEwan, coordinator and one of the founders of the Toronto Jewish Healing Project, established in 1996, told *The CJN* that Judaism has an enormous amount to say about illness and spiritual healing.

The Toronto Jewish Healing Project, a volunteer organization, offers 8-week sessions led by a rabbi and a lay person. The group is not affiliated with any particular stream of Judaism.

The sessions help participants develop a deeper experience and understanding of feelings, thoughts, emotions and ideas through the study of sacred texts, music, rabbinic commentary, midrash, rituals and stories.

Workshops at the conference will include Jewish meditation; A spiritual tool for healing; caring and curing; Jewish responses to life crises; Chassidism and healing; the link between Jewish music and healing; content of a Jewish healing group; rabbis on healing; women in the Bible and healing traditions; and The mitzvah of bikkur cholim.

Rabbi Dow Marmur, another founder of the project, will chair the plenary session. Rabbi Baruch Frydman-Kohl of Beth Tzedec Congregation will conduct a "service of healing," and story-teller Rita Sue Fisher will present a program weaving together Jewish songs and stories.

Keynote speaker will be Dr. Vivian Rakoff, professor emeritus at the Clarke Institute of Psychiatry. Rabbi Joseph Kelman, rabbi emeritus of Beth Emeth Synagogue, will serve as moderator, with respondents Rabbi Frydman-Kohl and Dr. Mary Vachon of the Toronto Sunnybrook Regional Cancer Centre.

For more information on the conference or the Toronto Jewish Healing Project, call 944-3359, fax 968-1996, or e-mail, [etta@interlog.com].

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Guttmann a leading volunteer

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Max Guttmann, one of the Toronto Jewish community's busiest volunteers, died April 29 of complications from cancer. He was 65.

Obituary

Guttmann's name was synonymous with volunteerism in the city. He lent his efforts to many Jewish and non-Jewish organizations and causes, including United Jewish Appeal, Israel Bonds and the Canadian Society for Yad Vashem.

Guttmann was a Holocaust survivor, and his story approached the miraculous: his entire family – both his parents and all nine of their children – survived the war.

Professionally, he was a tool and dye maker. The company he founded in 1969, Algood Casters, is now run by two of his three sons.

But it was helping others that drove him, said his son Craig, 34.

"He liked to ski. He had a regular poker game every Wednesday night. But he loved his charities," Craig said.

Guttmann helped found two local Orthodox synagogues: B'nai Torah Congregation in Willowdale, and Beth Avraham Yoseph of Toronto Congregation in Thornhill.

He was, however, a member of Beth Emeth Synagogue, which is Conservative. "He believed in helping all Jews," said his son Sean, 25.

He was also a prime mover within Reena, which helps integrate developmentally disabled adults into the general community.

A few years ago, when She'arim, the Jewish day school for children with learning problems, was in financial trouble, Guttmann quietly donated and raised enough money to keep it going.

"He gave a lot of help secretly," said Rabbi Joseph Kelman of Beth Emeth, who delivered the eulogy at Guttmann's funeral. "He was able to galvanize a lot of other people."

Guttmann was born in Usharod, Czechoslovakia in 1932, the fifth of nine children. The family moved to Budapest when he was three.

During the war, two of his sisters had Christian papers; five of the siblings were placed in Red Cross orphanages; and his mother, father and two brothers were hidden in a safe house by Swedish war hero Raoul Wallenberg.

According to his sister, Emma Eisner, there were several close calls, but the whole family survived the war.

Guttmann learned tool and dye making at an ORT school while in a DP camp in Germany. In 1949, most of the family, including Max, immigrated to Israel. They returned to Germany the following year, and on Yom Kippur 1951, Max, his parents and four siblings arrived in Canada.

Guttmann became the first Jew to be hired, as a tool and dye maker, at Massey-Harris, later Massey-Ferguson Ltd. He encountered anti-Semitism there, and once got into a fight. After the altercation, he was brought to the company president, who reassured Guttmann that he would be safe there.

A few years ago, Guttmann received a citation from the government of Ontario, which pays tribute to Holocaust survivors every year. He recounted the story of the fight to then lieutenant-governor Henry Jackman. It turned out that the company president who had reassured young Max was Jackman's father-in-law.

Guttmann and a partner struck out on their own in 1961, with A&G Dyes. He sold the company in 1968, and the following year, established Algood Casters, which manufactures casters for furniture and industrial uses.

He also helped Seneca College set up a program in tool and dye making.

Guttmann often hired people via referrals from Jewish Vocational Services. "He was always helping someone, always doing someone a favor," said Craig.

In the early 1970s Guttmann sponsored several Vietnamese boat people, spurred by the world's closed-door policy on Jews during the war.

During the 1973 Yom Kippur War, he single-handedly raised $1 million in State of Israel Bonds, and hundreds of thousands of dollars for an emergency UJA drive.

Guttmann leaves his wife of 40 years, Sheila; sons Craig, Sean and Mark, 37, who lives in Israel; 12 grandchildren, and seven brothers and sisters.

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From coast to coast

Bouchard urges accommodation of Palestinians

By JANICE ARNOLD
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — Amid generous praise for Israel, Premier Lucien Bouchard recently urged the country to accommodate Palestinian aspirations.

"The government of Israel acknowledges the responsibility to win the ultimate battle for peace and security that will offer equally to the Palestinians the possibility to live beside Israel, in dignity, as free men and women," Bouchard said in a carefully worded speech at a dinner in honor of Israel's 50th anniversary, organized by the Canada-Israel Committee, Quebec region (CIC-Q).

For most of the relatively short address delivered almost entirely in French, Bouchard expressed admiration for the determination, values and accomplishments of Israel, but his message that Israel must accommodate Palestinians was there between the lines.

He called the anniversary an occasion for both "sadness and elation," the celebration having been dampened by "so much lack of understanding, so many broken lives, so much accumulated hatred.

"I know how much Israelis yearn for peace, for a just peace that would allow all the peoples in the region to bid farewell to arms. Developments in recent years have given rise to a glorious hope, the hope of reconciliation between the sons of Abraham, of a world in which the two peoples would coexist, side by side, in which one of them would not necessarily take the other's place.

"This peace, however, that was thought to have been signed in Oslo, has not been without impediments. And history seems once again to be faltering. The Israelis have had something they didn't want – attacks, and the Palestinians have not had what they wanted – a state."

Bouchard continued: "I feel that my friendship towards Israel authorizes me to not hide my concerns. With courage and audacity, Israelis have been able to preserve Israel's existence. Today it is their duty to defend her essence."

Outside the Queen Elizabeth Hotel where the dinner took place, about 250 demonstrators, mainly from the Arab community, denounced Bouchard for taking part in a celebration of Israel's statehood, which they declared in large banners has been 50 years of "dispossession" of and "aggression" against Arabs.

Shouting "Shame Israel. Shame Bouchard," they waved placards accusing Israel of victimizing Palestinians, physically and politically. The group's newspaper advertising listed financial support from the Confederation of National Trade Unions and the Quebec Labor Federation, among others.

Security was heavy, with a phalanx of 30 police in riot gear guarding the hotel's entrance.

Referring to relations between Israel and Quebec, the premier underscored the friendship between "our two peoples" who are both "enamored with the same ideals of justice, freedom and progress." He said he intends to step up cultural relations, business missions, academic exchanges and ministerial-level meetings between Quebec and Israel.

He also spoke warmly of his friendship with CIC-Q chair Thomas Hecht, who was the prime mover behind the dinner, held in cooperation with the Longueuil-based Orchestre Symphonique de la Monteregie.

He received a standing ovation from a large majority of the audience when he concluded.

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By MYRON LOVE
Prairie Correspondent

WINNIPEG — "We were overwhelmed by the attendance," said Gerry Koffman, head of the Combined Jewish Appeal campaign and a member of the coordinating committee that organized the Winnipeg Jewish community's *Israel at 50* Yom Ha'atzmaut celebrations.

Over 2,000 people came out to the Convention Centre on April 30 to celebrate the anniversary. There were so many people that more than 300 latecomers had to be turned away.

"We felt badly about having to turn people away," Koffman said, "but we only rented half the large hall. We were one of the few communities that didn't have an admission charge. We felt strongly that there should be no financial impediment in the way of anyone who wanted to celebrate this milestone. The downside is that we had no idea how many people would turn up."

The evening featured combined choirs and dance troupes from all the Jewish and Hebrew programs both in the public school system and the Gray Academy. Also featured were the Chai Folk Ensemble and Finjan. There were no lengthy speeches, Koffman said. "We wanted the evening to be freilech," he said.

The organizing committee did, however, honor Winnipeg machalniks – only Toronto's Jewish community sent more of its sons and daughters than Winnipeg to fight for Israel's independence in 1948 – as well as Israelis living in Winnipeg who fought in the War of Independence.

"We wanted to make the historic link," Koffman said. "We also showed part of a satellite link-up with the celebrations in Jerusalem through the good graces of [the Asper-owned] Canwest Global."

Koffman noted that all segments of the community were represented including a number of Israelis living here, members of the Russian Jewish community and virtually all of the Argentinian Jews who have settled in Winnipeg within the last two years.

...and 600 in Hamilton

By WENDY SCHNEIDER
Hamilton Correspondent.

HAMILTON — Over 600 people attended Israel's 50th anniversary celebration at Hamilton's Jewish Community Centre (JCC).

The facility's tennis bubble, decorated with blue and white helium balloons, was transformed to accommodate 60 tables and a dance floor.

The festivities began with the blowing of a shofar in honor of the jubilee year and an emotional singing of Hatikvah. As adults and children danced a horah together to the strains of touring Israeli duo Eddy and Maya, others lined up for a buffet style, traditional Middle Eastern meal prepared by volunteers.

The formal part of the festivities included a ceremonial procession of children bearing Israeli flags led by local veterans of Israel's wars, and brief speeches delivered by 50th anniversary celebrations chair Moishe Chaimovitz, JCC president Howard Brown, and Jewish Federation president Cheryl Greenbaum. Finally, children from the Hamilton Hebrew Academy performed a number of Israeli folkdances.

The remainder of the evening featured impromptu Middle Eastern and contemporary dancing.

TV treatment of Reichmanns

By JANICE ARNOLD
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — The intriguing tale of the reclusive Reichmanns' rise to the status of one of the wealthiest families in the world and rapid fall is coming to the small screen.

Independent Montreal filmmaker Alan Handel is working on a two-hour documentary based largely on the book *The Reichmanns: Family, Faith, Fortune and the Empire of Olympia & York* by Anthony Bianco, a Canadian bestseller which recently won the National Business Book Award.

Handel has agreements with Global Television and TVA, the largest commercial French-language network, to broadcast the documentary in two one-hour episodes, possibly in the spring or fall of next year.

Choir Director

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FAX Resume to Executive Director
416 487-5499

2,800 attend B.C. festivities

By PETER CAULFIELD
Pacific Correspondent

VANCOUVER — An excited audience filled every seat of the Orpheum Theatre for an exuberant celebration of Israel's 50th birthday.

Tickets were sold out two days before the event. A Time to Rejoice/ Israel at 50, which attracted 2,800 people. The admission price was kept low, to enable as many as possible to attend.

Coordinated by Beth Tikvah choirmaster Joan Freeman Cohen, A Time to Rejoice presented a pageant of Jewish history from biblical times to the founding of the State of Israel, accompanied by music and dance provided by community choirs and dance groups.

Adult choirs, conducted by Cantor Steve Levin, included the choirs of Beth Israel and Beth Tikvah synagogues, Har El Zimriyah, the Shiron Singers, and the Vancouver Jewish Folk Choir of the Peretz Institute.

Children's choirs conducted by Joan Freeman Cohen were from Beth Tikvah-Prozdor, Maimonides and TAG (Beth Israel and Temple Sholom) Jewish high schools; the Richmond Jewish Day School and Vancouver Talmud Torah; and the Beth Israel, Beth Tikvah, Har El, Or Shalom and Temple Sholom supplementary Jewish schools.

The grand finale was the performance by the entire ensemble, more than 300-strong, of *Ayn Zo Aggadah* (If you will it, it is no dream), an original piece with music and lyrics by Broadway actor and composer Andrew Lippa conducted by Maestro Sergiu Comissiona of the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra.

After a brief intermission, the program concluded with a satellite link-up with celebrations in Jerusalem.

Official greetings were brought by British Columbia Premier Glen Clark; Port Moody MP Lou Sekora; and Richmond Mayor Greg Halsey-Brant.

An important message about North York Branson Hospital

North York Branson Hospital is now part of North York General Hospital

It will be called the ***Branson Division*** and will continue to provide quality health services to the community. If you have used Branson Hospital in the past, please continue to do so. The Branson Division will remain open and will offer its usual range of services for the next 2 to 3 years.

This is the first of many changes to the Branson Division.
In a few years, it will become an ambulatory care centre specializing in services for the elderly. In the coming months, we will ask for your ideas about its future services. We will not make any major changes without letting our community and patients know in advance.

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Hobson steps up campaign

Scene in Ottawa

By STEPHEN BINDMAN

OTTAWA — And the war crimes wars go on.

Not the courtroom battles against suspected Nazi collaborators living quietly among us – they continue at a pace unmatched since the end of World War II.

No – the unseemly fight between a former top Canadian Nazi hunter and his former colleagues in the federal Justice Department.

In this space a few weeks ago, I naively expressed the hope that an exhaustive report by a former Osgoode Hall law dean would finally put to an end efforts by Bill Hobson to prove there was anti-Semitism in the federal war crimes unit.

Wrong.

I was fearful that if Hobson persists in his anti-Semitism claims, there is a real danger he will be remembered not for his pioneering war crimes work in the Jacob Luitjens case (Luitjens was the first person to be stripped of his Canadian citizenship and deported for lying about his wartime activities), but his failure to move on.

Well far from giving up the fight, Hobson has actually stepped up his campaign.

And his former employers in the Justice Department have been forced to fire back.

Hobson has filed an application in Federal Court seeking to quash the 260-page report by law professor John McCamus.

The retired lawyer, who is representing himself, claims he was denied procedural fairness and natural justice in the way the inquiry was conducted and says McCamus's report was replete with "egregious errors."

He alleges McCamus was not independent and suggests the Justice Department "lost, misplaced or destroyed" many key documents related to his anti-Semitism allegations.

Hobson describes McCamus, who concluded he could not rely on the former prosecutor's recollections of events passed, as totally lacking in understanding of war crimes cases and "disoriented, totally unprepared" for their first meeting.

"I submit that by failing to apply principles of natural justice and procedural fairness, Mr. McCamus has produced a work of fiction analogous to a Sherlock Holmes novel utilizing a process of deduction that produces an inaccurate report of what actually transpired in the unit at the relevant times in question."

Hobson, who will speak next week in Ottawa to the Jewish War Veterans of Canada, also has a separate $1-million lawsuit against the department and several of his former colleagues for intentionally "inflicting nervous shock and mental suffering" on him and his family.

Federal lawyers have countered with their own motion, seeking to have Hobson's application thrown out of court as "improper and defective." That will be heard June 3.

And some of the key players have written letters to this newspaper, attacking the lukewarm reaction of the Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) to McCamus's report.

Peter Kremer, the former head of the war crimes unit who bore the brunt of Hobson's allegations, wrote to complain of lingering complaints that nothing of substance was accomplished during his tenure.

"I would suggest that there is no objective factual basis to question the dedication, commitment and contribution of the unit between 1990 and 1995 and I would urge the CJC to redirect their energies to supporting the program, instead of attacking it," his letter said.

Meanwhile, Jewish Justice Department lawyer Arnold Fradkin has made it clear that the issue of anti-Semitism only came to his attention years after his major battle began when colleagues reported statements they had heard but he hadn't.

Hobson alleged that Kremer questioned the objectivity and legal advice of Fradkin, undermined his reputation and forced him out of war crimes work, because he was Jewish.

"The battle I'd fought over the years, when I was in the unit and after I left, was that in my view cases hadn't been pursued with sufficient vigor and that my 'fire in the belly' and that of a few others had been mischaracterized by some people as a lack of objectivity or fanaticism or obsession with the Holocaust," said Fradkin, who has been hesitant to speak publicly because he is still with the department.

"It was the vigor that I and a few others brought that helped win the Luitjens case, which until a few months ago was the only successful Nazi war crimes trial since the end of World War II. My position was that when all things were considered, there was at least an appearance of anti-Semitism that existed which should be properly investigated."

If there is a positive side to this whole sorry spectacle, it is that the intrabureaucratic squabbling does not appear to have sidetracked the current members of the war crimes unit from the important task at hand.

Another suspect has quietly left Canada, another will soon lose his citizenship and several more trials are scheduled to begin this year.

With time rapidly running out before both the accused and the accusers pass on, here's a hope that all eyes will continue to be focused on the right direction.

Maybe this wish will come true.

Stephen Bindman is national legal affairs correspondent for the Southam Newspapers based in Ottawa.

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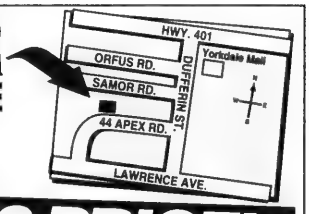

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דער גורל פון יידיש אין אַמעריקע

פון אַלבערט ביינערמאַן (טאָראָנטאָ)

די אַמעריקאַנער יידן זיינען אַוועק פון דער תורה און נישט דערגאַנגען צום יידישן בוך. די אַסימילאַציע האָט זיך אַריינגעריסן אין יידישן לעבן מיט ברען. מיר האָבן איצט אַ דור, וואָס קען נישט קיין וואָרט יידיש און אַלץ, וואָס איז פאַרבונדן מיט יידיש איז זיי פרעמד. די אַסימילאַציע פרעסט זיך איין טיפער און טיפער אין יידישן לעבן.

נאָך דער גרויזאַמער מלחמה מיט איר חורבן און יידישע קרבנות וואָלטן מיר געדאַרפט אויפהערן צו קריכן אויף פרעמדע וועגן. צום באַדויערן ווערט די צאָל פון די יידיש־רעדנדיקע אַלץ ווייניקער. ווען איינער פון דער צאָל גייט אַוועק פון דער וועלט, שטאַרבט אַ לייענער פון יידישן וואָרט און קיין נייער קומט נישט צו. דער גרעסטער טייל פון יונגן יידישן דור ווייסט זייער ווייניק וועגן דער יידישער שפּראַך און איר אויפטו. אויף דער שפּראַך זיינען אַ סך קולטור־ווערק געשאַפן געוואָרן. די שפּראַך איז געווען די בריק, וואָס האָט געהאַלטן צוזאַמען דאָס יידישע פאָלק איבער דער וועלט. דורך דער שפּראַך האָבן מיר אעיינגעזאַפּט אין זיך אַלץ, וואָס איז פאַרבונדן מיטן יידישן לעבן. אויף יידיש האָבן מיינע עלטערן איינגעפלאַנצט אין מיר אַ גלויבן אין פאָלק, אַ ליבע צו דער מענטשהייט און אַ האָפענונג אויף אַ בעסערן מאָרגן.

די יידן אין פּוילן האָט זייער אָפט אויסגעפעלט אַ שטיקל ברויט, אָבער מיט די לעצטע גראָשנס האָבן זיי געשיקט זייערע קינדער אין חדר אַריין און אין אַנדערע לערך־אינסטיטוציעס, כדי זיי צו באַקענען מיט יידיש וויסן און קולטור. אָפילו אונטער די שוי־דערלעכסטע באַדינגונגען אין די געטאָס, האָבן יידן נישט פאַרגעסן זייער שפּראַך, קולטור און טראַדיציעס.

אָנגערעגט צו שרייבן דעם אַרטיקל וועגן גורל פון יידיש אין צפון־אַמעריקע בכלל, און אין מיין לאַנד קאַנאַדע בפרט, האָט מיך די אָפּשאַצונג פון פאַרשטאָרבענעם פאָרזיצער פון וועלט־ראַט פאַר יידיש, יצחק קאָרן, וואָס ער האָט געמאַכט בעת אַ באַזוך מיט יאָרן צוריק אין די פאַראייניקטע שטאַטן און קאַנאַדע, וועגן דער אַלגעמיינער לאַגע פון יידיש. אַנדערש איז עס געווען מיט אַ צוויי צענדליק יאָרן צוריק.

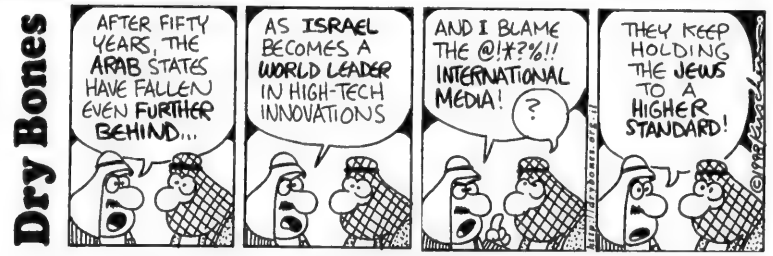
צום באַדויערן איז דער קאַנאַדער יידישער קאָנגרעס ביי אונדז אין לאַנד פאַרשלונגען געוואָרן פון אַ ברייטער אַסימילאַציע. דאָס ביסל יידיש, וואָס איז נאָך אַ באַשטאַנדטייל פון פּראָגראַם אין קאָנגרעס, איז אַ דאַנק די עפּנטלעכע אונטערנעמונגען פון די יידיש־קאָמיטעטן אין טאָראָנטאָ, מאָנטרעאָל און ווייניפּעג, וואו יידיש פאַרנעמט נאָך אַ בכבודיק אָרט. אין אַלע אַנדערע אַקטיוויטעטן פון קאָנגרעס ווערט אויסשליסלעך באַנוצט די ענגלישע שפּראַך. דאָס דערווייטערט די אינסטיטוציע פון יידיש.

דאָס זעלבע מערקט זיך אויף פאַרזאַמלונגען פון אַנדערע גע־זעלשאַפטלעכע יידישע אָרגאַניזאַציעס, סאָסייטיס און פאַראיינען. בלויז געציילטע אָרגאַניזאַציעס פירן זייערע טעטיקייטן אין יידיש. צווישן זיי איז דער באָראָכאָוו צענטער, דער אַרבעטער רינג און די יידישע קולטור־געזעלשאַפט, מיט אַ טעטיקייט פון איבער 38 יאָר. נישט הינטערשטעליק זיינען אויך די ליטעראַרישע שמועסן אין יידיש יעדן פרייטיק אין דעם „בערנאַרד בעטעל צענטער".

אַן אָאַזיס פון יידיש קען מען נאָך געפינען אין פלאָרידאַ. דאָ פאַרנעמט נאָך יידיש אַן אָנגעזען אָרט, ספּעציעל אין מיאַמי־ביטש. אין די ווינטער חדשים קומען אַהין צענדליקער טויזנטער יידן פון די פאַראייניקטע שטאַטן, קאַנאַדע און פון די לאַטייך־אַמעריקאַנער לענדער. דאָרטן קענען זיי זיך אויסלעבן קולטורעל אין דער יידישער שפּראַך. עס פונקציאָנירן דאָרט אַ צאָל יידיש־קלובן און יידיש־ווינקלען פון פאַרשיידענע ריכטונגען, וואו עס קומען פאָר רעפעראַטן, שמועסן און קאָנצערטן אין דער יידישער שפּראַך.

אַ דאַנק דעם קאָאָרדיניר־קאָמיטעט פון די יידיש־קלובן דער־שיינט דאָרט אַ יאָרלעכער זשורנאַל אין יידיש, „דער אָנהייב", געפירט פון סעקרעטאַר חיים לעווין און רעדאַגירט פון טאָראָנטער בן־עיר אַלעק סילווער. דער „יוואָ" (יידישער וויסנשאַפטלעכער אינסטיטוט), אונטער דער פירערשאַפט פון גיטל קאַגאַן און מינדל ווייסמאַן, פירט אָן אַ פאַרצווייגטע יידישע קולטור־טעטיקייט מיט וועכנטלעכע לעקציעס, קאָנצערטן און אַ באַנקעט. אָנגעזעענע לעקטאָרן און קינסטלער פון אַמעריקע און פון אויסלאַנד באַטייליקן זיך אין זיי. ביים היי־יאָריקן יוואָ־באַנקעט, מיט אַ גרויסן עולם באַטייליקטע, האָט גערעדט פּראָפ. איטשע גאָלדבערג.

די יידיש־קאָמיטעטן ביי אונדז אין קאַנאַדע דאַרפן נעמען אַ ביישפּיל פון די יידיש־טעטיקייטן אין מיאַמי־ביטש און פאַרשטאַרקן די אַקטיוויטעטן פאַר דער יידישער שפּראַך. אפשר איז נאָך נישט צו שפּעט צוריק צו ברענגען דעם איצטיקן דור צו די יידישע ווערטן.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Main Drug Mart-*Finch W. of Yonge*
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Shopper's Drug Mart-*Eglinton between Bathurst & Avenue Rd.*
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What A Bagel-*Bayview & Laureleaf*
Wychwood Postal Services-*St. Clair & Bathurst*
Yaffa's Judaica Store-*Spadina & Bloor*
Yehudale's Pizza-*Chabad Gate E. of Bath.*

On Campus

U of T launches summer program at Hebrew U

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — The University of Toronto's (U of T) Woodsworth College is inaugurating a summer program in Jerusalem.

Classes will be held at the main campus of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem situated on Mount Scopus.

Noah Meltz, principal of Woodsworth College, says the college's international programs now include Siena, Hong Kong, and Jerusalem.

In May 1997, a group from U of T, including then chancellor Rose Wolfe; Heather Munroe-Blum, vice-president of research and international relations; and Meltz, travelled to Israel to establish an Israeli branch of the U of T Alumni Association.

As a follow-up to that trip, Meltz and Alex Waugh, vice-principal of Woodsworth College, returned to Israel to meet with officials from the Hebrew University to work out details for a summer program in Jerusalem.

Meltz says that "students may use this opportunity to visit the Holy Land while taking a summer course. As an added bonus, students will be in Israel at an historically significant time."

Like the Siena and Hong Kong programs, the Jerusalem program offers U of T undergraduate degree credit courses relevant to the location. The three courses offered are taught in English.

One of the most exciting courses, says Meltz, will be field archaeology "where students will have the experience of a lifetime

Noah Meltz

participating in a biblical archaeological dig. Archaeologists say that our students can perhaps unearth centuries old pottery vessels, figurines, a city gate and even large buildings."

He adds that students looking for a more traditional course will find Jerusalem a perfect location to study Introduction to the Middle East and Religions of the Holy Land.

"Studying in Jerusalem is the best of both worlds," says Meltz. "It is like taking a course in downtown Toronto but you are on the spot where what you are studying actually happened. I am extremely pleased about this initiative and particularly that it is beginning in the 50th anniversary year."

The three courses offered in the inaugural year will be taught by Amihai Mazar of the Hebrew University, and Marion Boulby and William Klassen of U of T. About 20 students are expected to participate in the Jerusalem program, most from the U of T with some from other Canadian Universities.

The program will be offered for six weeks from July 6 to August 13. Field archeology will be offered from June 28 to August 7.

Meltz, who will represent Woodsworth College in Israel, is completing a 7-year term as principal and is planning on making aliyah. After retirement he will assume the position of professor at the Academic College of Natanya, and will be associated with the Halbert Centre for Canadian Studies at the Hebrew University.

For more information on the program in Jerusalem, Siena or Hong Kong, call 978-8713, e-mail, [summer program@utoronto.ca] or visit their web site at [www.utoronto.ca/woods].

Conference on Canadian Jewish life

TORONTO — The Centre for Jewish Studies at York University together with the Chair of Quebec and Canadian Jewish Studies at Concordia University will be sponsoring a conference June 7 and 8 on the study of Canadian Jewry.

The conference, which is funded by a grant from Multiculturalism Canada, will also inaugurate York's J. Richard Shiff Chair for the Study of Canadian Jewry. The conference is being co-chaired by professors Joe Levy and Irving Abella.

At the conference, more than 60 papers will be presented by many of the country's leading scholars in Canadian Jewish studies on almost every aspect of Jewish life in Canada. Among the topics to be discussed are sports and culture; Holocaust survivors; Nazi war criminals; anti-Semitism; western Jewish settlement, Communists, Women's organizations; and changing gender roles. Speakers will also include scholars from the United States and Israel.

The plenary session, featuring York University professors Ramsay Cook and Abella, and Prof. Deborah Dash-Moore of Vassar College will focus on the status and future of Canadian Jewish studies. This panel, moderated by Prof. Ira Robinson of Concordia, will begin at 8 p.m. on June 7. A reception at 7 p.m., hosted by the Centre for Jewish Studies, is open to the community.

For information, call 736-5823.

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See Page 40

Features

The continuing legacy of A.M. Klein

By BILL GLADSTONE

Part 2 of a three-part series on the Canadian Jewish literary scene.

Ask any Jewish writer in Canada to name some of his or her most important influences and before long the name of A.M. Klein is certain to arise.

In an unofficial survey of contemporary Canadian writers whose works explore Jewish themes or feature Jewish characters, *The CJN* found that almost all were quick to cite Klein as a major influence. There is also a network of literary critics and scholars across Canada who specialize in the Montreal poet 26 years after his death and almost half a century after he lapsed into a prolonged literary silence into which some read a deep allegorical meaning.

Two years after Klein died in 1972, Ottawa poet and professor Seymour Mayne convened a conference on Klein, whose various papers had been donated to the Public Archives in Ottawa. At the conference, a group of professors, writers and family members of the late poet agreed to form the A.M. Klein Research and Publication Committee, with the goal of producing a definitive edition of his work in about eight volumes, in association with the University of Toronto Press.

Besides poetry, which was Klein's forte, the envisioned series would include short stories, essays, journalistic editorials, letters, his one published novel and other material. (Klein was nothing if not eclectic; he even attempted to write a Broadway play.)

Last year, the U of T published the sixth volume in the series, *A.M. Klein: Selected Poems*, a popularly priced paperback edition. Klein's slim poetic novel, *The Second Scroll*, is currently in the final stages of production as the penultimate volume in the series, and the final volume, containing hitherto unpublished letters, is expected to be ready for publication about the year 2001.

The committee saved Klein's letters for last, having placed notices in several international Jewish newspapers in search of more of his correspondence. "He corresponded with many people all over the world," says Zailig Pollock, professor of literature at Trent University and co-editor of the Klein project.

Ironically, although Klein is the focus of what Pollock calls "the most ambitious literary project of its kind in Canada," he never achieved the level of popular fame of some Montreal Jewish writers who rose in his shadow, namely Irving Layton, Leonard Cohen and Mordecai Richler. Further, while Klein remains an enduring icon in Canadian Jewish letters, it is dubious whether his literary legend looms as large below the 49th parallel; it seems primarily a Canadian phenomenon.

"Almost all the Canadian Jewish writers have written about Klein in one way or another – that's how strong the influence was," says Michael Greenstein, a professor of literature and author of *Third Solitudes*, a study of Canadian Jewish literature.

"He didn't turn his back on the Yiddish culture – he swam against the stream," says Ryerson professor Adam Fuerstenberg, editor of the Canadian Jewish literary journal *Parchment*. "He refused to go with the majority of writers who wanted to jettison Yiddish culture. Mordecai Richler is a good example; Irving Layton too: his name was originally Kaganovitch. Basically, they just dropped their roots. But Klein did not. He tried to blend, to synthesize the Yiddish culture with the English language."

Whereas the typical protagonist of a Richler novel abandons his immigrant past in his quest for assimilation into the mainstream, Klein's writing celebrates Jewish values and is rich in Judaic allusions, especially relating to Torah and talmudic lore.

"Klein addressed central religious and philosophic aspects of Judaism, not just its social aspects," notes Toronto novelist Cary Fagan, who readily acknowledges that he himself, like many modern Canadian Jewish writers, addresses Jewish themes in a far more peripheral manner.

In attempting to express his Jewish cultural identity within the parameters of the Canadian experience, Klein was ahead of his time, many say, since his work seems to prefigure the multicultural literary climate of the 1990s.

"He wanted to address a Jewish public but also a broader public as well," says Pollock. "He was writing at a time when there weren't any Italian, Ukrainian, Spanish and other ethnic writers in Canada. In his day, the literature was dominated by people of English or Scottish descent. He was the first non-French, non-British writer to make an impact in the larger scene of Canadian literature."

Seeing Klein's life as a parable, some observers draw moral conclusions from the literary silence into which he lapsed during his last two decades. "He tried to be both an artist and somebody who is acceptable to the Jewish community, and that's not always an easy tension to resolve," says Toronto poet Ken Sherman. "He wasn't comfortable with the role of being an iconoclast or a rebel, like Layton or Cohen. He tried very hard to hold a position of responsibility in the Jewish community... He lapsed into total silence at the end, but he was still writing speeches for Samuel Bronfman; so that's the tragedy of A.M. Klein. It tells us that his desire to be of service, to fit into the Jewish community, was very strong. I don't think he could reconcile that with his life as a poet, since I believe that every poet is automatically at odds with society in some way."

Alberta-born writer Norman Ravvin, who now lives in Fredericton, first discovered Klein in high school, and continues to regard him as a strong influence. "I admire his range, his interest in Jewish history and in secular matters, his willingness to take on both contemporary and traditional subjects, always from a Jewish perspective. I think his personal predicament is touching in a real way: his descent into silence or some kind of madness – I'm not actually sure what it was – which was partly brought on by his feeling as a writer that he had not reached the audience he wanted to reach. I've always found his personal life a lesson in how difficult the writing life can be."

Klein won a Governor General's Award in 1948 for *The Rocking Chair And Other Poems*; appropriately enough, Robert and Charlotte Melançon, a husband and wife team, also won a Governor General's Award several years ago for their outstanding translation of those poems into French. The title poem deals with the situation of the Québécois as a cultural minority, which for Klein paralleled the struggle of the Jews to maintain their cultural identity.

The consummate Canadian, he also wrote about the plight of the natives. Variously described as a trailblazer, a founding father and a lion in Canadian Jewish literature, Klein's legacy endures in the halls and chambers of the grand Canadian Jewish literary edifice whose dimensions he helped to establish. With his highly poetic sensibility, and predilection for traditional Jewish values, he has done more than perhaps he could have realized to make it a very grand edifice indeed.

Part III: A roadmap of modern Canadian Jewish writing.

An extraordinary and peculiar novel

The eminent literary critic Northrop Frye called *The Second Scroll* "one of the most passionate and intense of all Canadian novels," and it is commonly considered the greatest novel of Jewish reawakening written in Canada.

In form it resembles the Pentateuch, with five main books and a patchwork of canonical appendages. Its story, which stretches from the Russian pogroms of 1917 to the emergence of the modern state of Israel, is presented as a rough metaphorical equivalent to the biblical saga that culminates with the children of Israel reaching the Promised Land. That lofty literary parallel informs even the title, *The Second Scroll*, and suggests that author A.M. Klein saw Israel's establishment in 1948 as the triumphant finale to an epic and horrendously costly quest.

As the U of T Press prepares a new edition of Klein's novel, which was first published in 1951, scholars are still of two minds about it. The story focuses on a Montreal journalist who wanders to Rome, Morocco and Israel in search of his uncle, Melech Davidson, a Holocaust survivor whose various peregrinations through secularism, existentialism, Bolshevism, renewed Judaism and Zionism seem in part archetypical of the Jewish people.

"It's not what comes to mind when you think of a novel, although it's in novel form," says Pollock. "Klein didn't have the gifts of a novelist. There are no great characters and situations. It's a poet's novel, better seen as an allegory and a quest."

Filled with allusions and images from the earlier scroll, *The Second Scroll* is a thorough testament to Klein's deep religious sensibility. It is also a relatively rare early attempt to deal with the Holocaust in fiction, says Norman Ravvin, a specialist in Holocaust fiction.

"It's definitely an early breakthrough treatment of the Holocaust in North American literature," Ravvin says. "He's writing about the fallout for Jews and the Holocaust long before other writers are willing to try it. He takes a religious tack, and I can't say that it satisfies me, but it's a model that writers have continued to be influenced by – connecting the catastrophe with a declaration of the state so there's a kind of triumphant completion to the awful events of the war."

Despite its peculiarities, many Canadian Jewish writers and readers profess a strong allegiance to *The Second Scroll* that borders on reverence. "If I was going to a desert island, for sure I'd take *The Second Scroll* with me," says Shel Krakofsky. "In fiction, it would be my number one choice."

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By Miriam Herman

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What's New and About People deadlines: Tuesday, May 19 is deadline for May 28 issue, and Monday, May 25, is deadline for June 4 issue. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 391-1836, fax 391-0829.

Thursday, May 14

LAG B'OMER

Lag b'Omer lunch celebration at Anshei Minsk Synagogue, 10 St. Andrew St., Kensington Market. **Rabbi Zelig Wolkenstein** speaks on The Torah Will Not Be Forgotten From Israel, the life mission of **Rabbi Shimon Bar Yochai**. Lunch 12:45-1:45 p.m., speaker 1:15-1:45 p.m., followed by Minchah. Suggested donation $10. 595-5723.

Saturday, May 16

AT BETH TZEDEC

Prof. Tirzah Meacham of the University of Toronto delivers the pulpit lecture, Priestesses and Other Extinct Species, at morning services, and a lecture during seudah-shlishit entitled Motherhood, Mixed Marriage and Mixed Seed.

CONSERVATIVE MINYAN

General Wingate Branch, Royal Canadian Legion, Federation of Jewish Brotherhoods traditional Conservative Minyan Shabbat services, 10 a.m. to noon, kiddush following at Sunnybrook Synagogue. **Hilda Harris,** 480-4421, ext. 3552.

Monday, May 18

CRAFT AND GIFT SALE

There's something for everyone at Na'amat's craft and gift sale, hourly draws, clowns, balloons, silent auction. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Bayview Village Mall (Sheppard and Bayview).

Tuesday, May 19

ISRAEL AT 50

First Narayever Congregation celebrates Israel at 50 with a panel discussion, Israel at 50: Politics, Civil Rights and Democracy with **Prof. Nora Gold**, a founder of the New Israel Fund; **Prof. David Novak**, chair of Jewish Studies, University of Toronto; and **Simon Rosenbloom**, co-chair, Canadian Friends of Peace Now.

Also, presentation of wall hanging created by Narayever members, and music by **Brian Katz** and **Jonno Lightstone**. 7:30 p.m., 187 Brunswick Ave. 927-0546.

THE JEWISH FAMILY

At New Fraternal Jewish Association meeting, **Prof. Ben Schlesinger** speaks on The Future of the Jewish Family in Canada As Well As the American Continent, 8 p.m., Lodzer Centre, 12 Heaton St. 661-1827.

FRIENDS OF YIDDISH

Friends of Yiddish annual meeting, 7:30 p.m., Workmen's Circle, 471 Lawrence Ave. W.

Wednesday, May 20

LUNCH AND LEARN

Holy Blossom Temple Lunch and Learn in Retirement group presents The Story of Le Chambon: The Courage of a Village in France During the Holocaust, with **Lillian Schacter**, member of the Holocaust Remembrance Committee of UJA Federation, at noon. Bring lunch and $1. Coffee, tea, cookies served.

ETHICS OF THE FATHERS

Beth Tzedec Congregation series with **Prof. Arnold Ages** continues with The Primacy of Torah Learning as the Unique Pathway to the Divine. 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, May 21

ROSENBERG LECTURE

Beth Tzedec Congregation Rabbi Stuart and Hadassa Rosenberg Endowed Memorial Lecture Series presents author **Avivah Gottlieb Zornberg** speaking on Encountering God in Unplanned Moments: Insights from the Book of Genesis, 7:45 p.m.

BOOK REVIEW

Shaar Shalom Sisterhood book review of *Stones from the River* by

[Cont'd on page 31]

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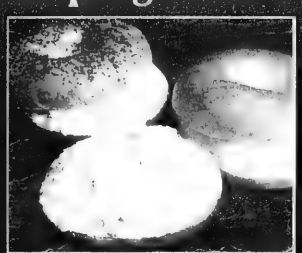

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What's New

[Cont'd from page 30]

Ursula Hegi led by **Dena Bain Taylor**, 8 p.m., 2 Simonston Blvd., Thornhill. $10. 905-881-9396.

And What Else Is New

SCHOLAR-IN-RESIDENCE

Temple Har Zion Scholar-in-Residence **Prof. Ellis Rivkin**, Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion in Cincinnati, Ohio, discusses The Oslo Peace Accords – What is Really Happening in the Israeli-Palestinian Agreement? at services Friday, May 15, 8:30 p.m., and The Meaning of Messiah in Jewish History – What Crucified Jesus the Jew? Sunday, May 17 at 10 a.m. following service and breakfast (9 a.m.). Sunday breakfast and program charge: members $4, non-members $12. 905-889-2252.

GRACE STREET REUNION

Sunday, May 24, 2-5 p.m., 317 Grace St. (Rebecca Gallery). Reservations not required. $10 at door. **Roslyn (Ezrin) Herst** 482-5026.

DANCE LIKE A BUTTERFLY

Temple Sinai Sisterhood presents *Dance Like a Butterfly*, a cameo production in one act focusing on aging with dignity, warmth and humor, starring **Lisa Hurd**, Thursday, May 28, 7:30 p.m. Introduction by author **Aviva Ravel**. $10. **Jean Glazer** 441-2297 or **Marilyn Jacobs** 488-5494 or **Dolores Abramson** 905-881-0080.

CHEDER CHABAD DINNER

Shmuel Zahavy Cheder Chabad dinner and draw, Wednesday, May 27, Sephardic Kehila Center, 7026 Bathurst St., Thornhill. Cocktails 6 p.m., dinner 7 p.m., draw 9 p.m. Musical entertainment by **Moshe Yess** and Nafshenu Orchestra. Each dinner ticket includes entry to draw for cash prizes. 663-1972.

COUPLES LODGE

Thornhill-Maven B'nai Brith Couples Lodge invites you to come for coffee and dessert, Saturday, May 23, 8 p.m. **Lori** 905-707-8850.

CALL A NEWCOMER

Do a mitzvah, make a friend, call a newcomer. The Telephone Language Companion (TLC) Program of the Community Integration Program (CIP), a service of Jewish Immigrant Aid Services of Toronto, is seeking volunteers to phone recently arrived immigrants from the former Soviet Union. Phoners are asked to make a commitment to telephone an assigned companion twice weekly for six months to help the immigrant develop telephone skills. **Luda Felik** 636-2316 or the CIP 636-1880, ext. 261.

BAYCREST SYNAGOGUE

Baycrest Terrace Synagogue weekday services, Shacharit 8:30 a.m., Minchah, Ma'ariv 7 p.m. Shabbat 9 a.m. preceded by Torah study with **Gershon Samonovitz**. Call **David** 256-1600.

PRENATAL CLASS

Bathurst Jewish Centre and Mount Sinai Hospital prenatal class begins May 20. Register 636-1880, ext. 229.

JUVENILE DIABETES WALK

Juvenile Diabetes Foundation Canada-Shoppers Walk for the Cure (10 km), Sunday, May 31, rain or shine, 10 a.m. (register 8:30-10:30 a.m.), Coronation Park (across from CNE Princes' Gate). Walk along the Martin Goodman Trail.

JF&CS GROUPS

Jewish Family & Child Service groups. **Mary** 638-7800, ext. 211.

Facing Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow: discuss how being a child of survivors has affected your relationship as a parent and as a partner, begins in May.

The Self-Confident Woman: discuss building self-esteem, assertive behavior to improving communication skills, begins May 26.

Successful Step-Parenting: building solid, complete relationship, developing strategies for dealing with step family life, begins May 26.

FIDDLER ON THE ROOF

Alexander Singers showcase *Fiddler on the Roof* at the Leah Polsuns Theatre May 14-24. Tickets $10-$18. 530-0910. Alexander Singers support Variety-The Children's Charity.

FOR SENIORS

Beth Tikvah Friendship Group celebrates Israel Night with **Ahuva** and her keyboard accompanist, and Israeli delicacies, Monday, May 25, 8 p.m. members $7, non-members $9. RSVP **Esther Nitkin** 905-886-5634.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). May 21 is bingo and games. **Aaron Dahary** 661-4689 or **Malka** 630-5771.

L'chaim, l'chaim, to life! For those young at heart, come, sing and dance with the **Bubies and Zaidies** every Wednesday, 1-3 p.m. at 3174 Bathurst St. No joining fees. **Fred** 633-2877.

LZA Seniors Club registration for *South Pacific* at Stage West June 17 and for *Man of La Mancha* at Stratford Sept. 10. **Libby** 782-2059 or **Belle** 633-5841 or Borochov office 630-9444. Ladies Folkdancing Thursdays 1:30 p.m. and Cultural Discussion Group Tuesdays 10 a.m. at Borochov Centre, 272 Codsell Ave. Centre is open for socializing Monday to Friday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: May27-29, Ottawa Tulip Festival and Thousand Islands; June 11, Casino Rama, members $10, non-members $15; July 13-19, Catskills; July 23, Casino Niagara, members $20, non-members $25; Sunday dance May 17, 7:30-10:30 p.m.; membership open $12. 395-7881.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club: Monday, May 25, 1 p.m., musical program marking Mother's Day and Israel's 50th birthday with musical comedy star **Jack Garson**; June 16, Oak Creek Boat Farm cruise, entertainment; July 14, Kingston cruise, entertainment; Aug. 19, cruise and musical *Little Shop of Horrors*; Oct. 27, *Man of La Mancha* at Stratford. **Lena** 785-5773. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel. Dorothy Bloomfield 787-1526.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. 225-2112.

Premiere of *Fears, Facts and Futures*, a play on elder abuse by the Awareness Project Players, Wednesday, May 20, 1:30 p.m. Vignettes by **Phyllis Lavine, Diana Mingail, Esther Nitkin.** Guest speakers **Prof. Ben Schlesinger** and social worker **Blanche Wiseman**.

Actor/singer **Howard Jerome** presents Dr. Possibilities Makes a House Call – The Healing Power of Laughter, Thursday, May 21, 1:15-2:15 p.m.

Israeli Club Etrog meets 7 p.m. Tuesdays for movies, sing-alongs, lectures, bingo, dances. May 19 is a lecture. **Anna**.

Movie, *The Bridges of Madison County*, Sunday, May 17, 2:30 p.m.

BLOOR JCC

Bloor Jewish Community Centre, 750 Spadina Ave. 924-6211.

Seniors Club visit to new CNIB office with tour and presentation by **Farida D'Endel**, seniors community liaison worker on CNIB services, low vision aids and devices to help cope with vision loss. Thursday, May 21, leaving Bloor JCC 2 p.m. **Judy**.

ABOUT PEOPLE

VOLUNTEER AWARD

Joan Kishner received a Volunteer Achievement Award for years of service to the Crohn's and Colitis Foundation of Canada, presented by **Hilary Weston**, lieutenant governor of Ontario, at a recent ceremony at Queen's Park. The awards, presented to 21 recipients, were sponsored by the Volunteer Centre of Metropolitan Toronto.

Joan Kishner

CANADA-ISRAEL CHILDREN'S CENTRES

Centro Grill and Wine Bar recently hosted a luncheon for the Canada-Israel Children's Peace Prize Recipients. Nineteen couples will receive bronze sculptures created by artist Al Green on Tuesday, June 2, at the Inn on the Park. Pictured from left are some of the honorees: Gilda Tanz, Milton Shier, Cecile Fisher, Alex Fisher, Gladys Fogler, Lloyd Fogler, Pauline Menkes, Murray Menkes, Budgie Freiberg, Joe Frieberg, Miriam Green, Harold Green.

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SINGLES EVENTS CAN BE FOUND ON PAGE 22

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U.S.-Israel talks characterized by acrimony

By MITCHELL DANOW
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

The Israeli-Palestinian peace process appears to hinge on Israeli-American negotiations.

And those negotiations lately seem to have some of the acrimony that for more than a year has characterized talks involving the Israelis and Palestinians.

In one sign of that acrimony, Israeli officials blamed American pressure for the collapse of a meeting on the peace process planned for this week in Washington.

During a series of meetings in London, U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright issued invitations to Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat to attend the meeting – but on condition that both sides accepted an American proposal to advance the deadlocked peace process.

With the Palestinians accepting the U.S. proposal, all eyes turned to Israel to see whether it, too, would acquiesce to the American ideas, which call on the Jewish state to redeploy from an additional 13 percent of the West Bank in exchange for Palestinian steps against terror.

But in the eyes of Israeli officials – and to a majority of the Israeli public, according to a poll – the invitation to Washington read like an ultimatum.

Netanyahu has repeatedly stated in recent days that he would not accept any dictates or conditions relating to the Washington meeting and that Israel alone would determine its security needs.

Netanyahu met with U.S. Middle East envoy Dennis Ross over last weekend in an effort to see if any last-minute language could be worked out to enable the Washington meeting to proceed.

But those discussions – or negotiations – broke down, and Ross called off the summit Sunday.

Ross did not speak to reporters before leaving for Washington, but other U.S. officials said he would consult with President Bill Clinton and Albright about the possibility of rescheduling the summit later this month.

While the summit has been scrubbed for now, Netanyahu was still planing to come to the United States later this week to address the annual gatherings of the American Jewish Committee and the American Israel Public Affairs Committee.

He is also scheduled to lead the annual Israel Day parade in New York, slated for May 17.

Meanwhile, Palestinian officials, who also met with Ross during the weekend, blamed Netanyahu for not accepting the American plan. They reiterated warnings of the violence that would ensue if the peace process collapsed entirely.

For months, the Palestinians have been calling on the United States to adopt a more active role in the peace process. And now, some Israeli officials are complaining that their American partners have changed from mediators into active negotiators.

Another source of Israeli anger were comments made last week by First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton advocating a Palestinian state.

"I think it will be in the long-term interests of the Middle East for Palestine to be a state," she said via a satellite link-up with Israeli and Arab teenagers meeting in Switzerland.

U.S. officials were quick to state that her remarks did not reflect a change in the Clinton administration's policy that statehood is a matter to be negotiated by the Israelis and Palestinians.

But given the fact that she spoke at some length on the subject, some observers felt that her comments were not accidental.

Netanyahu was reportedly incensed by the First Lady's remarks and protested them during a weekend meeting with Ross.

Netanyahu also reportedly complained during the meeting that the United States was portraying him as an obstacle to peace.

"It's impossible for you to invite me to Washington under such conditions. That's public humiliation," the premier told Ross, according to the Israeli daily *Ma'ariv*, which added that Netanyahu pounded his desk during the conversation.

Along with the First Lady's comments on Palestinian statehood, another development was likely to give some Israeli officials pause: Bill Clinton last week addressed a Washington gathering of the Arab American Institute, where he became the first sitting president to address an Arab American group.

Was this a signal sent from Washington in the face of what it views as Israeli intransigence?

If so, then Netanyahu and others in his government may have to start contemplating the price of a complete breakdown in negotiations with the United States.

Police numbers concern Israel

By EDGAR ASHER
CJN Israel Correspondent

JERUSALEM — New statistics showing a disturbing increase in the size of the Palestinian police were given to *The CJN* last week by David Bar-Illan, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's director of communication.

These most recent figures, which are shortly to be made public, are a continuation of the lists compiled by the Prime Minister's Office detailing the violations of the Oslo accords by the Palestinian Authority (PA).

The latest infringements are of great concern to Israel. The figures suggest that the PA is building up a massive militia, ostensibly called a police force, which could potentially be turned against Israel at very short notice.

The statistics, which were compiled from information supplied by the PA or other non-Israeli sources, underline the Netanyahu government's concern about the sincerity of the Palestinians' intention to make peace.

"There is a provision in the 1995 Interim Agreement, known as Oslo 2, that permits the Palestinians to deploy up to 24,000 policemen in Judea, Samaria and Gaza," said Bar-Illan. "In fact, the PA has deployed some 40,000 policemen, which exceeds the limit set in Oslo by 66 percent. We quote the figure of 40,000 because this was the figure used by PA Finance Minister Muhammad Nashashibi in March this year. However, we know for certain that the true figure is nearer to 50,000."

Even taking Nashashibi's figures, the Palestinian force is 60 percent larger than the 25,000-strong Israel police. In terms of the Palestinian population of 2.4 million, the Palestinian police represents one policeman for every 60 residents. By comparison, in Israel there is one policeman for every 236 residents.

"The figures have also to be looked at in the light of statistics published by Interpol, which compared the ratio of policemen per thousand residents in the PA, Israel and various European countries," said Bar-Illan. "For instance Switzerland has two policemen per thousand residents, Germany has 3.2, France has four, Israel 4.2 and Spain 4.5. One must wonder why the Palestinians need a veritable army of 16.7 policemen per thousand residents to maintain civilian law and order?"

Bar-Illan explained that the size of the Palestinian police force is another outward manifestation of the Palestinians' inability to move towards a genuine peace with Israel.

"It is the potential threat to our security that makes any redeployment a serious risk."

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Mofaz chosen as new IDF chief of staff

By ARIEH O'SULLIVAN
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai officially announced last Sunday that he has chosen Deputy Chief of General Staff Maj.-Gen. Shaul Mofaz over Maj.-Gen. Matan Vilna'i to be the 16th IDF chief of general staff (CGS).

The cabinet was expected to approve the appointment of Mofaz, 50, this week.

Vilna'i, 54, is expected to retire.

The announcement marks the culmination of a highly criticized and drawn-out decision process, which many officers and politicians have said harmed the position of chief of staff and humiliated the two candidates.

Mordechai's office issued a statement saying the decision is supported by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and would be brought before the cabinet for approval, in accordance with the Basic Law: The Army, 1976.

At Sunday's cabinet meeting, Mordechai expressed great respect and appreciation for both Mofaz and Vilna'i. Netanyahu said that both candidates are worthy of the position, either in times of peace or war.

"Maj.-Gen. Mofaz is an excellent soldier and commander. He impressed me with the judgment, thoroughness, seriousness and responsibility that he has brought to every post," Netanyahu said.

The prime minister, who reportedly had favored Vilna'i, noted that he has known Vilna'i for many years and that he is one of the IDF's best officers.

"He has been, and is, one of the most outstanding soldiers in Israel's history," said Netanyahu. "In such a situation, where there are two capable, responsible and honest candidates for the same position, the deciding consideration is the preference and desire of the defence minister to work with one of them."

Following the meeting, both Mofaz and Vilna'i were summoned to the Prime Minister's Office, where Mordechai informed them of his choice. He then informed Chief of General Staff Lt.-Gen. Amnon Shahak, who asked to relay the decision to the general staff. Mofaz will take over from Shahak on July 9.

The choice of Mofaz was a heavy blow to Vilna'i, who many believe to be the better qualified candidate. Looking dejected, Vilna'i left the Prime Minister's Office Sunday afternoon and bitterly told Israel Radio that the decision to appoint Mofaz was made "many months ago."

Deputy Defence Minister Silvan Shalom, while claiming Mordechai had toiled over the decision for a long time and only made his decision Sunday morning, also criticized the drawn-out decision-making period, saying it harmed the IDF and invited political pressures.

Netanyahu reportedly yielded to Mordechai's choice, since the latter insisted he prefers to work with Mofaz over Vilna'i, the defence minister's peer and rival throughout their military careers.

Mordechai reportedly said he chose Mofaz because he feels they could work better together. The defence minister has said he would explain his decision once the appointment is approved.

Even before he takes over, the CGS-designate will have the unusual opportunity to make three key appointments to the general staff. These are his deputy, OC Northern Command and most likely OC Intelligence. More than half the general staff is expected to shift tasks in the coming year. All these appointments need the approval of the defense minister.

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'REMOVE SYNAGOGUE FROM STATE'

Thousands of individuals gathered last week at Rabin Square in Tel Aviv to demonstrate on behalf of the separation of synagogue from state. They were objecting to religious coercion from the haredi establishment in the wake of a row betwen religious lawmakers and artists over a dance performance at the main event of Israel's Jubilee celebrations.

[RNS/Reuters]

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Liaison to Aussie families named

By GREER FAY CASHMAN
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Bezeq chairman Izzy Tapoohi will represent the government as the liaison with the Australian families of the victims of last year's Maccabiah Games bridge collapse.

Communications Minister Limor Livnat made this announcement during a meeting with the families in Sydney, Australia.

Livnat, who was accompanied by Tapoohi and by Labor MK Ofir Pines, said that both she and Pines would support a parliamentary inquiry into the disaster.

Stressing the public and moral responsibilities of Maccabiah officials, Livnat said that had she been in their position, she would have promptly resigned.

Livnat made it clear that any parliamentary commission would focus only on the moral issues and not on the legal ones.

Colin Elterman, father of teenage victim Sacha Elterman said the families were satisfied that there was finally going to be a Knesset inquiry.

"It's a moral issue, not a political issue," he reiterated several times in a telephone interview.

Sacha Elterman was visited by Livnat and Pines ; she will be undergoing her 17th operation for back and neck problems.

The families were pleased to be dealing with Tapoohi, who comes from Australia and is also close to the Israeli government, said Elterman.

He hopes to bring his daughter back to Israel in December, providing that she requires no further surgery.

Though bitter about the Maccabi World Union, which he termed "a rotten organization," Elterman said he has no axe to grind against Israel or Israelis.

The outpouring of Israeli concern for Sacha's welfare has been heartwarming, he said, and supportive faxes, letters and postcards continue to arrive.

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Israel & the Jewish World

Special training needed to master IDF's Merkava

By EDGAR ASHER
CJN Israel Correspondent

NEGEV DESERT — One of Israel's main tank training schools is located in the Negev Desert. Tomorrow's tank commanders come here for four months to learn how to manage the pride of Israel's armored corps, the Merkava tank.

The training ground is huge to allow the over 50-ton tank to move around and accurately pick off its practice targets, often more than a kilometre away.

When he has finished his course, the tank commander will not only have the responsibility for his crew, he will also have to be able to carry out any job on the tank in an emergency. Besides the commander, the crew consists of a driver, a gunnery officer and a combined communication and ammunitions officer.

The Merkava tanks used at the training school are manufactured and designed in Israel. The Merkava, which means chariot in English, is regarded by many experts as the finest all-round battle tank in the world, incorporating state-of-the-art technology to locate and lock onto its target, even if the target or the tank itself is on the move.

"The tanks we use here for training are the Merkava models 2B and 3B," says training school spokesperson Lieutenant Shai. "The configuration of the tank here is exactly the same as would be found in a battle situation; the only difference is a high-backed padded seat located behind the turret. This is where the instructor sits as the tank goes through its training routine."

The Merkava 1B was first used in the Israel Defence Force (IDF) in 1979. In 1982, the Merkava 2B entered service, and in 1990, the present 3B model with its 1,200 horse-power, U.S. manufactured, diesel engine was introduced. The tank has an automatic gearbox.

Shai speaks with obvious pride about the Merkava. "There was no doubt that in the early days there were shortcomings in the design and performance of the tank, but we learned quickly, particularly in Lebanon and the Yom Kippur War, and each new mark corrected the mistakes of the earlier model, as well as the mistakes in other makes of tanks.

"Today the tank fires 120-millimetre shells with extreme accuracy and improved fire power. Once a target has been acquired, the Merkava automatically holds on to its target even when the terrain is very undulating.

"The Merkava is one of the best armored tanks manufactured today. The potential weak spots in its armor have been effectively eliminated by experience gained in battle situations."

The latest Merkava incorporates a unique rear corridor, a second entrance at the rear of the tank that can be used to carry an injured soldier on a stretcher from a battle zone. Alternatively, an additional two or three soldiers can be taken on board near a confrontation zone to assist the tank's four-man crew in overcoming an enemy position.

"Today we are witnessing a basic exercise," explains Shai, as the rumble of three Merkava 2B tanks can be heard approaching in the distance. They cannot yet be seen; only billows of powdered sand give away the position of the advancing tanks.

Seen above is a Merkava 3B tank on a training exercise in the Negev. [Israel photo]

"This is the first time these soldiers have been on a tank in the field and this follows many months of intensive classroom training," Shai says. "Today the tank crews have to reach a designated objective using basic fire-power skills."

About a kilometre from the first exercise, three of the latest marks of Merkavas are lined up waiting for their crews. One tank lost a segment from its track and the crew are replacing the damaged section. Here technology cannot help too much; brute force is needed to drive the steel link pin into the newly placed track segment. Each crew member takes turns wielding a 5-kilogram, long-handled mallet, as the new pin is forced home and then secured. The crews taking part in this exercise have more experience than the first group.

Seated in front of an imaginary battle plan etched into the sand, complete with undulations and landmarks, the crews listen carefully to a briefing by their training officers. Each crew member knows exactly what is expected of him. Finally the crews are asked to stand while the instructor gives them specific safety instructions, particularly about the handling of explosives.

Today's IDF tank crews are motivated, serious young people who are aware of their responsibilities and show real pride in their jobs.

Summit still a go

[Cont'd. from pg. 1]

Jewish community leaders, members of Congress, and administration officials" during his U.S. visit. He also will attend ceremonies marking Israel's 50th anniversary, Bazak said.

On the eve of the final Netanyahu-Ross meeting, Egyptian Foreign Minister Amr Moussa said in Cairo that all sides "must consider their respective positions and adopt the requisite behavior because a regrettable and dangerous crisis is in the offing in the Middle East."

He contended that the ball is in the American court and credited Arafat with having exposed Israel's true position by having agreed to accept the American's initial invitation to a summit.

PA negotiator Saeb Erekat said the PA will reject all compromise proposals by Netanyahu that give the Palestinians less than that offered in the Clinton administration plan – 13.1 percent of the West Bank transferred to full PA control.

He said this includes Israeli suggestions of creating new areas of authority in the territories.

"We say that the United States has to take a firm stand," Erekat said. "Netanyahu has made it clear to all that he won't negotiate."

Erekat said U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright told Arafat in London last week that Washington will not change its bridging proposals.

He said the White House has not yet scheduled a new date for the planned Arafat-Clinton-Netanyahu summit. Instead, U.S. officials will consider their next step to revive the stalled peace process, he said.

At the same time, PA officials said they are concerned by what they termed Netanyahu's efforts to recruit Congress to prevent Clinton administration pressure on Israel. The officials said Arafat has criticized congressional support of Israel and attempts to stop the White House from advancing the peace process.

Meanwhile, settlement leaders threatened to topple the government if any further withdrawals from the West Bank take place, charging that Israel would be comprising national security if it bowed to U.S. pressure.

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Wobbling towards oblivion

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

With the Oslo peace process wobbling toward oblivion following the abject failure of British-sponsored talks in London two weeks ago, the United States played hardball last week.

Mideast Analysis

Attempting to coax Israel into making "hard decisions" concerning the further redeployment of its forces from the West Bank, the United States invited Israel and the Palestinian Authority (PA) to a summit in Washington on May 11 to launch permanent status negotiations on such contentious core matters as final borders, settlements, Palestinian refugees and the status of Jerusalem.

The PA accepted the invitation but Israel demurred. The Israeli government did not even discuss the issue at its weekly cabinet meeting on Sunday. Stymied by Israel's refusal, the United States extended the deadline by two weeks.

Israel had been given six days, or until May 10, to accept the American invitation on the basis of U.S. proposals euphemistically described as "ideas." But in reality, Israel has had a few months to grapple with the redeployment question.

In essence, the proposals – which draw on Israel's 1995 and 1997 interim agreements with the PA – call on Israel to make a phased 13 percent withdrawal from the West Bank over three months in exchange for additional Palestinian measures to combat terrorism. None of the projected three redeployments has been carried out so far.

Benjamin Netanyahu, Israel's prime minister, was neither keen about the deadline nor the suggested percentage. Beset by conflicting pressures from all sides, and claiming that Washington's unannounced plan would compromise Israel's security, he offered nine and perhaps 11 percent. All the while, his spokespersons argued that it was Israel's prerogative to determine the depth of the withdrawals.

Holding her ground in the face of Netanyahu's assertions not to bow to American "dictates," U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright delivered two bold messages. She declared that she would not "water down" the proposals, and she claimed that they do not jeopardize Israel's security.

And in a veiled threat that recalled previous American showdowns with Israel over territorial pullbacks, Albright said that the United States would have "to re-examine our approach to the peace process" if Netanyahu spurned the summit.

As the tension escalated, and as PA president Yasser Arafat watched the unfolding political drama from a distance, Israel and the United States engaged in a test of wills that is bound to intensify when Netanyahu goes to the United States this week to address Jewish organizations.

President Bill Clinton staunchly denies that he has presented Israel with an ultimatum and that he is trying to impose a diplomatic solution. In fact, Clinton was exerting none too subtle pressure on Netanyahu. Netanyahu has also come under pressure from American Vice-President Al Gore, U.S. special envoy Dennis Ross, U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs Martin Indyk, Jordan's King Hussein, Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, and European Union emissary Miguel Moratinos.

Netanyahu's claims that the American proposals are contrary to Israeli interests and do not stand up to scrutiny.

• With a 13 percent redeployment, Israel would be giving up some 40 percent of the West Bank, compared to the Palestinian demand of about 90 percent. The late Yitzhak Rabin was reportedly ready to relinquish 50 percent during the five-year interim period, which ends next May. At present, the PA is fully or partially in control of 27 percent.

• The American plan satisfies Netanyahu's desire to plunge into final status talks now rather than *after* the third redeployment. The Palestinians had insisted that the third withdrawal take place during the interim period.

• The phased redeployments are based on "reciprocity," and must be matched by concurrent PA measures to keep Hamas militants in check, to prevent incitement to violence and to fully amend the Palestinian national covenant.

Diva wins Eurovision

Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Israel won the Eurovision Song Contest Saturday night with the song *Diva* sung by Dana International, beating out the United Kingdom and Malta in a close contest that was decided by the vote of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

Israel scored 174 points to the UK's 167 and Malta's 166.

It was the third time that Israel has won the contest since it started competing in the event in 1973.

The two previous wins were in 1978 with the song *Abani-bi* sung by Yizhar Cohen, and 1979, when *Hallelujah*, sung by Gali Atari, took the top spot.

Diva lyrics were written by Yoav Ginai and the melody was composed by pop star Zvika Pik.

Following the win, Dana, waving an Israeli flag and wearing a feather-bedecked vest over her gown, sang an encore to the cheering crowd, and said: "I want to say thank you. See you next year in Israel."

The Week in Israel

May 4

• Roni Milo, the mayor of Tel Aviv, announced that he would run against Benjamin Netanyahu for the post of prime minister in the year 2000. Milo said he would quit the Likud party and run as part of a new centrist party.

May 5

• Prison officials refused to parole Mordechai Vanunu, saying his early release would harm the country's security. Vanunu has served 12 years of an 18-year sentence for disclosing nuclear secrets.

May 6

• A 28-year-old yeshivah student, Chaim Kerman, was stabbed to death in the Old City of Jerusalem while walking on the Via Dolorosa to early morning prayers at the Western Wall.

• A Palestinian who had stabbed and wounded a Jew was shot and killed by his intended victim near the community of Eli on the West Bank.

May 7

• Rehavam Ze'evi, the leader of the right-wing Moledet party announced that he was suspending talks with Netanyahu about joining the governing coalition.

May 8

• Finance Minister Ya'acov Ne'eman and U.S. officials agreed to move ahead with his proposal to phase out Israel's $1.2 billion in annual U.S. economic aid over the next 10 years. The plan also calls for adding $600 million to Israel's current $1.8 billion in annual U.S. military aid.

50 Years Ago

JERUSALEM *(May 4)* — A strong force of Arabs today launched a renewed attack on Kfar Etzion, the strongest of a chain of colonies in the Hebron Hills, south of Jerusalem. The force, composed chiefly of Arab Legionnaires reinforced by a company of Iraqi troops and local Arab guerrillas, opened fire at dawn. Late reports stated that the Jews have repulsed the Arabs, despite the fact that the raiders were supported by armored cars, field guns and heavy machine guns.

With files from JTA

Palestinian state in the making?

By GIL SEDAN
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — As Israel celebrated its 50th anniversary, Yasser Arafat vowed that in a year the Palestinians would celebrate their own independence.

The chairman of the Palestinian Authority reiterated publicly that on May 4, 1999, the state of Palestine would be proclaimed – with or without Israel's consent.

In response, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu reiterated his warning that if the Palestinians declared independence unilaterally, Israel, too, would take one-sided measures – a veiled threat that it would annex disputed territories in the West Bank.

Amid the rhetoric stands the reality that time is running out on the Oslo process. According to the Israeli-Palestinian accords, a permanent-status agreement is supposed to be finalized by next May. What happens after that date if no agreement is reached has been a matter of dispute.

According to the Palestinians, they have the legal right to declare independence when the Oslo timetable expires.

But an Israeli attorney who was a key figure in negotiating the Oslo accords disagrees. Yoel Singer, former legal adviser to the Israeli delegation in the peace negotiations, pointed out that the Palestinians were ignoring a clause that states that no party would unilaterally introduce changes in the status quo in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

Whether the Palestinians could and would declare an independent state without an agreement with Israel strikes emotions on both sides.

But at least one scholar said the question of Palestinian statehood is moot because the Palestine National Council had already declared independence in 1988.

"I don't see much of a difference between that declaration of independence, and a possible declaration next year, except for the fact that now they are here," said Barry Rubin, senior resident scholar at Bar-Ilan University's Begin/Sadat Centre for Strategic Studies.

Having established self-rule in most of the Gaza Strip and portions of the West Bank, a Palestinian state is, in fact, in the making. Even hard-liners in the Israeli cabinet, such as Ariel Sharon, believe that an independent Palestinian state is unavoidable.

The notion of a Palestinian state alongside the Jewish state strikes fear in the hearts of many Israelis, though an increasing number are resigned to accepting a such an entity. But, if it will happen, the Israeli government wants that to result from final status talks, which have not yet begun and, therefore, could continue beyond May 1999.

In the meantime, what the world's reaction to a unilateral declaration of independence might be is in doubt.

During a visit to Bonn last month, Arafat was told by German Foreign Minister Klaus Kinkel that a unilateral declaration of independence could make the situation "more and more critical."

Rubin said such a move could be a public relations disaster because the "government of Israel could blame Arafat for having walked away" from Oslo, and that, therefore, "Israel has absolutely no obligation toward the Palestinians."

To some Israeli and Palestinian observers, however, Arafat's repeated pronouncements on statehood amount to posturing in the course of peace negotiations.

"I do not believe that Arafat's declaration that he would take a unilateral step was serious," said Sa'id Zeidani, dean of the faculty of arts at Bir Zeit University in the West Bank. "Arafat knows that Israel's reaction will be hard. The very least it would do would be to put a siege on the new state and impose economic sanctions against it."

Yair Hirschfeld, of Haifa University's Department of Middle Eastern Studies, said a unilateral Palestinian declaration of independence could still be avoided.

"Much depends on the progress in the peace talks," said Hirschfeld, who was one of the key academic figures in talks that led to the first Oslo accord. "If there is sufficient progress, Arafat may extend the interim period for a year or two and refrain from taking provocative measures."

BODY LANGUAGE SPEAKS VOLUMES

Israel's Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu greets U.S. special envoy Dennis Ross before Ross' departure for Washington on May 10. Ross spent three days shuttling between Netanyahu and Yasser Arafat in difficult and tense negotiations. ***Please see related stories pages 1 and 33.*** **[RNS/Reuters photo]**

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The 401 Connection: Jewish Singles Registry Leads The Way In Toronto and Montreal

Are you single and still having trouble meeting other Jewish singles? If so, then it's time to take matters into your own hands and find out for yourself why the Jewish Singles Registry (JSR) has been responsible for bringing thousands of singles together. Dora Korzinstone founded the JSR in Montreal 12 years ago. Since then the concept has spread to many cities, including Toronto, where the JSR catapulted its way to be Toronto's largest Jewish dating service. "It's a fast, easy, and confidential way of meeting other Jewish singles", says Dora. Adds Rob Singer, the owner of the Toronto operation: "Both Montreal and Toronto operations are each averaging an engagement a month. It is still very exciting to get a phone call that a couple has decided to get married. When you really stop and think about it, they most probably would never have met each other if they hadn't joined the Jewish Singles Registry."

Indeed, the Registry's biggest asset is that the member decides who they would like to go out with. Detailed profiles including photographs, help the member choose whom they think they would be compatible with. Once a selection is made the Registry takes over and a phone call is made (usually that very same day) to invite the selected member in to see who wants to meet them. Registry staff are always on hand throughout the entire process to offer guidance, suggestions and feedback.

City Exchange

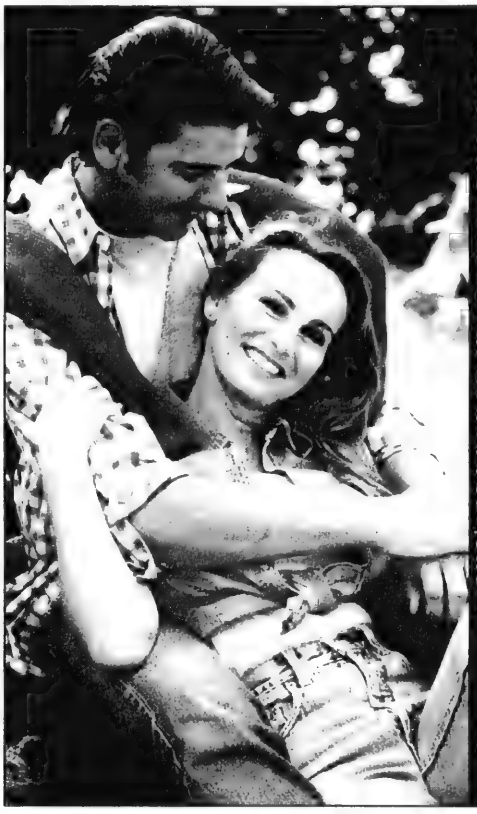
It takes less than an hour these days to travel between Montreal and Toronto. That is why many JSR members can take advantage of each other's large database of members. Already many relationships including marriages have developed between registrants of these two cities and that number continues to grow.

Jewish Continuity

While Jewish continuity remains a problem in today's society, decreasing the rate of intermarriage and assimilation is not an easy task. Nonetheless, the JSR continues to do its part. Each week, hundreds of phone numbers are exchanged and new relationships are established. The major challenge however, is to see that the Jewish community continues to grow in numbers. The JSR takes pride in the fact that over 100 children have been born to its alumni, thus increasing the Jewish population throughout Canada.

Contacting the JSR

If you want to meet other Jewish singles, it's not going to happen by itself. Here is your chance to take the initiative and do something about it. Contacting the JSR is as easy as picking up your phone and calling them right now. Both daytime and evening appointments are available. In Montreal call **(514)-937-2049.** The Toronto office can be reached by calling **(416)-483-4151** or e-mailing **jsreg@total.net.** A JSR web site can also be accessed at **www.total.net/~jsreg.**



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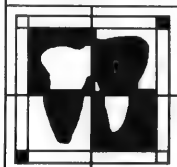

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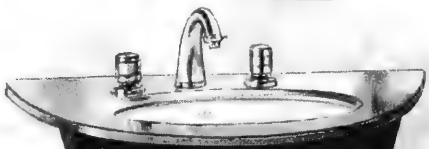

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Branson may get 60 beds for temporary chronic care

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — There is an excellent chance that Branson Division of North York General Hospital (NYGH) will get 60 temporary, long-term care beds, Murray McKenzie, NYGH president, told *The CJN*.

The 60 beds will be added to Branson's facilities under the Ontario goverment's plan to spend $225 million for 1,700 temporary beds to ease overcrowding in hospitals, McKenzie said.

They will be located in the new patient wing, utilizing space that is now mostly empty. Some offices will also be relocated to a different area of the hospital.

"We will respond to the government's offer immediately. We need those beds," he said.

The Branson Division will continue to offer all its present services for another 2½ or three years during the transition period, McKenzie told a press conference held to mark the official transfer of Branson to NYGH on May 1.

During the transition period, a 40-month lease negotiated between NYGH and Advent Health Services (representing Seventh Day Adventists) for some of the site's land and buildings will apply.

Hospital planning expansion

McKenzie said a new lease will be negotiated when Branson's acute care services are transferred to Humber River Regional Hospital and York Central, leaving Branson as an ambulatory care centre.

Branson's emergency department will remain closed at night because of the shortage of emergency room nurses, "but we would like to reopen it at night when possible, in a couple of phases, to alleviate the pressure on beds," he said.

Advent Health Care hopes to establish long-term care beds and services at Branson, under an Ontario government plan to build 20,000 new beds over eight years.

"We hope to have a role on this site," Keith Juriansz, Branson Division chair said. "Branson Hospital has served the comunity for over 40 years and there is some sadness that this tradition is coming to an end."

NYGH is planning a major expansion of services at its Leslie and Sheppard site, including improving facilities in emergency and adding four more operating rooms. It also hopes to add 40 beds in its senior residence nursing home under the government's plan.

NYGH also plans to become among the largest obstetrics sites in Canada, seeing 5,500 babies delivered a year compared to 4,000 during the transition period. It will expand its neo-natal intensive care unit, ambulatory care services and other areas.

About Nutrition

By LISA WEINBERG

Q. I am lactose intolerant and have been using soy milk as an alternative to real milk. I recently found out that the brand I have been using hardly contains any calcium. Is this the case with all soy milk?
A. Many brands of soy milk contain virtually no calcium. Fortunately, several brands have recently emerged on the Canadian market that do contain calcium; in many cases, the amount of calcium is equivalent to that in real milk. Make sure you read the labels carefully and you'll be able to benefit from all the calcium you need without the dairy.
Q. I love salmon but always have people telling me that it is a very fatty fish. Is this true?
A. Salmon does contain more fat than many other types of fish. It is important to remember that it is mostly unsaturated fat, which is the healthier fat, and that salmon still has less fat than beef. Three ounces of grilled or baked salmon contains 155 calories and seven grams of fat. Continue enjoying salmon; it is a low calorie, healthful choice.
Q. My family really likes kiwi fruit. I don't hear much about its nutritional benefits. Can you please fill me in?
A. Kiwi is not only delicious, it is nutritious too. Kiwis are very low in calories at only 46 calories in one medium sized kiwi. A kiwi contains no fat and a whopping 75 milligrams of vitamin C, which is more than 100 percent of your daily requirement for vitamin C. Kiwis are an excellent choice.

Lisa Weinberg is a registered dietitian/nutritionist, specializing in pediatric and adult nutrition in Toronto. If you have any nutrition questions, send them to The CJN.

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Health

Jewish doctors struggled to carry on during Holocaust

By DR. A. MARK CLARFIELD
Special to The CJN

Fifty-five years ago this year, the Warsaw Ghetto, "home" to that city's 400,000 Jews, was finally and utterly destroyed by the German army. For 30 months, the Jews had lived there and many had died there. In the end, almost all were sent to a terrible death, mainly in the Treblinka concentration camp.

Over the years, I have read much about the Holocaust and had considered myself, if not an expert, at least fairly well-read on the subject of my people's anguish during World War II. What I had not known much about, perhaps because it seems so oxymoronic, was the issue of medical care in the ghetto. And as a Jew and a physician in Israel, I still see daily in my Holocaust survivor patients echoes of those terrible years — the scars on both their bodies and on their psyches.

Review

The story begins with the health status of pre-war Poland's Jewish community, its medical services and the profession. Until I read Dr. Charles Roland's *Courage Under Siege – Starvation, Disease and Death in the Warsaw Ghetto* (Oxford University Press 1992), I had not realized the level of poverty of Poland's Jews during the inter-war years.

"During the 1930s, many of Poland's Jews were in dire need of aid," Roland writes. "In 1932, reports... indicated that nearly 100,000 Jewish families – a total of over 400,000 persons – were on the verge of starvation. This was almost one-third of all the Jews in Poland."

Thus it becomes clear that the health status of Warsaw's Jews, even before the arrival of the Nazis, left much to be desired.

The most heart-wrenching stories detail the fate of Warsaw's 100,000 children, almost all of whom died terribly as a result of the conditions in the ghetto, the horrors of the transports to the concentration camp, or if they made it that far, in the Nazi gas chambers.

Amazingly, however, there was an underground medical school in the ghetto, which despite the death and destruction all around, functioned at an incredibly high level for more than a year.

It is difficult to comprehend the Nazi mind as the stories unfold. On the one hand, the Nazis planned terror and brutality, and ensured that conditions would be so bad that death became an everyday event. On the other, the Germans did ensure the supply of enough food and other vital supplies to keep everyone from simply starving to death.

One explanation is found in the Germans' "need" for slave labor (à la *Shindler's List*). For example, after ridding another Polish town (Lublin) of all of its Jews, the Germans quickly changed course and decided that they had to open a large tailoring establishment in Warsaw, "undoubtedly another instance of the competition that went on regularly between those Germans who wanted every Jew killed immediately and those who saw the desperate need Germany faced for manpower and wanted to use Jewish labor."

The fact that Jewish doctors and nurses struggled on, trying desperately to help their patients despite the increasingly chaotic and impossible conditions is well documented. Anti-epidemic measures were taken, vaccination attempted (for example against typhoid fever), and operations performed. One cannot blame the medical personnel for hoping against hope that their efforts would be justified.

In retrospect, we can see all too clearly that their work was, in the end, almost totally futile. Roland concludes, "The discouraging evening struggles against hunger, contagious disease and injury consumed the residents of the ghetto every day of its existence. The professional services available to support them were grossly inadequate, hampered by lack of money and supplies, by obdurate rulers and by internal dissension. Definitive remedies were known but unavailable and forbidden. But the efforts went on. Medical practitioners labored, committees met, welfare agencies stretched their resources painfully thin; and nurses, pharmacists and others worked at their posts."

Sadly, the Germans had ample help from many of the surrounding Poles. With a few notable exceptions, Warsaw's non-Jewish population was at best indifferent to the fate of the ghetto's inhabitants. At worst, they actively and enthusiastically collaborated with the Nazis.

For example, the high officials in the electric company threatened to cut off power to the Jewish hospital because (hardly a surprise) its payments were in arrears. A surgeon requested five minutes of electricity in order to finish an operation. "The response was reported to be, 'It doesn't matter. So there'll be one less Jew.'" And, Roland adds, "the power was turned off."

The book includes instances of unbelievable cruelty and presents images too terrible to contemplate. For example, deportations to the death camps are described where the Gestapo forced hospital staff to carry immobile patients down to the street.

"Those who could walk were ordered to go out to the street immediately without being given time to dress. About 400 patients were taken to the Umschlagplatz [transfer point] and to Treblinka, any who could not leave their beds being shot there. The Nazis then set fire to the building."

Apart from murder, the three most common causes of death in the ghetto were starvation, typhus and tuberculosis. It is difficult to distinguish when the death from disease was a result of the effects of chronic starvation on the ability of the ghetto's inmates (none too healthy even before the war) to resist infection. The story of typhus, the scourge of the ghetto, is particularly riveting. The terrible irony is that this disease did not simply result from the deteriorating conditions or even from the Nazis' perverse wish to have as many Jews as possible die from it. Rather, the opposite was the case. The German authorities actually tried to stop the spread of this dread disease among the Jews for fear that they would contaminate the Poles, who would in turn pass on the infection to the occupying German forces.

The problem was that the Nazi public health authorities had a totally wrong-headed approach to the epidemiology of the disease and were of course unwilling to be corrected by Jewish physicians in the ghetto, one of whom was a world renowned expert in the field. Tragically, for the one time that the Germans wanted to reduce the incidence of disease among the Jews, their intellectual arrogance and their resulting inappropriate approach served only to make matters worse – for Jew, Pole and German alike.

The Germans allowed the ghetto medical school to be set up because it was labelled Sanitary Courses for Fighting Epidemics. A building was found, courses were given in the evenings and tuition was charged. As the school had to be financially self-sufficient, the monthly fee was 60 zloty (approximately $15), although those that could not afford this paid less, on a sliding scale.

Given the excellent academic qualifications of the Jewish physicians incarcerated in the ghetto, the quality of the teaching was high. In fact, a few students survived, and after the war, their underground studies were recognized and academic credit was given at various medical schools.

Why did I force myself to learn more about this terrible story? As a Jew and as an Israeli doctor, I feel that that I must know how easily our profession was perverted in its German and Polish branches, and how, in the end, medicine is essentially helpless to save lives and relieve suffering when the most elementary conditions for its practice cannot be met.

The story describes the bravery of the Jewish health care workers who suffered along with their patients and at the same time attempted with such determination and in the end so futilely to treat them.

Clarfield, previously chief of geriatrics at the, Sir Mortimer B. Davis-Jewish General Hospital, McGill University, Montreal, now practices at the Sarah Herzog Hospital in Jerusalem.

Baycrest rehab unit to stay open

TORONTO — The 32-bed rehabilitation unit has been restored to Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care.

In a reversal of its previous decision, the Health Services Restructuring Commission (HSRC) has given Baycrest the right to operate the unit. The original decision raised the fear of layoffs among the staff.

The rehab ward is a limited stay unit for patients requiring therapy as a result of musculoskeletal or neurological conditions such as stroke and hip fracture. The goal is to assist the patient to return to living in the community as independently as possible.

Last July, the HSRC had recommended that Baycrest close its rehab unit and transfer the beds to West Park Hospital. Baycrest responded by making submissions that stressed the importance of maintaining the rehab unit at its hospital.

In its final report on rehabilitation services in Toronto, the HSRC noted that rehabilitation is integrated with a broad range of programs at Baycrest.

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Travel, Arts & Business

Israel opening its doors to investment: Ne'eman

By JAMES PASTERNAK
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — The Canadian business community, operating under a free trade environment, has enormous investment opportunities in the expanding and increasingly deregulated Israeli economy, says Israeli Minister of Finance Ya'akov Ne'eman.

"We are doing our utmost to lift any barriers whatsoever on Canadian companies coming to Israel. Canadian company exports to Israel have increased 55.8 percent during the first year of the [Canada-Israel] trade agreement. It shows you that the road to Israel is open," says Ne'eman.

Speaking to a small group of reporters during his private trip to Toronto, Ne'eman painted a rosy picture of an increasingly deregulated Israeli economy open to foreign joint ventures, investment and commerce.

Ne'eman, who served as a member of the board of governors of the Bank of Israel, adds that countries cannot have strong economies "unless [they] have open borders. And we in Israel do have open borders. Under the free trade agreement, I see no limitation for Canadian companies coming to Israel or Israeli companies coming to Canada. Don't forget, the major investments in Israel in recent years were made by Canadians."

The current Israeli government is accelerating a deregulation and privatization process that commenced in the 1980s but only now is moving into full gear. Sectors such as banking, electrical utilities, telecommunications and financial markets have been deregulated and/or privatized.

"The worst managers of business are government officials," says Ne'eman.

He hopes to see the privatization of the remaining two banks in Israel that are owned by the government. There is also a move to further privatize Israeli airlines El Al and the aircraft industry, and to enhance competition in local public transit. Foreign currency restrictions have been eased so that Israelis can now hold foreign bank accounts.

The main engine for the Israeli economy is its rapidly growing high-technology, knowledge-based sector that is resulting in the development of new products and the building of new plants and research and development facilities. Associated Press has called Israel "a world Internet superpower," and the country's workforce has more scientists and engineers per capita than any other country.

"We are a high-tech economy. Israel has more high-tech startups than any other country in the world except the United States. We have today close to 3,000 startups in high-tech, many of them joint ventures with foreign countries," says Ne'eman.

The darker side of a less regulated economy is higher unemployment, Ne'eman says, and he sees this as the main problem in the economy. For example, while deregulation of the telephone industry resulted in an overnight 80 percent drop in prices to consumers, many workers lost their jobs. The current unemployment rate is 8.3 percent.

"In a country that encourages immigration, it's a high rate," says Ne'eman.

In tackling unemployment, the Israeli government is launching a series of infrastructure programs. Recently, it announced 70 infrastructure projects that will create jobs, encourage investment and result in more effective traffic flow.

Also under consideration is the railroad from Jerusalem to Tel Aviv. Currently it takes more than two hours to drive the 60 kilometres between Jerusalem and Tel Aviv.

A Canadian-led consortium has recently been awarded the contract to build the Cross-Israel Highway, one of Israel's largest infrastructure projects ever.

But Canadian companies are not alone in the bidding. Japanese and European companies are also looking to profit from Israel's emerging economy.

The Palestinian Authority regions are also likely to prosper under free trade, Ne'eman says. If there is economic integration between Israel, the Palestinians and neighboring countries, he adds, peace will be a "durable peace, because this would be a deterrent of any hostilities, terrorist actions or wars.

"It's my belief that we should concentrate – and here Canadian companies can be very helpful, like other western countries – to include the economy of the Palestinians and neighboring countries."

On linking economic prosperity and peace, Ne'eman presents what he calls his triangle theory.

"The best [situation] for economics and peace is for an Israeli company to develop a product, but it should be produced in the Palestinian Authority, Jordan or Egypt, where labor costs are much lower, and the distribution and marketing should be done by a multinational corporation. This definitely would encourage the peace process. That's my personal belief."

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Violinist helped form Israel's music culture

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Hungarian-born violinist Lorand Fenyves, a world-renowned violin teacher based in Toronto and a former concertmaster of the Israeli Philharmonic Orchestra (IPO), played a formative role in shaping the music culture of the State of Israel.

"I am one of the seeds out of which Israel's musical culture grew. I am proud of that," Fenyves, 80, said in a recent interview at his art-filled home in Cedarvale.

Fenyves, who has made Canada his home for the last 32 years, was recently honored by the Royal Conservatory of Music for his contribution as a teacher. He was the featured artist at the Celebrating Lifetimes of Music evening, an annual concert series presented by the conservatory.

This concert happened to fall on his 80th birthday, he said.

At the ceremony that evening, a representative of the Hungarian government also bestowed upon Fenyves a medal for a lifetime of musical achievement.

He expressed some ambivalence about this recognition from Hungary, the country he left – he did not return for 50 years – to escape anti-Semitism.

He made aliyah in 1936, joined the fledgling Palestine Orchestra (today known as the IPO) and co-founded both the Tel Aviv Conservatory and Academy of Music and the Palestine String Quartet (later the Israel String Quartet).

The co-founder of the Tel Aviv Conservatory and Academy of Music was his sister Alice, an accomplished violinist. The two had made aliyah together.

Fenyves characterized the spirit of the chalutzim as a time of complete selflessness. "The me generation didn't exist. It was natural to give. That's why you were there."

He also recounted in vivid detail one of the most emotional performances of his chalutzim years: playing Hatikvah after David Ben-Gurion announced the establishment of the State of Israel in 1948.

The orchestra was on the podium with Ben-Gurion when he made the historic declaration of statehood, Fenyves said. "It was a great moment. [But] the great joy was interrupted by the invasion of the Arabs."

He recalled dozens of concerts in perilous venues during World War II and the War of Independence. He also pointed to a commemorative picture of the Palestine Orchestra playing a concert in the desert as a send-off for the Jewish Brigade, which in 1944 was authorized by the English to join the Allies in combat.

Violinists from around the world

[Cont'd. on page 44]

Lorand Fenyves

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD ANSWERS

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Kash character key in End of Civilization

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Can you picture a cop who shoots up cocaine, has a passion for prostitutes and ends up his investigation on one case in his underwear?

That's the character (Donny) that Daniel Kash is playing in *The End of Civilization* (at Factory Theatre April 24 to May 31). Whether Donny and his partner cop Max will do even crazier things in this sequel to *Adult Entertainment* is a secret that Kash is keeping to himself.

"All I know is that George Walker, the writer and director, is a person who believes in giving actors a chance to do their own thing, he's a master at in-your-face comedy, and the *End of Civilization* is a very funny play."

Kash, the "mid-30s" son of singer Maureen Forrester and musician Eugene Kash, was born and brought up in Montreal, but he now travels so much that he considers his home is "on the road." He went to drama school in England, worked there for eight years and also spent two years in New York. In Canada, he's had starring roles in theatre (Stratford Festival and Canadian Stage among them), film and TV.

"I'm a practising Jew and my heritage is an important influence in my work," he said.

His favorite roles were as Stanley in *Streetcar Named Desire* and as the Duke in *Rigoletto* directed by Brian Richmond at Threatre Passe Muraille.

It will be Kash's first role in Walker's Suburban Motel series, the first three plays of which were a smash success at Factory last fall. *End of Civilizaion* is the first of the new three this season that include *Featuring Loretta* (May 7 to June 21) and *Risk Everything* (June 11 to July 26).

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Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

GUITAR-FLUTE DUO RELEASES NEW CD

Ivan Zilman, a Montreal-born composer-guitarist who teaches privately in the Beach area of Toronto, has just released a CD of flute and guitar with his musical partner, **Margot Rydall**, a teacher at Toronto's Royal Conservatory of Music.

Together known as **Duo**, Zilman and Rydall play a refreshing mix of classical and contemporary-jazz. Judging by the selections on this CD, their taste in music is as impeccable as their playing. Duo treats listeners to well-chosen pieces by **Frescobaldi**, **Debussy**, **Ravel**, **Bartok** as well as **Richard Rodgers** and jazz composers **Thelonious Monk** and **Billy Strayhorn**.

The pair also deliver a poignant arrangement of John Williams' Theme from *Schindler's List*. After seeing the film, Rydall was "profoundly affected by it and felt she wanted to do something musical to stand as a memorial or tribute," Zilman says. At Rydall's urging, he composed the arrangement for flute and guitar, which hadn't existed previously.

With this CD, Zilman and Rydall aptly demonstrate that all one needs is a high level of musicianship to set a lovely musical mood. Platoons of strings, horns and percussionists, or a magic bag of studio tricks, aren't required. Duo's CD is available in record stores in and around Toronto.

* * *

Toronto Depression Comedy: Ryerson's Act II Studio presents a dramatic comedy about Toronto in the 1930s. *The Dreamers*, by **Irving Hoffman**, focuses on the Gordons, struggling with no work and few prospects, and barely able to cover the rent for their cramped Clinton Street apartment. *The Dreamers* "is a warm-hearted and humorous look at a Jewish family's efforts to survive the Great Depression without sacrificing its dreams." June 4 to 14, Robert Gill Theatre, 214 College St. Adults $15, June 5 gala, $25. 978-7986.

* * *

Photographs of Israel: Marking the 50th anniversary of Israel, Toronto-based photographer **Ethan Eisenberg** brings the exhibit Holy-Land: Scenes from the Time of the Peace Process, 1994-1997 to the photo passage of York Quay Centre at Harbourfront. Eisenberg's large black-and-white photographs portray bleak scenes from the years following the Arafat-Rabin accord. To July 19.

* * *

Comedy at Leah Posluns: *As Funny As It Gets*, an evening of comedy "featuring Jewish comics even your mother will love," comes to the Leah Posluns Theatre, North York, Tues. May 26, 7:30 p.m. Laughs are courtesy of **Les Aaron**, **Stewart Silver**, **Greg Eckler**, **Steve Brinder** and **Lou Eisen**. Reception to follow. $20 in advance, $25 at the door. All proceeds to support Alzheimer's research. 256-4222.

* * *

Arts Briefs:

• The **Yorkminstrels Show Choir** presents *Stage by Stage*, two hours of the best of musical theatre, at the George Weston Recital Hall, Ford Centre, June 10. $18. 214-6162.

• **Baroque Music Beside the Grange** presents chamber music works by **Telemann**, **Fasch**, **Vivaldi** and other 18th-century masters. May 16, 8 p.m. Church of St. George the Martyr, 205 John St., Toronto. Adults $17. 588-4301.

• The 14th annual Tarragon Spring Arts Fair is a free and multifaceted festival of the performing arts, May 16 and 17, 12 to 6 p.m. 30 Bridgman Ave., Toronto.

• Brisk ticket sales have encouraged the Alexander Singers to add an extra performance of *Fiddler On The Roof*, May 14 to 24 at the Leah Posluns Theatre. $18-$10. 530-0910.

• The eighth annual Lesbian and Gay Film and Video Festival includes a showing of the 54-minute film *Treyf*, in which Jewish lesbians explore the themes of family, tradition and misfit lifestyles. The festival runs May 21 to 31 at Lumiere/Cumberland Cinemas, Yorkville.

• The **Ambulo Company**, an Israeli theatre troupe, uses light, shadow, puppetry and music in *A Touch of Light*, which tells the inspiring story of Louis Braille, inventor of the Braille alphabet. Part of the Milk International Children's Festival of the Arts at Harbourfront. The festival runs May 24 to 31. 973-4600.

Violinist stays busy

[Cont'd. from page 43]

have studied with Fenyves, who left Israel to spend nine years in Geneva as concertmaster of L'Orchestre de la Suisse Romande and as a teacher at the Geneva Conservatory, before settling in Canada with his family in 1965.

In 1964, he accepted an invitation to teach at the Jeunesses Musicales summer camp at Mt. Orford in Quebec's Eastern Townships. He played an instrumental role in establishing the acclaimed Mt. Orford String Quartet, which was later based at the University of Toronto's Faculty of Music. In 1965, Fenyves joined the music faculty to coach the quartet.

Although he officially retired in 1983, Fenyves maintains a hectic schedule. He continues to teach at U of T, as well as at the Glen Gould Professional School of the Royal Conservatory of Music and the University of Western Ontario.

During school breaks, he travels to Europe, where England and Hungary are annual destinations, to perform concerts and give master classes.

He and his wife Vera also visit Israel yearly to see their daughter Thalia and three grandchildren in Tel Aviv. Their older daughter, Daphna, a physician, lives in Montreal.

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Life after Auschwitz

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

Is there life after Auschwitz? That's the central question at the core of *The Truce*, a film based on the experiences of a soulful Italian Holocaust survivor.

The resilient survivor is none other than Primo Levi, the acclaimed Jewish writer who turned his wartime diary into a 1963 novel which inspired this movie, due to open in Toronto on May 15.

Levi, a chemist born in Turin in 1919, joined the partisans after German troops occupied the north and center of Italy. This occurred following the collapse of Benito Mussolini's fascist government in 1943.

In December of that year, Levi was interned in an Italian concentration camp, and two months later, was shipped straight to Auschwitz.

Liberated by the Red Army in January 1945, Levi was sent to a Soviet resettlement camp in Poland before being set free. For the next four months, he and a group of Italian deportees wandered around war-ravished Europe before reaching Italy.

Safely back home, Levi, bearing witness to the horrors he had seen, began to write. His first published work was a memoir, *If This is a Man*. Settling into a job as a chemist in a paint factory, Levi continued writing, winning plaudits for novels such as *Natural Histories*, *Periodic Table* and *If Not Now, Then When?*

On April 11, 1987, he committed suicide, never having come to grips with an obsessive conundrum. As he wrote: "Auschwitz exists, therefore God cannot. I can find no solution to that dilemma. I search for one, to no avail."

The Truce, directed by Francesco Rosi, unfolds over a nine month period from Levi's sudden liberation to his rapturous homecoming in October 1945.

It's a sombre, though uplifting, film which keeps faith with the interrelated themes of Levi's novel, the process of reawakening and the reacquisition of hope.

Shot in Ukraine under reportedly difficult conditions, *The Truce*, starring the supple American actor John Turturro as Levi, focuses on his transition from the maw of death to the portal of life.

As Levi and his companions wend their way by foot and by train through the Soviet Union, Poland, Romania, Hungary and Austria, they rediscover the simple yet profound pleasures of ordinary human existence.

Triumphing over cold, hunger, disease and idleness, Levi learns yet again to appreciate the things he may have taken for granted before his ordeal: the value of friendship, including female company; the satisfaction of a decent meal; the meaning of peace and tranquility; the allure of nature; and the sound of a felicitous passage in a musical composition.

In an understated but compelling performance, Turturro and a strong supporting cast bring these rediscoveries into sharp relief against the backdrop of flashbacks from the soul-crushing purgatory of Auschwitz.

Reawakening from his dormant, bug-eyed state, Levi finds his bearings in, among other places, a makeshift dance hall where spiritually scarred men and women dance cheek to cheek to Irving Berlin's soothing music, and in a springtime forest where shafts of light illuminate him from head to toe.

In terms of tone, spirit and looks, *The Truce* is the antithesis of a typical American studio film. I suspect that Levi would have liked it.

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Gala concert honors lost composers

TORONTO — A gala reception sponsored by New Music Concerts on May 20 at George Weston Recital Hall, Ford Centre for the Arts will honor Jewish composers whose lives were cut short by the Holocaust.

Anne Michaels, author of *Fugitive Pieces*, and other musicians and artists will gather to pay tribute to the composers: Erwin Schullhoff, Leo Smit and Laszlo Weiner.

The pieces were all composed before the composers were arrested by the Nazis.

Schulloff was born in Prague and served in the German army in World War 1. In 1941, he was arrested and deported to a camp in Bavaria where he died in 1942.

Smit was born in Amsterdam and studied piano and composition at the conservatory there. He completed his last work in 1943 before he perished in Auschwitz.

Weiner was born in Hungary and entered the Franz Liszt Academy of Music in Budapest. He was shot in 1944 in a labor camp in Csepreg.

For gala reservations ($150–includes prime seats and an autographed copy of *Fugitive Pieces*) call 416-961-9594. Regular tickets are $27, $31 and $40. Call TicketMaster 416-872-2222.

Laszlo Weiner

Centre Spotlight

As usual, each third Saturday of the month, Gloria Valentine hosts Centre Spotlight, a showcase for Yiddish Performance.

This month, the evening features MC David Abramowitz, Yiddish performer; singers Naomi Bell, Isabel Fryszber , Ben Stein and Miriam Eskin; pianist Paul Mathew and the Candlelight Violins; and actor/playwright Irving Hoffman performing original works with actress Harriet Sherman.

May 16, 8:30 p.m. at the Winchevsky Centre (585 Cranbrooke Ave.,) 416-638-2222.

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CENTURY 21 SMITH LTD. BROKER

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SHEPPARD ALLEN RD.
2 storey, 3 bdrm., library, sep. liv. & din., 2 bths., fin. bsmnt., garage, 50'x150' lot, steps to everything.

• • •

BLUE FOREST AREA
Greatly reduced! 4 bdrm., 4 bths., den, fam. rm., huge liv. & din., kit., w/out to balc., fin. bsmnt., w/out to beautiful ravine lot, don't miss!

• • •

BATHURST WILSON TRI-PLEX
2-3 bdrm. + 1-1 bdrm., w/out to balcs., garages + pkg., good income.

• • •

WILMINGTON OVERBROOK
5 bdrm. + den, L-shape liv. & din., fin. bsmnt. Ideal for large fam., steps to schools, shopping, TTC.

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A. & D. SEIDMAN 633-7373

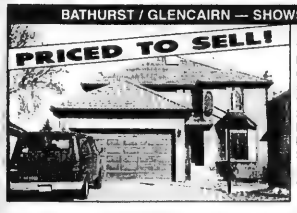
"WE OPEN DOORS FOR YOU"

DAVID EICHORN REALTY LIMITED
787-1712

BATHURST / PRUE — RENOVATED + DECORATED!

3 + 1 bdrm. ranch bung., family room, huge rec. room, w/o to yard, modern eat-in kit., renovated bathrooms, hardwood floors SOLD in a prestigious location! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / GLENCAIRN — SHOWS A 10++



Builder's own custom-built exec. home, loaded with upgrades, Marlee roof, marble entry, fireplaces, approx. 3,000 sq. ft. + beautifully fin. bsmt., only $589,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / LAWRENCE — SPACIOUS 3 BDRM. BUNGALOW!
On gorgeous 55 x 132 ft. lot, gleaming hardwood floors, thermopane windows, sep. entry to in-law suite. Asking $289,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / LAWRENCE — EXCLUSIVE
3 bdrm. bung. on 50 ft. lot, east side of Bathurst, sep. entry to in-law suite, only $339,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

BATHURST / YORK DOWNS
Spacious family home! 4 bdrms., library, family room, open concept, fam. size kitchen, only $359,000. ACT NOW! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

BATHURST / GLENCAIRN
Cozy bungalow on 33 x 132 ft. building lot, only $229,000. ACT NOW! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

BATHURST / LAWRENCE — SPACIOUS EXECUTIVE HOME
Exciting value in an ultraconvenient location! App. 3,000 sq. ft., 3-years-new, custom-built. Shows to perfection — gleaming hardwood floors, main floor laundry, family room, library. Only $499,000! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / GLENCAIRN — ONE OF A KIND
Unique offering! "Schultz" architectural gem, 5 bedrooms, 4 baths, granite + hardwood floors, crown mouldings, approx. 3,400 sq. ft. of luxury, dream maple kitchen, $699,000. Call Richard Cash (416) 787-1712.

• • •

BATHURST / LAWRENCE — REDUCED TO SELL!
Lots of home — low price! 4 bdrms., main floor family room, library, modern eat-in kit., sep. entry to in-law suite — shows well! Only $369,000. Call Michael Klugman NOW at (416) 787-1712.

• • •

CLANTON PARK AREA
Renovated + decorated, stunning 3 bedroom on 70 x 115 ft. lot (irr.), gleaming hardwood floors, thermopane windows, newer furnace and A/C, only $269,000! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

SHORT TERM RENTAL
3,000 Bathurst condo available. 2 bdrms. + den, spacious 1,450 sq. ft. unit. Call for details! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

REAL ESTATE Section

5 HOUSES FOR SALE

COLDWELL BANKER

PINNACLE REAL ESTATE (905) 707-8001

Mollie Rothman
"By Referral Only"™

Are you thinking of Selling or Buying a home? Call me for a Free Consultation.

Your referrals are appreciated!

BATHURST / CENTRE
Detached 6 + 2 bdrms., about 3400 sq. ft. with income bsmt., Passover kit. and huge built-in Sukka. This and many more great features, only $459,000!

BATHURST / CENTRE — JUST LISTED!
Gorgeous 2 storey detached, 3 large bdrms., main floor fam. room, fin. bsmt. with nanny's quarters + 3 pc. washroom, central air + vac., auto. double garage, hardwood floors, treed + landscaped lot, next to park, synagogue, schools, only $279,900!

BATHURST / CENTRE — JUST LISTED!
Beautiful freehold townhome, over 1,600 sq. ft., loaded w/upgrades, access from garage to home, fin. bsmt., two fireplaces, only $257,900!

Call **YOSSI ADOUT or JOZSEF KERTESZ, Sales Reps.,** Sutton Group Admiral Realty, **739-7200**

BATHURST S. OF WILSON
Unique 4000 sq. ft. + original owner, oversized rms , $649K.

RICHMOND HILL
Just listed! 4200 sq. ft., fin. bsmt., 70' lot, gorgeous!! $538K

RICHMOND HILL
Heritage estates. 2900 sq. ft. + lg. lot, fam. rm. + den, motivated vendor! $359K.

GABBY GOLDRING UNGERMAN ASSOCIATES (905) 731-7111

YORK MILLS/BAYVIEW
Elegant stone residence. Large principal rms., mn. fl. family, cook's kit. o/l south garden, 4+2 bed., 5 bath. $1,299,000.

ISABEL BEVERIDGE 489-2121
Royal LePage R.E. Services Ltd. Johnston & Daniel Division

10 HOUSES FOR SALE PRIVATE

Thornhill, Bathurst/Clark - 4 bdrm., 4 bths., fin. bsmnt., walk to Shuls. Call 905-886-9579.

18 FURNISHED HOUSES FOR RENT

Furn. family home near schools, 5 bdrm., 2 1/2 bth., bright eat-in kit., 5 appl., lge. fenced garden, fin. bsmt., ideally situated, 404/401/DVP, quiet well established tree-line street, opposite park. Avail. mid August, 1 or 2 year lease, $2250/mo.+ 416-490-0755 eves

30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE

Bath./Centre - 2 bdr., 2 bth., sun rm., uprg., 1250 sq. ft., no agents. $164,900. Must sell! 905-763-1992.

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

BATHURST WILSON

CONVENIENT NORTH YORK LOCATION

NEWLY DECORATED SPACIOUS 1, 2 & 3 BDRMS.
- Large balconies
- Central air conditioning and heating
- Hardwood Floors
- Sunken living rooms
- Surveillance cameras and card access system
- Outdoor swimming pool
- Close to conveniences and TTC
- Underground parking available

125 Neptune Dr. (416) 787-7171

BATHURST-SHEPPARD
Very lg. 1, 2, 3 Bedrms., ample closets, some 1½ baths & 2 balc., roof, laundry, ravine setting, pool, ind. pkg., 6 apts. per flr. From $850.
960-3238 - Bus. 631-9377 or 631-0388 - Super

1 bdrm. in triplex, 1 pkg., Bathurst Manor. 416-638-7133.

Bath./Lawrence, 2 bdrm., close to shul, near TTC, well kept. 787-4487. 8-11 a.m. or evening

80 SHORT TERM RENTAL

Finch/Bath. - Room avail. in fully furn. townhouse. All amen. incl. Call Stephanie, 630-9001.

30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE

The SKYMARK *Specialist*
DON MILLS & FINCH (TORONTO)
For the latest information about the Skymark development, and about our new inventory of choices from 2 bedroom to a huge unique penthouse.
Call Santee Leung, F.R.I., 822-4003 cellphone direct.
Santee Realty Inc.
(416) **441-2003** (24 hrs.)

Century 21
Heritage Group Ltd.

BATHURST/FINCH
Price slashed! $77,777. 1 bdrm. condo, low rise bldg., low maint., carries like rent. Owner says "sell"!

SKYRISE LUXURY
Yonge & Clark. 1645 sq. ft., 2 bdrm. + sol., lg. liv./din., eat-in kit., w/wkt to balc. Overlooking gazebo! Tennis crt., freshly painted, move-in cond! Vendor motivated.

ALLEN CIVIL, Assoc. Broker (905) 764-7111

BATHURST/LAWRENCE
2 bdrm. + den condo, approx. 1500 sq. ft., parking. Move-in condition. New broadloom, security. Shabbat elevator, a must see.
Call **AUDREY (416) 733-2666 Century 21 Harvest R.E.**

Bath/Steeles-Townsgate,2 bdr, 2bth, huge cor $249K 736-8007

HEATH/SPADINA - 260 Heath St. W. Immac., 3 bdr., 2 bth. (ensuite 5 pc.), 1472 sq. ft, balc. Silhouette shades, ceram, pool, concierge, steps to shops/TTC. $369,500. 416-487-4870.

35 CONDOMINIUM FOR RENT

Clark/Hilda - 2 bdrm., 2 bth., lux. bldg., 1 pkg. 905-886-6493.

ANTIBES/TORRESDALE
1, 2, 3 bdrms., condos, townhomes wanted..
(416) 661-1041 G. BARON, Rltr.

84 ROOM WANTED

Room/board in a Kosher home for 50 yr. old man. 226-5400

95 DUPLEX/ TOWNHOUSE FOR RENT

Bath./Lawrence - 3 bdrm. in 6 plex, 2 bths., pkg, lndry. $1,075. 905-886-5515 or 416-783-0179.

105 COTTAGE FOR SALE

LAKE OF BAYS
Unique 3-family waterfront, fully winterized, central air, 3 kitchens, 6 baths, 10 bedrooms, 15 appliances, tennis court, close to shul.
SANDRA ROTH (Botnick) RYBAK REALTY LTD. (416) 782-0598

Belle Ewart, Lake Simcoe - 3 bdr., 2 yrs old, 2 1/2 bth., lakefront, 1 min. to Shul, all amen. 905-669-5319 or 905-761-0410.

110 COTTAGE FOR RENT

Lake Simcoe, lakefront estate, Beaverton area,lux. 4 bed, Sandy beach. Sunsets. Tennis. Seas./mo, 226-0009, 749-6600.

110 COTTAGE FOR RENT

Lake Simcoe - Jewish community near Orillia, lge. fully outfitted waterfront cottage, monthly or seasonal, video avail. Gilbert at 416-782-1319.

Lake Simcoe, near Orillia, 3 bdr., canoe, May-July 223-6824

112 FURNISHED COTTAGE FOR RENT

Lake Simcoe, rustic 4 bdrm, lkfrnt,scrnd porch,90 mins. from TO, July or Aug $3000, June or Sep $2000. 416-487-6050.

115 COTTAGE FOR SALE/ RENT

Belle Ewart. 5 bdrms., 63 X 318 ft. lake front cottage in exclusive prime area. Close to shul. $385,000 negotiable or $3000/mo. Call 416-783-7468.

118 FURN. COTTAGE FOR SALE/RENT

Belle Ewart, 3 bedroom, private dock on the lake, near shul. Call 905-764-8334.

120 COTTAGE WANTED

For August, Lake Simcoe, 3 - 4 bdrm., waterfront 416-391-5052

Opportunity to earn income. Rent your cottage wkly., mnthly, seasonal. Barbara Chambers Properties Inc. 416-638-8494.

130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT

Century Village Deerfield 1 1/2 baths condo. Seas/mo., except Feb./Mar. Issie, 416-656-2631.

135 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT

ANBER MOVERS
(LOCAL MOVING)
SPECIALIST IN:
TORONTO ↔ VANCOUVER
NEW YORK ↔ FLORIDA
(514) 735-8148
1-800-561-MOVE

155 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR SALE

Ramle - Lod, condo, 2 1/2 rms. Avail. immed. 905-607-4953 or after 6pm 416- 878-4953.

160 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR RENT

Apt. in Netanya, 5 min. walk from beach, short or long term lease. For info, 972-9-954-6440

190 VACATION PROPERTIES

LAKE SIMCOE
Hwy. 400 North to Molson Park, east to Lake. 3539 Crescent Harbour Rd. Gorgeous lakehouse, 4 bdrm., 3 bth., open plan. 9 yrs. old. Boathse., dble. gar., Reduced. Immed. poss
Patti Harper, Sales Rep.
Prudential Andrews Realty Group
416-213-7224/800-254-3695

230 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

ADD FAMILY INCOME
& build a business from your home, simple & easy concept, no risk. Call Susan at 416-410-1715 905-826-9949

Sales Agents & Regional Directors with experience in the Jewish Market wanted for the World Wide Jewish Web Inc. **Tremendous $$$ opportunity.** (Computer knowledge a plus). Call Moses at 718-633-1353.

240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Downtown Reform Outreach Service looking for a lay cantor for High Holy Days. Fee negotiable based on experience. Call Shelley at 416-469-4287 (eves).

Summer Job - July only. Male University student req'd as a counselor for a group of 14 year old boys at a children's mental health centre. For info call Wendy Wolfman at 416-482-3023.

Teacher, London Community Hebrew Day School requires a full-time Hebrew/Judaic studies teacher commencing September, 1998. Hebrew fluency is required. Call 519-439-8419 or fax 519-439-0404.

The Bureau of Jewish Education in Indianapolis, Indiana, is seeking a full time afternoon Hebrew school teacher. The job offers competitive salary and benefits in a vibrant and growing metropolitan area with high quality of life. Please call Ora Leivant, Director of Education, 317-255-3124 or fax résumé to 317-254-0265.

247 DAY CARE

Bathurst & Centre - Thornhill. Loving & safe environment for your baby. Lots of personal attention with E.C.E. teacher. Over 15 years experience. 3 openings beginning July. Refs. & receipts. Call 905-764-6936.

Day Care in safe, warm, home, exper. ECE teacher + assistant, F/T, kosher nutritional meals, Bath/Centre area.905-771-0500

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

Cleaning lady for Fri.&Sat. with refs. & exp. 8 yrs. Call after 8pm. Wisia at 416-533-9816.

Cleaning lady with exp. & refs. avail. to clean your home 1-2 times/week. Grace, 503-4789.

Cleaning with pride at afford. prices.Res./Comm. **FREE** Est. Insured, Bonded. **905-507-9654**

Excellent housekeepers, companions, nannies & nursing aides. Please call **Flor De 'Liz International Employment Agency.** Tel/Fax 416-533-5905 **No Employers Fee.**

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

NEED A NANNY?
• No Fee to Employer
APPLE DOMESTICS
(416) 730-0127

GOLDEN CARE LTD.
There's *no place* like HOME!
Live-in & live-out Caregivers & Nannies. Staff training in safety, appropriate behaviour and even Jewish cooking!
On-going contact with you after placement.
LOW RATES WITH THE BEST PERSONAL SERVICE
Honey Hecker 665-1435, 665-4229

NOW!!!
Experienced live-in Filipino Caregivers available from Israel
ACT FAST!
ELLA'S DOMESTICS
Nannies, Housekeepers, Companions Live-in or Live-out
(416) 221-5114

Cleaning lady avail. with 5 yrs. exp. & refs. 416-787-5458.

Frustrated by trying to find a suitable nanny? Let us help you. We have dependable, caring nannies who are thoroughly qualified, personally interviewed & pre-screened. All refs. are checked. Some are CPR trained. Low finders fee
Wee Care Placement Agency 416-789-3070

Harvscott Domestic Services
"Five stars above the rest"
Avail new born nurses, cleaning ladies, nannies, housekeepers, party helpers. Exper. with refs. 771-6543.

High quality house cleaning. Call Dora, 736-1179.

Live-in/out nanny/h avail. No fee to the employer. **487-5157.**

Nannies, live-in/out, full/part-time, in-home elderly care, FT, PT, RN's, nurses aides, cleaning. Bonded,refs. **416-630-0674 or 416-224-9907. #1 Domestic.**

255 DOMESTIC HELP WANTED

Housekeeper/nanny, Tues. to Sat, live-in. NorthYork 633-4637

Live-in caregiver req'd for elderly lady. Must, be caring & gentle. Pleasant environment. 416-781-0882.

257 HEALTHCARE AVAILABLE

CLIENT HEALTH SERVICES Ltd. RN's, RNA's, HCA's, companions, homemakers. Let our qualified, exp., dedicated health care prof. provide you with quality care & services to make your activities of daily living more comfortable wherever you are, *24 hours a day, 7 days a week.* **Nena D. Bermudez, 248-5681, 809-2671 or fax 248-0778**

Does Someone You Love Need Homecare? We have experienced caregivers, HCA's, RN's. All are interviewed and pre-screened. All refs. are checked. Low finders fee. Call **Carefully Chosen Placement Agency** at **416-783-6664.**

If you are sick, lonely and searching for the perfect caregiver to provide*Tender Loving Care* please **call Elizabeth, the HCA with a heart at 905-273-9735.** I also speak Polish.

257 HEALTHCARE AVAILABLE

HCA to care for disabled/elderly Weekends. After 6pm 920-2745

258 HEALTHCARE WANTED

Cargegiver/HCA exp. req'd for senior male. Part-time hours, afternoons, eves & weekends Bathurst St. Refs req'd. Call 416-487-1003, 10am-8pm.

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

Gay Jewish Male seeks same. Are you discreet, good looking, caring, compassionate? Do you enjoy a walk by the water, tennis, movies, art & music? Why are you not here to awaken by passionate words some fire within me? CJN Box # 7038.

DJF, early 40's, presentable, seeks intelligent, serious SJM, 43-53 for relationship. Photo if possible. CJN Box # 7040.

300 ARTICLES FOR SALE

Piano Bargains! Used $795 Delivered, tuned, recond. Baby Grands - all colors, fully restored! Tuning, repairs, refin, moving! **416-230-5560**

305 ARTICLES WANTED

I will buy your coins, stamps, gold, silver, diamonds, watches & antiques **for cash. 605-1640**

260 BUSINESS PERSONALS

NEW TO *The Canadian Jewish News*

MEETING PLACE

A Service for those seeking friendship & romance !!!

Give some thought as to how you would describe yourself, what is important to you as a person and also what you are looking for in a relationship, Then... **CALL TO PLACE YOUR FREE VOICE PERSONAL AD**

905-276-6167 ext.65

or out of town call **1-800-400-3283** ext. 65

Watch for the column to begin in the May 21st issue

Bringing People Together, the highest rated service in Ont. Ruth Friedman at 905-731-5204

Jewish Singles Registry, over 1590 members. Website, www.total.net/~jsreg. 483-4151

Senior in excellent health avail. for driving you to, appt's., shopping, etc. $15/hr. 223-8205

270 PERSONALS

Anyone interested in starting a joke telling club, please leave a message at 416-661-2541.

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

JM, attractive, prof., 40ish, great guy, sensitive, loves kids, seeks special S or DJF, attractive, fit, intelligent, 30-39, family oriented for sharing the best things in life. CJN Box # 7037.

DJF, slim, pretty, petite, caring, warm, giving, intelligent, youthful 56, seeks male with whom to enjoy music, walks, theatre, family, friends +. CJN Box 7043

Attractive Jewish divorced male, 43, 5'7", prof., sincere, caring, fun-loving & romantic seeks attractive down to earth female 32-39 under 5'4" w/similar qualities for a loving & lasting relationship. CJN Box 7041.

Kind, magic, funny, slightly zany Zaida seeks non - conformist, non - Establishment besherte Baba with ziesse neshumah. CJN Box # 7039.

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

Responsible male with a good job & a brand new car, 40's, wishes to meet a lady for a serious relationship or marriage. Reply to CJN Box # 7029.

SJM, 41, 6'1", prof., witty, traditional, seeks warm, family oriented, SJF, 32-40, who shares interests in arts, dining, conversation, maybe even Science fiction. Reply to CJN Box # 7035.

Very attractive divorced lady, 48, warm & caring enjoys cooking, would like to meet an intelligent n/smkr male for a serious relationship. CJN Box # 7036.

Young at heart, senior lady, financially secure, would like to meet a gentleman 70+. Reply to CJN Box # 7042.

Replying to a Companion ad with a CJN Box Number?

Address your mail to:

The Canadian Jewish News
1500 Don Mills Rd.
Suite 205
North York, Ontario
M3B 3K4
Box # _____

330 OBITUARIES

PAIKIN, Richard- on April 17, 1998, late of 49 Heney.

A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
HEBREW BASIC BURIAL
TRADITIONAL GRAVESIDE SERVICE

SHWARTZMAN, Semen - on April 20, 1998, late of 166 Springhead Garden.

LEVENTHAL, Marilyn (Maddie) - on April 22, 1998, late of 87 Thornbury Circle.

NOVAK, Yefim - on April 22, 1998, late of 6030 Bathurst St.

MUTIGER, Helen Pearl - on April 24, 1998, late of 155 Dewbourne Ave.

FRIEDLAND, Jeffrey Steven - on April 26, 1998, late of 70 Garnier Court.

KOCHBERG, Abraham - on April 26, 1998, late of 3560 Bathurst St.

SHAPIRO, Louis - on April 27, 1998, late of 155 Finch Ave. E.

GRYFE, Arthur - on April 28, 1998, late of 17 Beaver Valley Rd.

WEISBLOOM, Alter - on April 28, 1998, late of 155 Faywood Blvd.

Steeles Memorial Chapel

330 OBITUARIES

PORTER, Suretta - on April 16, 1998, late of 2121 Bathurst Street #716.

BOSSIN, Tobie - on April 16, 1998, late of 31 Meadowbrook Road #5.

BIRO, Stephen - on April 17, 1998, late of 46 Kennedy Ave.

FREIDMAN, Jerry - on April 17, 1998, late of 33 Jackes Ave., #301.

NYMAN, Barney - on April 17, 1998, late of 880 Lawrence Ave. E.

RATTNER, Cyril - on April 18, 1998, late of 2121 Bathurst Street #822.

BIRKEN, Max - on April 18, 1998, late of 8 Northgate Drive.

KING, Iz - on April 18, 1998, late of 15 Highbourne Road.

EISEN, Annie - on April 18, 1998, late of 15 Cobdon St.

GARFIELD, Sonia - on April 18, 1998, late of 48 Tyrrel Ave.

STONE, Eric (Miller) - on April 19, 1998, late of 360 Ridelle Avenue #1405.

GLICKSMAN, Sidney - on April 20, 1998, late of 153 Strathearn Road.

STOSSEL, Dorothy - on April 20, 1998, late of 204 Rosemary Road.

DEBER, Saul - on April 21, 1998, late of 525 Chaplin Crescent #212.

OSTROVSKY, Sarah - on April 21, 1998, late of 4300 Bathurst Street #707.

ALTER, Mannie - on April 22, 1998, late of 90 Fisherville Road #903.

MARKMAN, Rae - on April 22, 1998, late of 5935 Bathurst Street.

GOLDENBERG, Adolph - on April 23, 1998, late of 3560 Bathurst Street.

MARKUS, Lyla Gutzin - on April 23, 1998, late of 84 Chiltern Hill Road.

URBAS, Frances - on April 24, 1998, late of 122 Searle Avenue.

GOODMAN, Gertrude - on April 24, 1998, late of 10 Senlac Rd.

LIPMAN, Donald - on April 25, 1998, late of 349 Betty Ann Drive.

BLIMAN, Lily - on April 25, 1998, late of 3636 Bathurst St., #807.

CRAFT, Jean - on April 26, 1998, late of 1555 Finch Ave., East, #1408.

BIRNBAUM, Florence - on April 26, 1998, late of 23 Sherbourne Street North.

BRONSTEIN, Alan - on April 26, 1998, late of 6550 King Vaughan Town Line.

SAGER, Henry - on April 27, 1998, late of 503 Russell Hill Road.

MOSOFF, Alex - on April 27, 1998, late of 1 Northwestern Avenue.

CORNBLUM, Edith - on April 28, 1998, late of 90 Fisherville, #1106.

POSNER, Ted - on April 29, 1998, late of 35 Frontenac Avenue.

GUDOFSKY, Evelyn - on April 30, 1998, late of 2601 Bathurst Street, #502.

STERN, Michael - on April 30, 1998, late of 167 North Meadow Crescent.

FEIG, Paul - on April 30, 1998, late of 11 Lyonsgate Drive.

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

DEADLINE FOR SERVICE DIRECTORY ADS ARE WEDNESDAY, 4:00 P.M., 8 DAYS PRECEDING THE ISSUE.

330 OBITUARIES

SERVING THE JEWISH COMMUNITY FOR OVER THREE GENERATIONS

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LANDMARK MONUMENTS
3429 Bathurst (corner of Melrose)
(416) 780-0635

335 UNVEILINGS

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
ESTHER HOFFMAN ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, May 17th, 1:00 p.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Adath Sholom Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
REGINA JOCHNOWICZ ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, May 17th, 12:00 noon
Mount Sinai Memorial Park
(986 Wilson Avenue)
Farband Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
MARY KALNITZSKY ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, May 17, 12:00 noon
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Linitzer Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

TO PLACE AN UNVEILING NOTICE PLEASE CALL AT LEAST 14 DAYS PRIOR TO THE DATE OF THE UNVEILING

335 UNVEILINGS

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
ARON (PUIU) SAPOCINIK ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, May 17th, 11:30 a.m.
Pardes Shalom Cemetery
Community Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
HERMAN SENDEROVICH ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, May 17th, 11:00 a.m.
Lambton Hills Cemetery
(Royal York Rd., South of Eglinton)
Beth Jacob Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
LOUIS SHOORE ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, May 17th, 12:00 noon
Kahal Israel Memorial Park
Sources Road (in Montreal)
B'nai Brith Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
LEAH SZYMKOWICZ ז"ל
(18 Cedarcroft Blvd., #803)
will take place
Sunday, May 17, 12:00 noon
Mount Sinai Memorial Park
Workman's Circle Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
ELIEZER (LACI) WEISZ ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, May 17th, 12:00 p.m.
Mount Sinai Memorial Park
Shaarei Tefillah Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

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Holtzer brothers love life on the open water

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — For a 14-year-old, Ari Holtzer has pretty much sailed around the world.

For that matter, so has his little brother, Ethan, 10.

The two siblings, whose idea of a good time on a lazy Sunday afternoon in January is to go sailing on the frigid waters of Lake Ontario, have taken their tiny Optis (short for Optimists) to regattas from Toronto to South America. Most recently, the two competed in the South American championships in Cartagena, Columbia. Out of 166 Optis in the race, the Holtzer brothers finished 140th and 141st, with the smaller Ethan finishing slightly ahead of his bigger and heavier brother.

Last year, Ari participated in the World Opti Championships in Ireland and ranked first among the five participating Canadians. He finished 148th in the event, with the next nearest Canuck 22 places behind. He also sailed in a regatta in Scotland last summer and at a number of venues in Canada.

With the weather warming up, the brothers have scheduled lots of sailing for their summertime agendas. There will be races in and around Toronto, a June competition in St. Thomas, a regatta in Annapolis, Md., the U.S. Nationals in Boston and the Canadian Olympic Regatta in Kingston (CORK) to close out the summer season.

In between events, the brothers will spend most of their days training and practising on Lake Ontario – nary a landlubber between 'em.

Ethan Holtzer

The Holtzers come by their sealegs naturally. Theirs is a sailing family with a long-standing membership at the Island Yacht Club (IYC). Ethan's first experience on a boat came when he was only a couple of weeks old when his father, Igal, brought him on board the family boat.

He first starting sailing in an Albacore-class boat and then advanced to an Opti at age seven. The Opti, an eight foot by four foot "bathtub," with its squared-off prow and single sail, is perfect for youngsters to learn on. At the IYC junior program, Ethan was taught about safety, controlling the sail and other skills needed on the open water.

Last year, as part of the IYC's "green fleet" of beginners, Ethan sailed in the kids' events and regularly finished first. He travelled to Montreal for a competition for kids 13 and under and finished first there as well.

Despite that first place finish, Ethan wasn't completely satisfied with his performance. Since that time, he's learned a lot about sailing, especially from the Americans who he's met at various regattas, and he now realizes that in Montreal he tacked (zigzagged into the wind) way too much.

"Now I would take only two big tacks up to the mark (buoy) and stay in the clear," he said.

Despite his newfound ability, he said the sailors in South America and from other hot climates are tough to beat. They have the advantage of year-round, good weather sailing and many are used to the stronger winds and salt water you get at sea.

As one of the oldest competitors in Cartagena, Ari was hampered by being heavier (145 lbs.) than most of the other sailors.

"I didn't do that great. I was probably the biggest guy there. It slowed me down a lot so all the little guys flew by me," he said.

Having outgrown the Opti, Ari is moving on to the Byte. Built like a small Laser, the Byte is double the size of the Opti, faster, and has a bigger sail.

Ari plans to be on the water a lot this summer, putting in from three and a half to seven hours a day. He'll be sticking closer to home than he has in other years, with no exotic trips planned. Instead, he'll compete in regattas in Montreal, Frenchman's Bay (Whitby) and CORK.

Competitive racers both, the brothers hope to one day represent Canada at the Maccabiah Games in Israel. For Ari, that would only be a stepping stone to his ultimate goal, the Olympic Games.

Ari Holtzer

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The Inside Back

ספרותנו

מאת: יעל זליגר

נבלות (הסיפור האמיתי) מאת: יורם קניוק

ב.

נבלות (הסיפור האמיתי), תג הוצאה לאור, 1997 הוא אחד מהספרים הקודרים ביותר שהתפרסמו לאחרונה בארץ. הסגנון העובדתי, המנוכר והאווירה האפוקליפטית מסווגים את הספר לספרות הפוסט-מודרניסטית. לעומת זאת, יצירתו של יורם קניוק היא אמיתית ונובעת בעמקי הפסיכולוגיה של הקיום האנושי, ומכאן שאיננה בהכרח שייכת לאסכולה הפוסט-מודרניסטית.

בתחילה מתקשה הקורא להבין את פשר תיאורי הזוועות בסיפור. הווידוי של הפלמח"ניק הקשיש על הרציחות שפקדו את העיר מעורר חמלה מסויימת כלפי דמות הצבר האותנטי מהמיתולוגיה הישראלית ארועי התופת ההבנה והסימפטיה לגיבורים המזדקנים נמוגה.

לפנינו חבורת גברים מזדקנים, נציגי דור המייסדים שרוצחים את בני הדור הצעיר. הרצח מתוכנן, קר ומטורף ונמצא לו צידוק אצל הרוצחים; "גם אנחנו היינו צעירים, אבל לא היינו טוסים, לא היינו גאוותנים, לא היינו רק בשביל עצמנו, היינו חלק... לא איזה אחד לבד על איזה אי." 'אנחנו' הם בני דורם של נחצ'ה, מישקה, נפתלי, אפרים ואחרים כמותם שיושבים בבתי קפה, אינם עושים מאומה מעבר לליבון זעמם על "הצוציקים והצוציקיות" ששרים חצי ערומים, וסוגדים לדודו טופז. "בשביל מה הציונות?" שואלים הרוצחים; "בשביל מה עשינו מדינה? בשביל מה הלכנו לסוריה, ללבנון, לבאב אל וואד?" הם שידעו מה זה כבוד ומי זה טרומפלדור האמיתי ולא רק "רחוב או בדיחה על אחד בלי יד" זעמם איום ונורא על דור הצעירים שדחק את אלילי הישוב לשוליים, והתנכר להיסטוריה הרווייה בדמם של הפלמח"ניקים, נחשוני הלאום. ומכאן העונש; כל צעיר, זכר או נקבה, אשכנזי או ספרדי, עני או עשיר, כל אחד הוא מניע לרצח בשל פגיעה בכבוד קדושי המדינה. "הנעורים שלהם זה הבגידה! הם לא היו צריכים להפנין את זה. הם לא היו צריכים לחשוב שהם לבד בעולם. שלא היה להם עבר, שאנחנו אפס...כי מה שיש להם באמת זה רק הנעורים, וזה גם היה לנו."

ובכלל, זה לא רצח, מסביר נחצ'ה; "אם כל ישראלי שהרג באיזה מבצע צודק הוא רוצח, אז רוב המדינה הם רוצחים. זה בסך הכל הצדק שלי נגד הצדק שלו."

מסע הרציחות מרומם את המזדקנים ומביא את התשורה הנאותה: את ההכרה בסמכותם של הראשונים. הזקנים הללו הם הדבר האחרון שהצעירים רואים לפני מותם. הקתרזיס המצית את פרץ הדמים מכונה על-ידי הרוצחים: 'נבלות'. "ואז באה המלה 'נבלות' ועשתה משהו, נהיינו גברים, כאילו שוב נילחם מלחמה ונקים מדינה." הצעירים מתים והזקנים שפעם שרו 'ישושנה', שחשנה' עושים בנבלות "חילוף חומרים היסטורי צודק". ואף יש חיזוק אידיאולוגי להילולת הדמים ודודקה אומר למישקה: "תראה איך הולך דור! כמו מלחמת השחרור כשחצי הדור שלנו הלך במכה אחת." ומה שלא יהיה, כך אומרים הפלח"מניקים של 'היו זמנים' "צעיר יכול יום אחד להיות זקן. זקן כבר לא יהיה צעיר" ומה שחשוב זה "איך נהרגים... איך צריך להכניס סדר בחיים מול המוות".

ספרו של קניוק בולט בנוף הכתיבה הספרותית העכשווית. הכתיבה מרתקת, השפה רווייה בהווי ישראלי, מסוג מסויים, המנוסח בצורה ישירה ולקונית. במיומנות האופיינית לסופר מוכשר זה חושף קניוק את האיום ונורא, את החשכה שבתוכנו שעשוייה להביא כל אחד מאתנו לסיור נבלות' וזהו הסיפור האמיתי.

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Salad:
1/2 head lettuce
1/2 leaf lettuce
1/2 head radicchio
1 small endive
3 green onions, finely chopped
1 red pepper, diced
1 red grapefruit, peeled & cut into chunks
1/2 cup cashews

Dressing:
1/2 cup oil
3 tblsp. red wine vinegar
1 tblsp. lemon juice
2 tsp. sugar
1/2 tsp. salt
1/2 tsp. dry mustard
1 garlic clove, crushed

Blend dressing ingredients well. Prepare salad ingredients (except for grapefruit and cashews) and place in a large salad bowl. Toss salad with dressing just before serving. Sprinkle grapefruit and cashews over salad. Serves 6 to 8.

About families

Dear Susan,

I was alarmed to find out that a "skinny" club exists at my daughter's school. My 8-year-old had the good sense to decline membership. According to my daughter, each member of the club must be skinny and wealthy. Should I contact the school about my concerns?

Dear Reader,

Many thanks for sharing your story about the "skinny" club. Eating disorders used to surface on the cusp of adolescence. Now, regrettably, preteens are taking up the cause.

This preteen group is highly susceptible to peer pressure. At this point boys and girls lead separate lives. The quest for perfection lies with the girls themselves, both as individuals and as members of the group.

In their quest to conquer their body weight (a reflection of low self-esteem), they seem equally driven to prove their wealth. This internal/external dance is lethal and can lead to death. The young girl ultimately finds herself between a rock and a hard place.

The parents of these girls may have to pause and reflect on the signs of this lethal dance. Many may find it hard to see the signs, as they too are mired in their own pursuits. In their own quest for wealth, they may have overlooked their child's need for structure and safety. Their daughter's pursuit of thinness may be a cry for help.

You are wise to advise the school. The administration, in concert with their support staff, could offer a truly unique program. Parental involvement goes without saying as the secrecy needs to be broken.

I am glad that your daughter had the good judgment to decline their membership. She deserves a lot of praise for not succumbing to the peer pressure. Encourage her individuality through more appropriate channels.

Susan Leventhal is a family, marital and individual therapist, who has been practising for more than 19 years.

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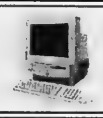
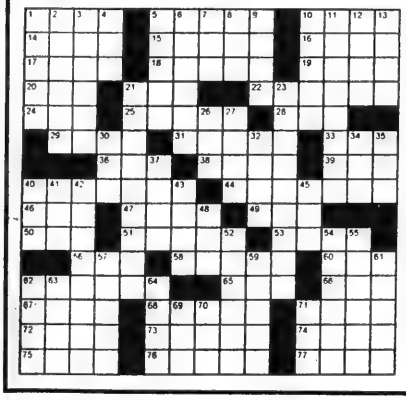


CROSSWORD PUZZLE

The Canadian Jewish news



Across

1. Book publisher
5. The waters of__
10. One time
14. Mt. Gilboa flower
15. Shofar blast
16. Songwriter Simon
17. Greenberg
18. Dreidel letter
19. Prophet
20. Writer Rand
21. 100 agarot
22. Alias Jacob
24. Daled (Eng.)
25. Shema ender
28. Newman's passion
29. Imitate Chagall
31. Hebrew letter
33. Belief: comb. form
36. Biblical sign of mourning
38. Seder position
39. Digit
40. Imitated the Israelites
44. Chanukah gelt
46. Arkia stat
47. Son of Gad
49. Gelilah act
50. Sabin's milieu
51. Cured by Salk's vaccine
53. Reason for shiva
56. Vigoda or Geiger
58. Give a tenth
60. Copeland on track
62. Mystery writer
65. Aaron's resting place
66. Alphabet run
67. Golda
68. Innovative painter
71. 103
72. Spar
73. Peyes
74. Vavs (Eng.)
75. Bezaleel specialty
76. Made aliyah
77. Ellis or Emerald

Down

1. Holy war
2. Davened (Eng.)
3. Commandment breaker
4. Immitate the "four sons"?
5. Copperfield specialty
6. Elijah disciple
7. Shofar source
8. Solomon's mine product
9. 2,051
10. Roberta Peters genre
11. Samson
12. Chicken soup?
13. On High (Heb.)
21. Jerusalem Post
23. Alias Lenny Bruce
26. Every
27. Jonah milieu
30. Travel club
32. Like the Red Sea?
34. Zimram to Abraham
35. Gig for Peerce
37. Mordechai
40. Wiggling tref fish
41. Depot (abbr.)
42. Mystic
43. Schnook (Eng.)
45. Prophesize
48. 502
52. "Do unto __"
54. Ranks of Tsahal
55. Fourth Great Prophet
57. Lahr and Parks
59. Mount for Mordecai
61. Grogger emanation
62. "The New Colossus", poetess
63. TV Producer
64. Community center
69. Hamantasch
70. "My Life", Meir story
71. 106

These puzzles are the work of Kathi Handler of Waterbury, Connecticut.

(Last week's answers are on page 43.)

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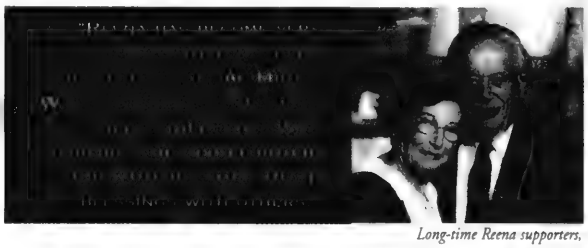

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This Week

National

Former Swiss bank guard Christoph Meili now fears for his life. *Page 3*

People must learn to respect each other's differences. *Guest Voices* *Page 13*

Jewish veterans celebrate the Royal Canadian Legion's 65th anniversary. *Page 21*

Goldie Hershon looks back on her three years as CJC's president. *Page 24*

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Mandy Patinkin launches a Yiddish CD. *Page 33*

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Breast cancer clinic launched at North York General Hospital. *Page 36*

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Redeployment formula sought

Washington talks continued amidst rioting in West Bank and Gaza

By JAY BUSHINSKY
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

WASHINGTON — Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu called last week for the creation of a tripartite committee to monitor Palestinian "incitement to violence."

The suggestion came as he and his aides sought a bridging formula that might eventually enable the IDF to withdraw from more than nine percent of the West Bank without immediately complying with the U.S. recommendation that 13.1 percent be given up.

"The committee could include legislators from all three sides," Netanyahu said in a speech to the Washington Institute for Near East Policy, indicating that it could consist of Israelis, Americans and Palestinians.

Netanyahu's presentation of his ideas to the institute and in a series of meetings on Capitol Hill, preceded his second round of talks with U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright, which started late last Thursday night.

Netanyahu confirmed that the depth of the IDF's third redeployment in the West Bank had been the overriding issue in his talks with Albright and the concurrent deliberations of the Israeli and American experts.

"We have to know how much more land will have to be given up in a third redeployment," Netanyahu said in his speech. "The issue is not how many slices [of land there will be], but the total amount."

Implicit in his remarks was the notion that there must be a finite end to the process of withdrawal in the West Bank and that the more territory to be relinquished in the third pullback, the less will be handed over in the pending second one.

This was also his approach in a series of meetings with legislators on Capitol Hill.

Netanyahu's first session there was with the powerful Senate House Committee on Foreign Policy, where he was warmly greeted by House Speaker Newt Gingrich and Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott. At his side on the dais was Likud MK Meir Sheetrit.

Continued on page 31

A DAY OF MAYHEM AND RIOTS

Israeli border police push and shove with Palestinian women in east Jerusalem who took part last week in demonstrations protesting the creation of the State of Israel. Palestinians marched and demonstrated in Gaza, the West Bank and Israel. *Please see stories on page 29.* *[RNS/Reuters photo]*

Peres: 'Choice is clear'

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — He may have assumed the mantle of elder statesman, but Shimon Peres has jettisoned few, if any, of his views on Mideast peace – the same views that won him, Yitzhak Rabin and Yasser Arafat a Nobel Peace Prize; namely, that Palestinians should have their own independent state.

Peres made that clear here last week, both in a *CJN* interview, and to a select group of local leaders of State of Israel Bonds, which sponsored his brief visit to Toronto.

The former two-time prime minister, foreign minister and major architect of the Olso peace accords, was here primarily to pay tribute to 30 Canadian Machalniks – foreign volunteers who fought in Israel's 1948 War of Independence.

Peres did that before an audience of several hundred, which also came to see Shalom '98, an entertainment extravaganza of leading Israeli musicians, dancers and singers, including the world-renowned Yaffa Yarkoni.

But in a 20-minute interview with *The CJN* prior to his appearance, a tired and pale Peres, now 75, explained why he continues to support an independent Palestinian state, and why the current government of Benjamin Netanyahu is in danger of alienating its best friend and ally, the United States.

Peres warned that keeping Palestinians under Israeli jurisdiction would have dire consequences for Israel.

"We have four million Palestinians. We have 4.7 million Jews. We have to decide what we want," he said in a quiet voice. "If it's a binational state, it will be a binational tragedy, sort of a Bosnia.

Continued on page 24

INSIDE

Examining the mature of the theological ties of Islam and of Judaism to Jerusalem. Please see page 9.

Settlements here to stay: Barak — please see page 29

The News in Brief

CANADA

Fackenheim Given Degree

WATERLOO — At its spring convocation, the University of Waterloo is presenting a doctor of letters to Prof. Emil Fackenheim, retired University of Toronto professor, former *CJN* columnist, and one of the leading Jewish philosophers of this century.

Fackenheim, a Holocaust survivor, is now associated with the Institute for Contemporary Jewish Studies at Hebrew University in Jerusalem.

ISRAEL

Pollard an Israeli Agent

JERUSALEM — A committee of Israeli ministers working for the release of Jonathan Pollard from a U.S. prison has developed a stance that would for the first time recognize Pollard as an Israeli agent. Until now, Israel has refused to acknowledge that Pollard acted with Israeli authorization.

Arab Judge Named

JERUSALEM — Israel has named the first Arab judge to sit on its Supreme Court. Abd al-Rahman Zuabi will fill one of the 14 seats on the court, on a temporary basis, beginning in one year's time.

Software Pirated

JERUSALEM — Some 70 percent of the computer software used in Israel is pirated and millions of dollars are lost annually by manufacturers, according to lawyers who appeared before a Knesset committee. The lawyers said the United States has threatened economic sanctions against Israel if it does not take steps to curb piracy.

WUJS Celebrates

ARAD — The World Union of Jewish Students (WUJS), a one-year work and study program in Israel, is celebrating its 30th anniversary. Since its founding, more than 7,000 young adults from around the world have participated in the program.

50 Years of Aliyah

JERUSALEM — Karen Hayesod-United Israel Appeal recently released the following figures on aliyah:

1948-1951 – 688,000
1952-1959 – 272,000
1960-1969 – 374,000
1970-1979 – 346,000
1980-1989 – 154,000
1990-1997 – 824,000

Houses To Be Built

JERUSALEM — Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has pledged that houses would be built at the Har Choma construction site by the next elections.

Netanyahu made his remarks, which came in a meeting with members of the National Religious Party, on the eve of a scheduled meeting in Washington with U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright.

WORLD

CPMAJO Writes Clinton

WASHINGTON — The Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations (CPMAJO) has sent a letter to President Bill Clinton expressing concern that the administration issued an ultimatum to Israel to redeploy from 13.1 percent of the West Bank or risk a reassessment of the U.S. role in the peace process.

The letter also requested a meeting with Clinton to discuss the administration's approach to the Israeli-Palestinian talks.

Strigler Dies

NEW YORK — Mordechai Strigler, editor of the *Yiddish Forward*, has died at the age of 76.

Strigler, who was born in Poland, studied as a child at one of Poland's most distinguished yeshivot. During World War II, when he was sent to Majkanek and Buchenwald, he was a member of the Resistance.

War Criminal Saved Life

DENVER — A Holocaust survivor has said that an accused Lithuanian war criminal had saved her life. Shifra Grodnikaite, who lives in an old age home, said Aleksandras Lileikis had risked his own life to save hers. Lileikis' trial was adjourned in March to enable the defence to gather testimony from Grodnikaite and another witness.

Russian Rabbi Beaten

MOSCOW — A Russian rabbi was badly beaten by two skinheads in a subway station in northern Moscow. The skinheads shouted anti-Semitic threats before attacking Rabbi Yitzhak Lifshitz, 26, a Moscow native who is an Orthodox rabbi in Yaroslavl, a city located about 130 miles northeast of Moscow. The assailants were immediately arrested by police, who had Lifshitz taken to a nearby hospital.

Film Deal Signed

LOS ANGELES — MGM executives have signed a deal for a film tentatively titled *Nazi Gold*. The script deals with a planned heist from a Swiss bank of gold looted from Holocaust victims. The thieves then plan to turn the gold over to the victims' descendants.

Deadline Extended

NEW YORK — The Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany is alerting individuals who failed to register claims for restitution of Jewish property in the former East Germany by the Dec. 31, 1992 German government deadline that they may apply to the Claims Conference Goodwill Fund through Dec. 31, 1998.

Applicants can write the Claims Conference Successor Organization Goodwill Fund, Sophienstrasse 26, Frankfurt am Main, Germany, 60487. They must include the address of the property, the name of the original property owner, and their relationship to the original owner.

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Swiss guard recounts cloak-and-dagger tale

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Christoph Meili still fears for his life.

He now lives in New Jersey and works in New York, thousands of miles from his native Switzerland. But every unexpected sound and movement reminds him that he's still loathed and feared – all because he helped Jews, and in the process, tarnished his country's once-sterling reputation.

Meili, now 30, is the former night watchman at the Union Bank of Switzerland (UBS), who discovered that his employer, the country's largest private bank, was shredding thousands of Holocaust-era documents.

He rescued some of the papers and made them public, setting off a storm of controversy that resulted in his receiving death threats against him and his family, being fired from his job and condemned as a traitor, and ultimately, becoming the first Swiss citizen to win political asylum in the United States.

The documents he salvaged were the closest thing yet to a smoking gun. They allegedly prove that beginning in 1933, the year the Nazis came to power, Jewish properties in Berlin were plundered by the Reich and their ownership turned over to Swiss banks, including the Swiss National Bank.

Meili rescued only 60 documents and three books of papers, but they set off a cataclysmic chain of events, and moved people a step closer to believing what had been widely suspected: that Swiss banks were the Third Reich's willing money-launderers.

Meili recounted his story, now the stuff of Hollywood, at last week's annual Toronto Hadassah-WIZO Youth Aliyah/Youth Services luncheon. A poised young man and devout Protestant, he spoke casually of kidnapping threats against his two young children, aged five and three. "They told me I could pay for them with the money I got for the Jews," he told the 250 women present.

His story began in January 1997. While making his usual rounds at UBS, he went to turn off a light in the shredding room, and found stacks of yellowing, war-era documents waiting to be destroyed.

His interest in the period had been buoyed after seeing *Schindler's List*. "I was shocked. I thought these were not for shredding," Meili told *The CJN* in an interview. "I thought these were important, that they should be on the table."

He took some of the documents home and showed them to his wife. The next day, he called a local newspaper, which expressed little interest.

He then called the Israeli embassy in Berne. "They told me to mail everything," he recalled.

Finally, he handed the papers over the head of the Jewish community in Zurich, which promptly turned them over to police.

After that, recalled Meili, "everyone went crazy."

He was suspended, then fired, from his job, with the bank's president publicly expressing doubts about Meili's motives. After the Swiss media reported the story, Meili received dozens of death threats, and rumors began circulating that he was working for the Mossad. The police began investigating him.

Soon, he was contacted by Ed

[Cont'd. on page 17]

From left, Hadassah-WIZO national president Patricia Alpert, Christoph Meili, Ontario Lieutenant Governor Hilary Weston, and Toronto Hadassah-WIZO president Sharon Kroft at last week's annual Youth Aliyah/Youth Services luncheon. [Ron Csillag photo]

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From the editor's desk

Gilbert's Israel

Last week I, along with several hundred others, attended a lecture by the renowned historian Sir Martin Gilbert.

Ever the gentlemen, Gilbert spoke with the elan, the grace and the complete mastery over his subject that, over the years, have come to typify him and his work.

He was in Toronto, in part, to launch his monumental new work, entitled simply, *Israel, A History*. Published in Canada by turnerbooks, it is a substantive and esthetic tour de force. Recently, in this space, (April 16) I referred to the book as "magisterial and majestically written."

It sweeps across the full horizon of Israel's modern history from the late-19th century pre-Basle ideological and intellectual stirrings, through the post-Herzl, pre-state developments to the partition vote in 1947, the fateful founding of the state in 1948 and each subsequent, tumultuous, decade up to the latter part of 1997.

But true to the Gilbert method of history-writing, the work not only sweeps across the horizon, it settles with intriguing and insightful detail, on the people, places and events whose many unique and inspiring profiles are outlined on that blue and white horizon.

Gilbert has also included some 43 different maps to provide a sense of geographical context as well as assist the reader in joining the fluidity of time with the constancy of place. The valuable use of maps in this way is a study device that the author has elevated to its own art form over the past years.

The text also features a 5-page glossary of terms, a 10-page bibliography and a 70-page index compiled by the author.

The result is a book of unsurpassable utility to the lay reader, student and scholar alike.

But, like the humanity it chronicles, the book is not without its imperfections. Occasionally small inaccuracies creep in, such as the reference in the introduction to the assassination of Yitzhak Rabin having occurred in October 1995. In fact it happened in November.

If the book is imperfect though, it is still nevertheless both breathtaking in its scope, poignant and compelling in its force.

Following are only two very brief excerpts to show Gilbert's unequalled, trademark ability to find sources and quotes that elucidate the text to a degree that one would not normally find in the "standard" history text.

From the letter by Ahad Ha'am to Chaim Weizmann in 1918 congratulating Weizmann on presiding over the ceremony at the laying of the foundation stone of the Hebrew University on Mount Scopus:

"We Jews have been taught by our history to appreciate the real value of laying foundations for future developments. Our share, as a people, in the building up of the general culture of Humanity has been nothing else than the laying of its foundations long before the superstructures were built upon those foundations by other peoples.

"When in time to come the Hebrew University stands proudly erect on the historic mountain, equipped with all ancient and modern instruments for the cultivation of mind and soul – what else will be its function but the laying of foundation-stones, on which our future national life will be rebuilt."

From Golda Meir's description of her secret meeting with King Abdullah in 1948 prior to the declaration of the state:

"Then Abdullah entered the room. he was very pale and seemed under great strain... We talked for about an hour. I started the conversation by coming to the point at once. 'Have you broken your promise to me, after all?' I asked him.

"He didn't answer my question directly. Instead he said: 'When I made that promise, I thought I was in control of my own destiny and could do what I thought right. But since then I have learned otherwise.' Then he went on to say that before he had been alone, but now, 'I am one of five,' the other four, we gathered, being Egypt, Syria, Lebanon and Iraq. Still, he thought war could be averted.

"'Why are you in such a hurry to proclaim your State?' he asked me. 'What is the rush? You are so impatient!' I told him that I didn't think that a people who had waited 2,000 years should be described as being 'in a hurry,' and he seemed to accept that."

Gilbert's search for and inclusion of such widely elucidative anecdotal material ensures that his text reaches far beyond a "mere" narrative of history.

* * *

In last week's column I wrote about my discussion with Paul Michaels of the Canada Israel Committee regarding the media's *Israel at 50* coverage. Michaels called to point out an error that might be corrected on the record.

In the last "bulleted" paragraph of the story, 1993 was used as the date before which Palestinian political institutions had always rejected compromise and diplomacy.

True to Michael's complete allegiance to factual accuracy, he called to say that 1988 would have been a more appropriate date due to the meeting of the Palestine National Council in Algiers at which they informally implied their full recognition and legitimacy of the State of Israel.

In this issue, on page 7, staff reporter Ron Csillag, also comments on the book in the context of his meeting with the author last week.

MBD

Israel's Jubilee 50 — *from the archives*

THE TEMPLE MOUNT IS IN OUR HANDS

Brig.-Gen. Uzi Narkiss and Rabbi Shlomo Goren embrace following the capture of the Western Wall.
[Keren Hayesod – UIA Communications photo]

* * * * *

For the latest in *Israel at 50* news, check out the *Israel at 50* Web site: [www.feduja.org] or call the *Israel at 50* hotline 416-635-2883 ext. 706.

Greater Toronto Area

Israel must accept U.S. peace proposals: Husseini

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The Palestinians will accept nothing less than an Israeli redeployment from the West Bank based on current U.S. proposals, a senior Palestinian leader declared in a recent interview.

Urging the United States to force Israel into accepting its plan for a 13 percent withdrawal, Faisal Husseini claimed that only "sufficient international pressure" will have an effect on Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

"The ball is in the American court," said Husseini, a member of the PLO's executive council and the Palestine Authority's top official in Jerusalem. "We accepted the American proposals and Israel did not. Will the U.S. lead the process or not?"

Husseini, who met with local Jewish community officials during his brief visit here two weeks ago, accused the Israeli government of pushing the region toward "an explosion and a circle of violence" that will exact a high toll on all sides.

"Netanyahu believes in a sum zero game. He is a man who believes in the logic of power."

Here as a guest of Palestine House and the Canadian Arab Federation, he said that the peace process has slipped into "a coma."

Husseini – the scion of a prominent Palestinian family who spent six years under Israeli house arrest and 42 months in prison before and during the 1987-93 initifadah – warned that Islamic fundamentalist radicals will gain the ascendancy in the Palestinian self-rule areas should the peace process collapse.

Were that to happen, the influence of the militants would seep into Lebanon, Jordan, Egypt and parts of Israel inhabited by Israeli Arabs, he predicted.

Faisal Husseini

Looking sombre throughout the interview, Husseini, 58, raised the prospect of a unilateral declaration of statehood in May 1999 by Yasser Arafat, president of the Palestine Authority (PA), if the peace process dissolves.

"He will have no choice but to do that if he wants to go on leading the Palestinian people," observed Husseini, whose late father, Abdel al-Kadr, was one of the most famous Palestinian commanders of the first Arab-Israeli war in 1948-49.

He dismissed Netanyahu's claim that an independent Palestinian state would be a source of instability or a threat to Israel. A sovereign Palestinian state would be demilitarized, and would focus its energies on social and economic needs, he added. "We will be a poor state, with no oil and gold."

Husseini seemed unfazed by tacit Israeli threats to annex segments of the West Bank in the event of a declaration of Palestinian statehood. "Netanyahu is already doing it," he said, referring to the expansion of settlements and the confiscation of land.

Blasting the Israeli prime minister, he said, "Netanyahu is not a pragmatist but an ideologue."

Husseini claimed that the PA has exerted utmost efforts to keep terrorism in check. "We have done everything Israel has asked of us, even arresting people without a trial."

He said that the three suicide bombings which have rocked Tel Aviv and Jerusalem since March 1997 were carried out by Palestinians from Area B of the West Bank, whose security is in Israel's hands.

Historic rights

"There has not been a single attack from Area A since Netanyahu's election," he noted. Security in Area A, which comprises almost three percent of the West Bank, is enforced by the PA.

"Do you believe we can provide full security with only three percent of the land?"

Husseini, who is related to the former grand mufti of Jerusalem, Haj Amin al-Husseini, said that the PA expects a complete Israeli withdrawal from the West Bank once final status negotiations have been completed. "In the end, the Palestinians will get it. These are areas that must be under Palestinian sovereignty."

Asked whether Israel has historic rights in the West Bank, he retorted,"We have rights in Galilee, Jaffa, Ashdod, Ashkelon..."

Husseini, who helped establish Fatah's first guerrilla training camps in Lebanon in the 1960s, said the Palestinians will not tolerate autonomous Israeli settlements in their state. However, Jewish settlers are welcomed to remain behind after an Israeli pullout. "I have no problem with Jews living with us."

Husseini is confident that Israel will eventually relinquish the settlements in the West Bank. "Begin said he wouldn't give up the Sinai settlements, and he did."

He acknowledged that, under the terms of the Oslo accords, the PA is obliged to refrain from incitement against Israel. "This incitement from the Palestinian side should stop," he said, claiming that the PA has taken steps to curb it.

But in this respect, Israel has also breached the agreement, he charged, citing two examples.

Jewish settlers imprisoned for murdering Palestinians have been pardoned. And Israel has not removed a memorial in the West Bank settlement of Kiryat Arba built in honor of Baruch Goldstein. A doctor from Brooklyn, Goldstein killed 29 Palestinians in a Hebron mosque in February 1994 before being pummeled to death.

"Israel must stop believing that Palestinian blood is cheap."

Asked if he had a message for Jews in Canada, Husseini said: "This peace process can end the cycle of bloodshed and violence for children of both sides. I would like them to convince Israel that the next generation should live in peace, to convince Mr. Netanyahu that peace can create security."

During a working dinner at B'nai Brith headquarters, Husseini discussed topical issues with Rabbi Dow Marmur of Holy Blossom Temple, Bernie Farber of Canadian Jewish Congress, Simon Rosenbloom of Peace Now, Norman Godfrey of the Canada-Israel Committee and Frank Dimant of B'nai Brith.

"It was a courteous, calm, friendly and helpful meeting," said Rashad Saleh, chair of Palestine House, an educational and cultural centre in Mississauga. "Both sides voiced their opinions and concerns."

Rabbi Marmur called the meeting business-like. As he put it, "I was neither frosty nor particularly cordial, but straight forward."

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A little rain didn't dampen the spirits of more than 1,200 runners and walkers who turned out for the 18th annual Baycrest Challenge on Mother's Day. Funds from this year's Challenge will go towards Baycrest Centre and its construction of the new Apotex Centre, Jewish Home for the Aged and Centre for Cognitive Disorders.

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Open to the public Question period Refreshments

Govt. fights Hobson law suit

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Lawyers representing the federal government and six senior officials were in Ontario Court last week in a bid to throw out a law suit filed by the former head of the Nazi war crimes unit.

The suit, filed by Bill Hobson, was "frivolous or vexatious," an abuse of the court process and was filed after the limitation period had elapsed, the lawyers argued.

Hobson, who headed the unit from 1987 to 1990, has claimed $2.1 million in damages for nervous shock and mental suffering resulting from actions taken by government officials connected to the war crimes unit.

He claims lawyers subordinate to him refused to follow his instructions to pursue denaturalization and deportation against war crimes suspects and that bureaucrats made intentional and negligent misrepresentations to him about the unit's mandate, causing him to spend countless hours of fruitless work on cases that had no chance of proceeding.

He also claims that John Sims, currently an assistant deputy attorney general, wrote to the Law Society of Upper Canada as a way of threatening his livelihood as a lawyer.

All the events complained of by Hobson, except the Sims letter, occurred before 1990 and are therefore far beyond the six month period in which suits against civil servants can be launched, argued Sheila Block, lawyer for Bruce MacFarlane, Peter Kremer, John Tait, Yvan Roy, Kim Prost and Sims. In addition, the issues complained of by Hobson were "not actionable," she said.

Bruce Carr-Harris, representing the government of Canada, argued that government policy decisions "are protected from tort... The principle is that policy decisions are decisions made at a high level... Someone has to make them and the rest of us have to live with them."

He said "the overwhelming pick for Canadians was criminal prosecutions" of war crime suspects.

In other developments, Hobson has asked for a judicial review of the McCamus report, which exonerated the unit from allegations of anti-Semitism. Hobson claims McCamus made several procedural errors in gathering the information that went into the report.

Report's methodology concerns CJC

TORONTO — Bill Hobson may have found an ally for his critique of the way law professor John McCamus gathered information for a report that exonerated the war crimes unit of anti-Semitism.

Canadian Jewish Congress is concerned over the way McCamus specifically mentioned incidents involving Congress but failed to get Congress' side of events, said Jack Silverstone, the organization's legal counsel and executive director.

One key issue involves a statement made by the war crime unit's former director, Peter Kremer, to Silverstone and Eric Vernon, CJC's representative in Ottawa, that he "would not stick his neck out like [Hobson] did."

Kremer denied making the statement and McCamus accepted Kremer's denial along with notes taken by Justice Department lawyer Peter Sutton. But Kremer "absolutely, categorically, 100 percent, I remember it like yesterday" made the statement, Silverstone said. In addition, Vernon's contemporaneous notes back up their version of events, but McCamus never asked to see Vernon's notes, Silverstone added.

Another "absolute eyeopener" in the report was the way McCamus referred to a suggestion that former unit lawyer Arnold Fradkin was leaking confidential documents to Silverstone.

"That had no basis in reality, but what bothered me is that he never asked me about it. I would have liked my vehement denial to be in the report," Silverstone stated.

—P.L.

Christie on attack in Zundel case

By PAUL LUNGEN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — For Holocaust denier Ernst Zundel, it seems the more things change the more they stay the same.

Last week, Zundel's lawyer Doug Christie reprised a role he's been playing since 1985. He adopted a sarcastic, sneering tone to grill Frederick Schweitzer, an expert on historic anti-Semitism. In a rapid-fire manner in which he repeatedly interrupted the witness, Christie pestered Schweitzer with questions designed to show the reasonableness of various anti-Jewish views.

Christie suggested the Talmud was "flagrantly" anti-Christian; he cited author Gore Vidal quoting John Kennedy who allegedly claimed Truman's 1948 election campaign was saved by a $20-million donation from "Zionists;" he quoted Vidal as saying no other group "hijacked" the U.S. taxpayer for so much to pay for their homeland and he asked how that is different from Zundel's calling it "a racket."

In barely over one hour, Christie asked question after question in which Jews inevitably came out as malefactors of some sort. He touched on the controversy over Deir Yassin, on whether Menachem Begin and Yitzhak Shamir were terrorists, on whether the Talmud counsels deceit, and on whether speaking the truth can ever be considered anti-Semitic.

At one point, Christie, who has repeatedly championed the cause of free speech, appeared ready to blow a gasket when he claimed the Talmud referred to Jesus as "burning in hell in human excrement." He asked Schweitzer, whom he described as a "Christian Zionist," whether he considered that "blasphemous."

Zundel meanwhile, who once carried a cross to court to ensure himself media attention, sat quietly near Christie, wearing a black kippah.

The tribunal had earlier been told that Zundel had investigated his heritage and now believes he may have some Jewish ancestry, said Marvin Kurz, who represented B'nai Brith's League for Human Rights.

This bizarre series of events took place as part of a hearing under the Canadian Human Rights Act. A tribunal is hearing a complaint that Zundel operated an Internet Web site that promoted contempt of Jews. Holocaust survivor Sabina Citron and the Toronto Mayor's Committee on Community and Race Relations initiated the complaint. The League, Canadian Jewish Congress and the Simon Wiesenthal Centre have joined the case as interveners.

Zundel has denied he operated the California-based "Zundelsite." But as he had in two previous criminal trials when he was charged with distributing material denying the Holocaust, Zundel, through his counsel, attempted to suggest the criticism of the Jews found in the Web site was justified. The case continues.

Greater Toronto Area

Prolific Martin Gilbert pens history of Israel

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

Sir Martin Gilbert

TORONTO — Writing a history of modern Israel must be like trying to decide when to get off an amusement park ride: too soon, and you miss the best parts; stay on the ride and, well, you'll never get your book written.

Such was the dilemma – if one could call it that – facing Martin Gilbert, among the world's pre-eminent historians of the 20th century and certainly of the Holocaust. The idea for a retrospective look at the Jewish State first came to him in 1973, two years after he had held long talks with David Ben-Gurion. The day after he arrived in Israel, the Yom Kippur War broke out, and history, as is often the case in the Middle East, was overtaken by events – events that later would become history themselves.

But Gilbert's timing, intentional or not, is impeccable. His latest effort, *Israel: A History*, (Turnerbooks, 750 pages, $49) arrives on the state's 50th birthday – a fitting gift to the land and its supporters.

The ultra-prolific Gilbert (he was introduced at Beth David Synagogue prior to a May10 talk as someone who has probably written more books than many of us have read) has penned what is already being hailed as a definitive history of Israel. The distinguished Oxford historian, official biographer of Winston Churchill and author of nearly 60 weighty historical tomes, chronicles the state's story from its idealistic beginnings, almost to the present.

Written in the seamless, leisurely style for which he has become famous, Sir Martin (he was knighted in 1995) combines standard historical research with his own intimate knowledge of the country (he lives in Jerusalem for a good part of each year.) As well, he quotes liberally from the letters, diaries and eyewitness accounts of Ben-Gurion, Moshe Dayan, Golda Meir, Teddy Kollek, and dozens of ordinary Israelis. The result, enthused *Publishers Weekly*, is "a gripping epic."

The work covers all the military conflicts, including the intifadah; the political watersheds: Camp David and the Oslo Accords; and the human face of Israel: patterns of settlement, the society, culture and the economy of a nation at odds with its neighbors, and sometimes, itself.

The book appears, by Gilbert's own admission, "20 years later than intended. It was originally conceived for Israel's 30th anniversary [in 1978]. Ironically, Israeli policy changed in 1978 [with the Camp David peace accords with Egypt]. So I had the historian's sense that that should be part of the history," he told *The CJN* in an interview, following a hectic day of media meetings.

Asked whether the dense volume, complete with 40 pages of historical maps, is a weight off his shoulders, Gilbert smiles. "I wouldn't start it today," he says.

But he's quick to add that it's not intended as a fond gift to Israel on its 50th.

"I don't think you'll find the Palestinian view presented in such detail [in any other history]. I was drawn to the project by Israel's faults and weaknesses, as much as by its strengths."

But was his objectivity clouded by his obvious affections for Israel?

"You can't take Israel's side," he rejoins, "because Israel has no 'side.' It has several competing perspectives."

Canada merits attention in the book, for its favoring of a Jewish state, sending of volunteer fighters in 1948, and opposing the UN's Zionism is Racism resolution. Gilbert still holds a special fondness for this country. He was a child war evacuee from Britain, and spent four years in Toronto living with the Laizner family.

Gilbert worries little over the current impasse between Israel and the United States. Although this is "definitely a low point in relations," talks continue every day, even if they are not between high-level officials.

And Gilbert reserves some praise for Yasser Arafat, whom he says has done much to contain extremist Palestinians. "But," he adds, "as a British school boy's report card used to say, 'There's always room for improvement.' "

The author is careful to steer clear of endorsing either Benjamin Netanyahu or his Labor predecessors. The current hard line exists, he believes, "because Israelis watch TV, and see young Palestinians calling on Saddam Hussein to eliminate Israel."

Despite the fact that the Olso peace accords has faltered; despite impending "final status" talks on the future of Jerusalem; and despite the stress in Israeli society that Yitzhak Rabin's assassination continues to engender, Gilbert is forever the optimist, albeit in a cool, British way. "Something will be worked out," he says.

Leukemia fundraiser launched by patient

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — When 29-year-old Michael Nepom discovered he had leukemia last May, he didn't give in to the temptation of despair — instead, he began to work with the Leukemia Research Fund to help others with the disease.

A tangible result of his efforts will be a golf tournament to benefit the LRF, which will be held at his own golf club, the Diamondback Golf Club at Leslie and Bloomington Rd., on June 19. The fee of $175 will include breakfast, green fees, a golf cart, and lunch.

Nepom himself will either be there for a very short time, or not at all, as he was scheduled for a bone marrow transplant last week (May 13), and would be in protective isolation for three weeks after that.

Nepom spoke to *The CJN* from his hospital room at Princess Margaret Hospital. He said that after a trip to Acapulco in May of 1997, he went to his doctor because he was feeling very tired and ill.

"My doctor told me that my white blood cell count was out of control. Soon, I was diagnosed with chronic myeloid leukemia."

After treatment by a hematologist, oral chemotherapy, daily injections of Interferon, and a trip to Sloan-Kettering hospital, he decided on his own to have a bone marrow transplant.

Fortunately, Nepom was able to find a perfect match from the Red Cross Bone Marrow Registry. His transplant follows several sessions of total body radiation.

"He is quite a trooper — he is really hanging in there," said his wife, Shari, who works for UJA/Federation.

Not willing to "let the disease take over my life," Nepom said he and Shari decided to start their family. They are expecting a baby in September.

The golf tournament, which is now being looked after by Michael's sister Leslie Igel, has grown beyond what they expected. Some 150 golfers are planning to take part and Bob Rae, the national spokesperson for the Leukemia Research Fund, members of the Toronto Maple Leafs, and the media will be there.

Nepom hopes to make the tournament an annual event. He said that he would like next year's to focus on the need for Jews to be tested for the bone marrow registry.

For more information, call 694-1187.

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CJC's 25th plenary

Next week, for three days beginning on May 24, several hundred delegates and observers from across Canada will be gathering in Winnipeg, the crossroad in central Canada between prairie west and industrial east, for the 25th plenary assembly of the Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC).

For nearly 80 years and continuing to this very day, Congress has had a rich history and deeply embedded tradition of speaking up for the Jews of Canada, lobbying the decision-makers of government and advocating on behalf of the minorities and "outcasts" in our midst. It is as close to a "parliament" of Canada's Jewish communities as today's communal organizational realities allow, one of the pre-eminent voices in an expanding chorus of representative Jewish spokespersons.

Over the past two decades, however, the burgeoning of local community federations and their integration into the wider North American Council of Jewish Federations has inevitably brought change to the scope and nature of CJC's mandate. But even if altered, that mandate is as vital today as it has ever been in the past.

Therefore, like the city in which the assembly is convening, the occasion, too, is a crossroad where Congress can reflect, reassess and reaffirm the importance of its work and "re-experience," as it were, the thrill of commitment to causes higher than the self.

The theme of the assembly is Jewish Roots Meet 21st Century Realities. It brings together scholars, experts, lay, professional and political leaders to share ideas, exchange views and stimulate discussion in some of the most pressing issues of the day.

As long as the Jews of Canada are concerned about the well being of their fellow human beings, here and abroad, Congress must participate in the unfolding of Canadian life, influencing policy, serving as a watchdog for the rights of the underdog, acting as a guardian of Jewish interests, and lending a voice to the searing imperatives of conscience. The 25th Congress plenary assembly is a perfect moment to be reminded of this.

To all the delegates and observers gathered in Winnipeg we extend our best wishes for a meaningful and rewarding conference.

The real catastrophe

Cleverly taking a page from the manual of public relations imaging and media manipulations, the Palestinian leadership decided to commemorate the date of Israel's founding, May 14, 1948, as *al-nakba*, the catastrophe.

Throughout Gaza and the West Bank and inside Israel itself, Palestinians demonstrated their contempt for Israel. Of course, violence ensued. Young children, mostly teenagers were the centrepiece of the protests, hurling their rocks, stones and molotov cocktails at the gun-toting Israeli soldiers. As of this writing, 10 Palestinians have been killed in the rioting.

The Palestinians have adopted a new tactic to try to influence western opinion, a tactic intent on creating different associations in the western mind for Israel's rebirth other than the "miraculous" triumph of the Jewish people. But this tactic, like others, will not succeed. Nor should we accede to or be indifferent to the Palestinian efforts at redefining history.

In May 1948, a war of extermination was launched against Israel. We must not feel defensive or apologetic that, merely five years after the crematoria of Europe, the Jews of Israel defeated the many armies and irregulars intent on their slaughter.

The real catastrophe for the Palestinian people was and remains the failure of their leadership, which even today, still talks about "all options being open" in their struggle against Israel.

WISDOM OF THE AGES
"A quarrelsome man deserves no answers."
Rabbi Nachman of Bratslav

Dry Bones
CAPT. KIRK! LOOK AT THAT FEDERATION STARSHIP! WOW!
IT'S OUTSMARTING THE KLINGONS, PICKING UP THE REFUGEES AND ZOOMING INTO THE FUTURE
I KNOW!
I DIDN'T KNOW WE HAD SUCH EFFICIENT MACHINES IN OUR FEDERATION
WE DON'T
IT'S FROM THE JEWISH FEDERATION

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York Jewish grads teach at all levels

In a May 7 article on Jewish teacher education at our sister university, McGill, you say that York's Jewish Teacher Education Program has limited itself to training elementary school teachers. That is not correct.

Among our alumni are high school and junior high teachers, as well as elementary teachers. Most of our students have prepared themselves for elementary teaching because there are more day schools and more job opportunities at that level. But we prepare teachers for all levels. Thanks to a generous endowment from the Israel Koschitzky Family Foundation, we are planning to expand our efforts in every area.

Readers may be interested to know that our alumni are teaching in schools across Canada, in the United States, in Israel, and of course, in Toronto. In the last two years, we have seen graduating students receive a Bronfman Yozma fellowship as well as a prestigious Wexner fellowship. At present, there are 30 students in our program, which is, in fact, the only program in North America to prepare teachers for certification both in general studies and in Jewish studies.

Prof. Alex Pomson
Coordinator, York University
Jewish Teacher Education Program

Reiterates criticism of Vatican Holocaust statement

I am obliged to respond to Alexander Epstein's letter of May 7 on the Vatican. I have no objection to criticism, provided it is valid and accurate.

Epstein in his letter reaffirms my principal complaint that the Catholic Church did not go far enough in its apology and exonerated Pope Pius XII. I agree with Epstein and with Rabbi Jordan Pearlson that the Vatican's report was not as forthcoming as one would hope after a so-called 10-year study.

Epstein is dead wrong, however, if he believes a cardinal who chooses to bless the Ukrainian Waffen SS Division is not under the direct control and authority of the Vatican.

Epstein is concerned that when criticism is levelled against the Catholic Church and the Ukrainians, this will jeopardize the lives of Jews who live in Ukraine. Surely with their new-found democracy and respect for human rights, neither the government nor the Church in Ukraine would tolerate anti-Semitism.

Bert Raphael
President
Jewish Civil Rights Educational Foundation of Canada

The United States is not a true friend of Israel

It's funny that the United States can possess such an obvious double standard and yet still be turned to for its input into the "progression" of the so-called "peace process."

While the United States calls itself a friend and ally of the State of Israel, it continues to side blatantly with the Palestinians.

You never see Madeleine Albright or Bill Clinton pressuring Yasser Arafat. It's Benjamin Netanyahu whom they pressure, always telling him to give away more land and to stop construction.

If a religious extremist sect in the United States threatened the government with violence if construction in any major city continued, surely the construction wouldn't stop. And the United States surely wouldn't give land away to prevent any violence.

How can the United States see all of the incitement and violence that occur daily in Israel, and demand that Netanyahu give away more land? The answer is actually quite simple: The present United States government is not a true ally or friend of Israel. If it was, it wouldn't make such absurd demands of the Israeli government in the face of a self-proclaimed enemy armed with terrorists.

Shmuli Honig
Toronto

Educate young non-Jews about Israel too

In regard to the editor's message (*CJN*, April 16), I think it is possible for the media to influence young Jewish attitudes about Israel, but to date, the media's impact has not been overwhelming. Most young Jews in Canada and elsewhere, myself included, have demonstrated a passion for Zionism and a keen commitment to supporting the State of Israel, despite the barrage of negative press.

I am most concerned about impressionable young non-Jews, who are more likely than young Jews to form an opinion of Israel based entirely on the information disseminated by the media. If these young non-Jews continue to be subjected to media reports that depict Israel as an empowered victimizer, they may be inclined to avoid relations with Israel, both personally and professionally.

The editor's suggestion to use education as the tool to limit the effect the media has on shaping young people's perceptions of Israel is a bright idea, but this education cannot simply be geared towards young Jews. Young non-Jews and Jews both need to be taught about Israel's accomplishments and humanitarian acts so that when they are in a position to assist Israel politically and economically, they will not hesitate to do so.

Adam Segal
Toronto

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures.

Perspectives

Jerusalem or Al-Qutz?

May 24, the 28th day of Iyar, is Yom Yerushalayim. To help commemorate this holiday, which marks the reunification of the city of Jerusalem during the Six Day War in 1967, the author briefly reflects upon the nature of the theological ties of Islam and of Judaism to the city.

By SARAH TAIEB CARLEN

"Paradise longs for Jerusalem and Jerusalem longs for Paradise."

* * *

"Thus saith the Lord God: 'This is Jerusalem! I have set her in the midst of the nations, and countries are round about her.'"

* * *

"Jerusalem, light of the world!"

The crowning achievement of King Solomon's reign was the building of the Temple, which, although small, took seven years to complete and became celebrated throughout the Near East for its beauty and splendor. Its remaining Western Wall, embellished by Herod hundreds of years later, is today the most sacred place on earth for Jews.

It was King David, however, who irreversibly linked Jerusalem to the Jewish religion, people and state. He deeply loved Jerusalem and sang his devotion to it in such verses as:

If I forget you, O Jerusalem,
let my right hand whither...
If I do not remember you,
If I do not set Jerusalem
above my highest joy...

Twenty-one centuries after Solomon, in his book, *The Kuzari*, Yehuda Halevi described the special place held by Jerusalem in the hearts and in the theology of all Jews. In the engaging discourse between the king of the Khazars and the Jew, Halevi explained the foundation of his faith: The enduring strength of the Jewish people is God given; and the source of its strength is the prophecy which will be realized when the Jews live in the Land of Israel, and especially in Jerusalem, speaking Hebrew, in freedom and dignity. The king asks: "But are you not like a dead body now?" And the Jew answers: "Not dead, but dangerously ill, yet with a firm faith that the great miracle will happen." By miracle, Halevi meant the end of exile and the ingathering of the Jews to the land of Israel and especially to Jerusalem.

The famous photograph of the paratroopers after they re-captured the Western Wall.

Halevi was not the first to believe that one has to reside in Jerusalem in order for one's prayers to be heard. That idea had already been advanced by Saadia Gaon in the 10th century. There are endless such examples throughout their history of the Jews' love for and sanctification of Jerusalem.

Then the Muslims conquered Jerusalem. A simple, but important military detail exemplifies the lack of importance that Muslims traditionally attached to the city. Having just conquered Syria in the year 638 Omar, the second caliph, sent one of his young officers to occupy Jerusalem. He did not deem the trip to Jerusalem worthy of his efforts.

Neither did he deem it important to populate the city with Muslims. A Judeo-Arabic letter found in the Cairo geniza informs us that when the Jews asked Omar for his permission to return to the city, he granted it to them. He also implicitly acknowledged the Jews' right to the city. When he first saw the site of the Temple, which had become a garbage dump, he reportedly ordered the Byzantine Christian patriarch to crawl on his hands and knees through the filth and "clean this Jewish holy place." The Muslims, however, did have a special reverence for the Temple, because it was the first temple they had seen of a religion that did not use drawings, statues and sculptures to "represent the Unrepresentable."

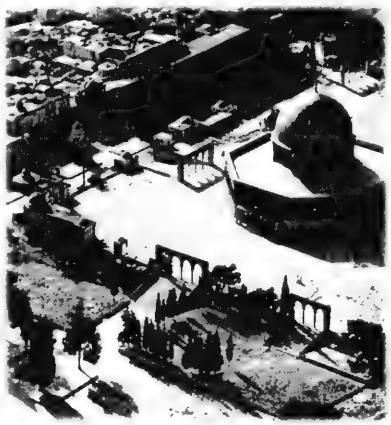
The behavior of Omar and a few of the subsequent Muslim rulers shows that not only was Islam free of any special attachment to Jerusalem, but it actually acknowledged the Jews' "ownership" and rights over it.

Moreover, many Muslims believe in the legend that explains why the Dome of the Rock is black. The holy color of Islam is green and the Dome of the Rock, built on the site of the Temple, was originally painted green. But it gradually began to tarnish and eventually became completely black. People interpreted this as a sign of mourning for the destruction of the Temple that had stood there before the Dome of the Rock was built on the holy spot.

For 400 years, before the Crusades, Islam ruled in Jerusalem. The majority of the city's population was Christian, although the Jews kept sneaking in and settling near the Kotel and between the Gate of Jehoshaphat and the Damascus Gate. Not many Muslims seemed to have been interested in settling in the city, even though it was under Muslim rule.

In his book *Was hat Mohammed aus dem Judenthume aufgenommen?* written in 1833, Abraham Geiger discusses the rabbinical and biblical themes of early Islamic religious texts, including the Koran. Of course, this is not a topic that most Muslims would consider discussing since they believe that just as God simply always was, so, too, with His book, the Koran. God certainly did not need help or inspiration from the Jews or the Christians.

Since the earliest times of Islam, the Muslims have not only denied any Jewish or Christian influence in the crystallization and formation of their religious doctrine, but they have also often made a strong point of distancing themselves from most Jewish or Christian symbols. One such symbol is Jerusalem.



The Temple Mount on which stands the Dome of the Rock, as photographed in June 1967.

Jafar Tabari, the famous ninth-century Muslim historian gives the following account of a conversation between Kab al-Ahbar, a Jew converted to Islam, and the caliph Omar, shortly after his conquest of Jerusalem:

Omar: Where do you think we should put our place of prayer?

Kab: By the Rock.

Omar: By God, Kab, you are following after Judaism. I saw you take off your sandals.

Kab: I wanted to feel the touch of it with my bare feet.

Omar: I saw you. But no... we were not commanded concerning the Rock, but we were commanded concerning the Kaba [in Mecca].

This dialogue shows how skeptical Omar was of Kab's conversion to Islam, since Kab still considered Jerusalem a holy city. At the time, Mecca, where Mohammed was born around 570, was the focal point of Muslim reverence and a place of pilgrimage towards which Muslims all over the world turned five times a day when they prayed. The other holy Muslim city was Medina, where the prophet had converted so many people to Islam before he died there in 632.

In subsequent years the tribe of Almohads added yet another holy city, Kairawan, in Tunisia, and they forbade Jews and Christians to live there lest it be desecrated by their impure presence.

Not only was Jerusalem not a holy city for Muslims, but its special place in the hearts and religious writings of the Jews made it quite unholy to the Muslims. As the famous Princeton scholar Bernard Lewis put it: "To venerate Jerusalem as a holy city is a sign of Jewish influence and therefore bad." Jerusalem is actually never explicitly mentioned in the Koran and this accounts for Muslim indifference and occasional dislike of the city through the ages.

This attitude changed, however. The reason might be found in this verse of the Koran, chapter 17, the Night Journey: "Glory be to Him who made His servant go by night from the Sacred Temple[2] to the farther Temple[3] whose surroundings We have blessed, that We might show him some of Our signs."

In my Penguin Classics English translation of the Koran, footnote 2 reads: "Of Mecca;" and footnote 3 reads: "Of Jerusalem (and thence to the throne of Allah, accompanied by the Angel Gabriel). Some Muslim commentators give a literal interpretation to this passage, others regard it as a vision."

Another factor that accounts for the change in attitude regarding Jerusalem is that 50 years after Omar, the caliph Abd el-Malik built the Dome of the Rock, which was completed in 691, on the Temple Mount to outdo the Christians and their Church of the Holy Sepulchre. He was also eager to settle his score with his rival, the caliph of Mecca and Medina, and he trumpeted the holiness of Jerusalem.

Malik's son, Caliph Waleed, built another mosque with a silver dome called Al-Aksa. The Muslims call the Temple Mount esplanade Haram esh-Sharif: Noble sanctuary.

Many nations came, conquered and left: Titus had coins inscribed with "Judea Capta;" Hadrianus called Jerusalem Aelia Capitolina; the first Christians called it Hierosolyma.

In 1099, the European Christian Crusaders started their holy war in order to take it back from the Muslims. They massacred Jews and Muslims alike and created the Latin Kingdom of Jerusalem, which barred both Jews and Muslims from the city.

Jerusalem became a centre of religious learning under the Mamelukes in the 13th century. The Turkish sultan, Suleiman the Magnificent restored the city and built new walls around it that topped and surpassed the old Herodian walls.

During his Egyptian and Palestinian campaign, Napoleon issued a proclamation inviting the Jews to "come and settle Jerusalem."

Today, Muslims all over the world call the city Bet al-Makdas or, more often, Al-Qutz, The Holy One. Note the similarity to the Hebrew word Beit Hamikdash and to HaKadosh. However significant the tie between Islam and Jerusalem, it is a relatively recent one, and as we have seen, far less theologically centred than is often assumed.

On the other hand, ever since King David, Jerusalem has been at the very heart of Judaism's connection to the Land of Israel, and thankfully, Jerusalem is once again the capital of the State of Israel.

Sarah Taieb Carlen is a professor at York University in Toronto.

Opinions

The challenge from the centre

By Shira Herzog in Toronto

Ronnie Milo's surprise announcement that he will run for prime minister in the next national elections has unsettled the volatile Israeli political scene even further.

Milo, officially a member of Likud and currently mayor of Tel Aviv, served in the Shamir government as minister of police. At 48, he is one of the young guard of the Likud, a peer of Ehud Olmert; Dan Meridor and Benny Begin. Over the years, he has moved from a hawkish, right-wing position, to a centrist, pragmatic one, in favor of the Oslo accords. Last year, he led an abortive "coup" against Benjamin Netanyahu, and since then, he harbors a personal and professional animosity towards the incumbent prime minister.

Milo's move was expected by some, especially in light of the serious challenge to him in Tel Aviv by Ron Huldai, a new, attractive, independent candidate for the mayoralty. According to this theory, better to lose on the national than the municipal stage.

Milo's move is more interesting in the context of the evolution of Israeli politics, on several counts. First, it represents yet another stage in the "privatization" of Israeli politics, even more apparent since the direct elections for prime minister were introduced in 1996. In the Israeli political scene of the 1990s, individuals count and parties do not. Ideology and history are in decline, and individual politicians cobble together candidates' lists based on short-term expediency and personal political agendas. Milo can run as head of a new independent list, composed potentially of Likud and Labor defectors and non-political business and academic leaders without a shared political or ideological past.

A second, interesting phenomenon is the fertile ground for Milo's move in the centre of the Israeli political spectrum today. The history of centrist parties in Israel is a checkered one. The historic divides between Labor and Likud, first on economic grounds, and after 1967, on political grounds, made it difficult for a coherent, centrist alternative to emerge.

Twice in Israel's political history, centrist parties had a significant showing in the Knesset. The first was in 1965, when Rafi, Ben-Gurion's breakaway faction that was formed largely to reflect his personal vendetta against rivals in his party, succeeded in the election. More significant was the success of the Democratic Movement for Change (DMC) in 1977. In that election, Labor lost its plurality for the first time. The DMC gave Begin's Herut the majority it required to govern, and with that, changed the face of Israeli politics forever by legitimizing Herut (Likud's predecessor) as a governing party.

Rafi, the DMC and various small centrist parties disappeared or broke down and were restructured repeatedly over the years.

Today, the situation is different. The differences between Likud and Labor are virtually non-existent on economic and social policy, and – in spite of current perceptions – are narrowing on the political question of the peace process. For some time, political analysts have identified the emergence of a new centrist party made up of former Labor and Likud politicians as a distinct possibility in the post-peace era in Israel. In fact, a number of politicians from both parties are presently working quietly on a joint platform for the centrist party of the future, in the hope that it may represent a majority in the Knesset and thereby limit the leverage of the haredi parties. The blurred ideological lines between Labor and Likud create a receptivity towards a soft centrist message for peace, coupled with a strong stance against religious coercion.

But the new space for a candidate in the centre is also created by the new electoral system. Direct elections of the prime minister have weakened the historic, large parties, and have allowed individuals to emerge as distinct entities. Already in 1992, David Levy, Netanyahu's rival for leadership of Likud, left Likud and declared his intention to run for prime minister. Netanyahu seduced him back into the fold at a heavy cost, because of the fear that Levy would force a second ballot that might work in Shimon Peres' favor.

Milo might well do the same. His list for the Knesset may not win too many seats, but in the race for the prime ministership, he will likely force a second ballot. It is highly unlikely that Milo would join Netanyahu, for whom he has little respect. In fact, he may well work in Ehud Barak's favor, especially among traditional Labor voters who are reluctant to support Barak personally. Because of this, Netanyahu will do all he can to discourage Milo's move.

The elections may be as much as two years away, and Milo has a long way to go. For an already-fragmented Likud, riddled with internal conflicts, his announcement poses yet another challenge.

Israel at 50 and the non-Jews

By Morton Weinfeld in Montreal

In a previous column, I addressed the links between Israel and Diaspora Jewry on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of Israel's independence. In another, I looked at issues of internal significance to Israel herself. In this column, I would like to reflect on Israel's place vis-a-vis the non-Jewish world.

Indeed, it seems I am not alone in reflecting on this. I have been struck by what seems like an inordinate amount of media attention to and analysis of this event. Most major newspapers that I have read have featured major articles, often a series of articles, dealing with current events in Israel as well as reviewing the high and low points of the past 50 years.

Perhaps it is true that "Jews are news." In a general sense, one could argue that media coverage of Israel is greater than might be warranted by numbers alone. Perhaps some of this may be due to large Jewish representation among readers of major periodicals or among working journalists. Perhaps it is due to the ongoing tensions in the Middle East and the easy access that journalists have in reporting from Israel compared to many other countries in the area or other "hot spots" in general. Perhaps it is due to fallout from a mood of introspection in Israel herself that may have spilled over into the non-Jewish world.

But there is more. I suspect there is an ongoing mystique about Jews, a subtext of the exotic in the way many non-Jews perceive Jews, Judaism, and by extension, Israel. There is nothing hostile about this.

Over a recent lunch at the McGill Faculty Club, a non-Jewish colleague recounted how she had been rather opposed to Israel's activities in the region until the Entebbe hostage rescue of 1976. She found herself awed and exhilarated by the event, which caused her to view Israel more favorably.

Many Jews find themselves serving as de facto ambassadors for Israel, called upon to either justify or explain various Israeli actions. I have never been bothered by that. While I try to be consistent and honest, on occasion I will fudge my "views" to make the best case for Israel, depending on the predilections of my audience. Not a terrible compromise…

Most North Americans indicate general support for Israel when asked such questions in national surveys, and there is no evidence that this support has been declining in the recent past. A fascination with Israel among better educated Canadians continues, but the elements of that fascination change with the times. Once it was curiosity about the kibbutz movement. Now it is as likely to be an interest in how Israel has coped with the massive influx of Soviet Jews, or how the tensions between religious and secular Jews will play themselves out, or the ongoing ups and downs of the peace process. From kibbutzniks to Haredim in Mea She'arim.

The fascination with Israel also seems linked to the increasing interest in the Holocaust (by Jews and non-Jews alike) over the past generation. The Montreal *Gazette*, as part of its extensive coverage of events related to Israel's 50th anniversary celebrations, included a lengthy analysis of the diversity of Jewish life in Montreal. But more revealing were a series of articles from a correspondent who was sent to accompany the Montreal contingent on the March of the Living tour of Poland and Israel.

Those reports served to establish for the non-Jewish readers of the newspaper the linkage between the despair of the Holocaust and the potential for redemption represented by Israel. This juxtaposition was also presented to non-Jewish moviegoers in the final emotional scene of the film *Schindler's List*. The linkage was also present, but perhaps in more subtle form, in the earlier movie *Exodus*. To the image of Israel as an innovative, interesting place has been grafted her role as guarantor of the future physical and religious survival of the Jewish people. And that is about right.

Talking to the animals

By Rabbi Gunther Plaut in Toronto

The other day I read an article by the senior editor of a national U.S. magazine, and the part that attracted me was her experience with talking to animals.

The subject is of course not new. The Torah tells us of two creatures who spoke. One was the serpent who persuaded Eve to taste the forbidden fruit in the Garden of Eden. The other one was four-legged: Balaam's famous ass. She had a good look at a Divine being standing in her and Balaam's way and refused to go on. Her master thereupon beat her repeatedly and eventually the ass was empowered to speak to Balaam, rebuking him for his violence. In this case, the supernatural gift of speech was granted the animal because it could see what the human was unable to perceive – a potent lesson in humanity in addition to all other implications of the story.

Lately the subject has become current once again – not in any ways involving biblical tales, but reputing to be accurate descriptions of actual experiences with animals. Thus one book currently on the bestseller list informs us that the author speaks with horses, and the article to which I refer goes even further.

Author Cathy Madison approached the subject as a skeptic, but learned to adjust and concentrate her mind in such a fashion that she was able, not only to talk to animals, but also to see things from their perspective, if necessary.

Even though her experiences seem extraordinary and she is still somewhat skeptical, she concludes: "I now look at animals in a very different way. Science may not yet be able to define what we share, but whatever it is demands my respect. I no longer feel as separate and superior; I feel as if I've been introduced into a quiet, kindred society, where humans and animals cooperate and negotiate things like food, clothing and going for a walk."

Dog and cat lovers will not find this revolutionary, but others do. They believe that animals cannot think or talk, and they have difficulty dealing with subjects like communicating with dolphins and whales. From long experience, I know that the dogs we had did tell us their desires quite explicitly by the way they barked or moaned or whimpered. Of course they had to train us before we could understand them, but after awhile we learned.

In daily behavior animals and humans are pretty much alike: they eat, drink, sleep, have sexual drives, try to preserve what they have and especially their turf; they compete for power, love to be loved, and they all die. They are also different beyond the obvious: animals rarely eat more than they need or kill except to survive.

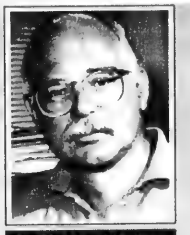
The bottom line is that, while human intelligence is indeed in most ways radically different from and superior to that of other creatures, nonetheless it would behoove us to feel a little less superior and a little more respectful of those who are not like us.

The article referred to appeared in the March/April edition of the *Utne Reader*.

The Kirshner File

Adolf Hitler – a historical survey

On April 30, 1945, one of the most evil men who ever lived placed a revolver to his head and blew out his brains. Fifty-three



By Sheldon Kirshner

years on, popular interest in Adolf Hitler remains undimmed, judging by the avalanche of books examining his life.

Since 1936, when Konrad Heiden wrote the first substantial book about him, there have been more than 100 biographies on Hitler. John Lukacs, an American historian who describes Hitler as "the most extraordinary figure" of the 20th century, has studied these works. And in *The Hitler of History* (Alfred Knopf), he produces an intriguing but disturbing account of the evolution of our knowledge of him.

Lukacs claims that almost all of the serious biographies of Hitler have been written by German, British and American historians. German biographers, he adds, have made strenuous, earnest and honest efforts to come to terms with him, even though Germans have generally been loathe to think much about Hitler.

Having thoroughly immersed himself in the literature, Lukacs rates Joachim Fest's *Adolf Hitler: A Biography* (1973) and Ernst Deuerlein's *Hitler: A Political Biography* (1969) as the best works of the genre. He acknowledges that Allan Bullock's *Hitler: A Study in Tyranny* (1952) is the most commercially successful of all the biographies. But in the same breath, he dismisses it as "one dimensional" and "much too simple." This, surely, will be a surprise to readers who hold Bullock in high regard.

Before he launches into an analysis of Hitler and his policies, Lukacs feels duty bound to clear up a "grave misunderstanding." Hitler, far from having been mad, was responsible for his actions. And, making due allowances for the fluctuating frontiers between mental illness and sanity, he was a "normal" human being.

That being said, Lukacs makes three important points. The first is that his opponents underestimated his abilities. Hitler was in fact an effective statesman, a successful strategist and an awesomely respected leader who could size up an adversary. The second point is that Hitler did not usurp power. He became chancellor legally, constitutionally and democratically, a bleak truth Germans cannot rationalize away.

The third point is that the majority of Germans admired, perhaps loved, Hitler, even if they did not subscribe to National Socialism and join the Nazi party. "The German people believed in Hitler," Lukacs writes. "They put their faith in him."

Studying the trajectory of his career as a revolutionary and politician, Lukacs perceives several crucial turning points. The first was his arrival in Vienna in 1908. The second was his return to Munich in 1919. The third was his release from prison in 1924. The fourth was the diplomatic successes he enjoyed in 1938, his highwater mark. The fifth was his realization, in late 1941, that he could not win the war.

Hitler, had he suddenly died in 1938, would have been regarded as one of the greatest Germans in history, according to Fest. The statement is jarring, if not morally offensive, since Hitler's regime was mercilessly totalitarian and brutally anti-Semitic.

Yet Lukacs agrees with Fest's assessment. Hitler transformed Germany – humiliated by the Treaty of Versailles – into the greatest power in Europe without firing a shot. He brought prosperity and confidence to a nation crippled by the Depression.

"The thirties, after 1933, were sunny years for most Germans," Lukacs observes. "The concentration camps, the suppression of German Jews, the raucous vulgarity of Nazi propaganda were there, painfully sharp in the minds of an embittered minority; but how could they stack up against Hitler's creation of Prosperity, Greatness, Unity?"

It is a persuasive thesis, and Lukacs bolsters it with revealing statistics attesting to the mood of optimism that gripped Germany until World War II. There was a phenomenal rise in the birthrate and number of marriages, and the number of suicides dropped by 80 percent.

These trends were reduced to rubble by Germany's invasion of the Soviet Union in June 1941, which Lukacs calls Hitler's "supreme folly." Had Germany defeated the Soviet Union, he speculates, Britain and the United States would have had no alternative but to accommodate themselves to German supremacy in Europe.

Lukacs is on less firm ground when he compares Joseph Stalin's Soviet Union with Hitler's Germany. Leaving aside Jews, he claims that there was more individual and even political freedom in Germany than in the Soviet Union. The point, however, is belabored.

His discussion of Hitler's anti-Semitism is instructive.

"We have no evidence of anti-Semitic utterances (private or public) by Hitler before his 31st birthday," Lukacs writes.

Reviewing the record, he reaches the conclusion that Hitler's anti-Jewish obsessions crystallized in 1918 and 1919, when, as a simple foot soldier, he witnessed the collapse of the German army and the subsequent rise and fall of the Munich Soviet republic.

Lukacs discounts Hitler's claim that he became "an absolute anti-Semite" in pre-World War I Vienna. Hitler, he argues, had Jewish acquaintances, perhaps even friends, in the youth hostel where he resided. In at least one instance, he enjoyed the hospitality of a cultured Jewish family. And he admired the musical talent of Gustav Mahler (the Jewish composer who, for opportunistic reasons, converted to Christianity.)

Lukacs concedes that, even in Vienna, Hitler struggled with the so-called Jewish problem. "But it seems that he felt no need to express these sentiments while they were still inchoate, before they had crystallized into a categorical idea or a powerful obsession."

As chancellor, Hitler's anti-Jewish policies evolved in stages. His original goal was expulsion: to force Jews out of Germany. Kristallnacht, in 1938, was designed with this purpose in mind. And yet Lukacs claims that it was not Hitler but principally Josef Goebbels, the propaganda minister, who organized this nation-wide pogrom. As circumstances changed, extermination became Hitler's ultimate objective.

We know that Hitler left no written order for this policy to be implemented. This was no mere oversight. Hitler did not want to know anything about the details of the Final Solution, reportedly refusing to read or to hear reports of what was being done to Jews.

"Hitler was not a sadist," Lukacs theorizes. "He took no sensual pleasure in the sufferings of his enemies or victims. Sadism is a sin of the flesh; Hitler's sins were those of the spirit."

It's a novel explanation, but is it plausible?

In closing, Lukacs deals with David Irving, the British researcher and writer who has written books about Nazi Germany and whose friends apparently include such Holocaust deniers as Ernst Zundel.

Irving's influence should not be underestimated, Lukacs warns. He commands a considerable readership, and certain respectable historians have praised his work.

Lukacs, though, is not one of them. As he puts it: "Few reviewers and critics of Irvings's books, including professional historians, have bothered to examine them carefully enough. Had they done so, they would have found that many of Irvings' references and quotations are not verifiable."

Touche.

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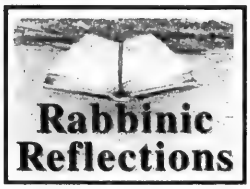


Bar mitzvah's meaning

By RABBI JOSEPH KELMAN

As we reflect upon the history of the Jewish people in North America in the 20th century, we could describe it as a community that has maintained the tradition of Jewish life and at the same time, made many changes in the way of observing them. A good example is the different ways of celebrating bar mitzvah in contrast to the way it was celebrated in eastern Europe.

In the listing of the 613 mitzvot of the Torah, one will not find bar mitzvah, per se. However, there is a mitzvah to put on tfillin each day in keeping with the words found in the Shema: "You shall bind them as a sign upon your hand and frontlets between your eyes."

Our sages felt that at the age of 13, a youngster would be mature enough to understand the importance of tfillin and of fulfilling the adult responsibilities of observing the mitzvot of the Torah. So, in reality, to mark the transition from childhood to adult responsibility, all the bar mitzvah boy really has to do is put on the tfillin and do so for the rest of his life. He is also now eligible to be counted in a minyan, receive honors and observe the mitzvot of the Torah.

How did it become such an important family milestone and cause for great celebration? At the age of 13, the youngster was eligible to have an aliyah and recite the blessings over the Torah,which could only be done in the synagogue. Spontaneously in eastern Europe some families decided to invite a few relatives and friends to the synagogue to join them for services and a kiddush or l'chaim afterwards.

Tradition and change suggest that while the bar mitzvah boy still has the aliyah in North America, there has been greater emphasis on Haftorah and Torah reading. Also the party atmosphere and manner of celebrating the Shabbat lunch or evening dinner parties is certainly a great change.

As a rabbi, I have always taken pleasure in sharing in the nachas of joining families in this special milestone. However, it is fair to state that often I have wondered if the bar mitzvah boy and his family live up to the real purpose of the celebration.

In all my years in the rabbinate, I have tried to impart the basic message to them. Obviously, it begins with the child seeing mitzvot observed in the home enhanced by appropriate Jewish education.

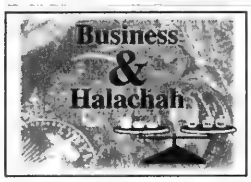
Following the joy and nachas of the celebration, it is necessary for follow-up afterwards, which means the putting on of tfillin every day and the continuous involvement in Jewish education, synagogue attendance and participation in Jewish activities. In addition, as the words of the Shema suggest, it should bring about the binding relationship to Jewish tradition and the Almighty for life.

As we come to the end of the 20th century, every bar mitzvah celebrant must see himself as helping in the goal of ensuring continuity of Jewish life. Tfillin are placed on the arm near the heart and on the head, for these are the inspiring forces of Jewish emotion and intellect. In addition, Jewish education in teenage and young adult life will serve as a means of informing and challenging the intellect to a mature appreciation of Torah and mitzvot.

Thus, while changes have been made in North American celebrations, they must remain tied to the hope that the bar mitzvah boy will understand the real message of bar mitzvah.

The coming holiday of Shavuot reminds us that at Sinai the Jewish people in that generation and through all generations became bar mitzvah when our ancestors made commitment to Judaism by saying *Na'ase v'nishma.* "We will observe and listen."

Rabbi Joseph Kelman is the rabbi emeritus of Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue in Toronto.



Keeping client confidentiality

By RABBI JAY KELMAN

Most professions are regulated by a code of ethics that practitioners are bound to follow. Amongst the basic tenets are those of client confidentiality. While it is only in the legal and medical professions that these rights are enshrined in law, all professions mandate some form of client secrecy. Even when not legally bound, many professionals will risk personal harm rather than betray a confidence. Many a journalist has gone to jail rather than reveal their sources of information.

Jewish law limits what information may be revealed not only by professionals but by all people. Unless granted explicit permission otherwise, it is to be assumed that any information that is revealed to you must be held in strict confidence. Even when granted permission to "speak," one may not say anything that could reflect poorly on another. The only exception is when the information revealed will protect another person from harm. In such an instance, the information must be revealed, even if it was told to you in strict confidence. Examples would include informing someone about the unsavory practices of the person with whom he is considering entering into a business deal, or letting a prospective marriage partner know about serious character flaws of their potential mate.

A Jewish professional following the dictates of Halachah can easily find himself in a quandary. A client has given him or her – in confidence – information that, if revealed, could prevent a loss to a third party. Perhaps a defendant admitted to his lawyer that he actually did murder the deceased even though a not guilty plea has been entered. What must a G-d fearing professional do in such circumstances?

As a general rule, Jewish law states that in order to prevent violation of a negative command, one must forfeit all of one's monetary possessions. Hence one must give up one's job rather than work on the Shabbat. On the other hand, one is not obligated to, nor is one even allowed to, spend more than 20 percent on the performance of a positive mitzvah. This is why the mitzvah of tzedakah is limited to a maximum of one-fifth of one's income.

At first glance, it would appear that a Jewish professional would have to reveal confidential information if potential harm would thereby be avoided: To remain silent would be in violation of the (negative) biblical prohibition of *Lo ta'amod al dam reacha* – that one may not stand idly by while harm befalls others.

Modern day authorities cite two compelling reasons, one technical and one "ideological," to allow professionals to abide by their code of ethics, even though it might otherwise entail violation of the aforementioned law.

While no amount of money can justify violation of negative commandments, this only applies, says the Chatam Sofer (foremost authority of 19th-century Hungarian Jewry), when you actively violate the law, such as by eating non-kosher food.

Passive violation, however, as is the case when withholding information, also falls under the 20 percent guidelines. It is obvious that a professional who reveals confidential information risks putting his entire career – not to mention possible loss of licence – in jeopardy. Faced with possible loss of one's livelihood, Jewish law would allow one to remain quiet, as this only entails passive violation of the law.

There is however, an additional factor at play, irrespective of any monetary loss. Jewish law at times allows for societal needs to override the personal needs of an individual. Hence the Talmud rules that a hostage may not be redeemed for an exorbitant ransom – according to many authorities even if his life will be forfeited – to do so would encourage additional hostage taking.

Absolute client confidentiality, while potentially harming individuals in any particular case, seems to offer a greater benefit to society as a whole. Without it people would think twice before revealing their innermost thoughts to a mental health professional or even confiding in their lawyers. The benefits that flow to society from having professionals bound by a strict code of ethics makes absolute confidentiality a must.

Guest Voices

Learn to respect differences

The following was a speech given by 16-year-old Shira Kogut at a public speaking contest in her school.

By SHIRA KOGUT

Not many of you know what it is like to be an overweight teenager. Well allow me to give you a brief look into my life. I've been laughed at, pointed at and made fun of more often than I can remember. I've gone from one diet to the next since I was 6 years old. I can't even recall how many times I've heard, "You know, Shira, you'd be so pretty if you lost 20 pounds."

People I don't even know have made fun of me. Imagine sitting there on vacation, just enjoying the peace and quiet of the Grand Canyon, and hearing two guys say aloud, "God look at her. She's so disgusting," while they are looking and pointing your way. It's rude and embarrassing, but it has happened to me.

No matter how many times things like that happen, I'm always hurt by it. Constant mockery because you have a flaw is something you never really get used to.

I always say to myself, "Shrug it off. You don't know them. Who cares what they think?" But the truth is I do care. It hurts me inside to know that all someone sees when they look at me is fat. I understand that when you look at a person for the first time, all you notice is how they look. But you should not judge a person by their looks. And if you do, at least have the common courtesy to keep it to yourself.

In the 1930s and '40s, a size 16 was considered beautiful. Marilyn Monroe, one of the most glamorous actresses to ever grace Hollywood,was a size 16. Now a size 4 is what's beautiful. How many women can fit into a size 4 while still being healthy and eating three proper meals a day? Not many; and I've seen lots of girls try. Not all women have the same build. I don't understand why we can't accept each other no matter what we look like.

I'm sick of being an outcast in a society that will never accept me for who I am, but only for what I look like. After all my struggling and trying to fit in, I've decided that I don't want to be a member of our judgmental society. Even if I lost weight, people would find something else to make fun of.

Because of my experiences, I have learned something very important: No matter what your weight, height, skin color, religion, gender, or any other characteristic you might have, be proud of who you are and where you've come from.

I'm proud to be an honest, intelligent, friendly perfectionist who just happens to be overweight. If a person can't look past my weight, then that is their loss. My true friends like me for who I am.

It is very difficult sometimes not to judge by outward appearances. Everyone does it and I will be the first to admit that sometimes my tongue slips before I can catch it. The important thing to remember is that you should always apologize, because you might really be hurting someone's feelings. We've all been hurt before. Why would we want to inflict that emotional pain on someone else?

I guess you can see why I disagree with Groucho Marx when he said, "I don't want to belong to any club that will accept me as a member." I don't want to belong to any club that won't accept me as a member, because they aren't worth my time.

I didn't write this as a pity speech. I wrote it to prove a point. My point is that we have to respect each other and our differences. When you make fun of someone because of a flaw, you can really hurt them. You might think it's a joke, but sometimes it's just not funny. I don't want to be part of a club if they won't accept me, because if they don't accept me, that means that they don't respect me.

If we could all respect each other and our differences, we wouldn't have any clubs or divisions, but until that day, I don't want to belong to any club that won't accept me for who I am.

Good eats for Shavuot

By MARK MIETKIEWICZ

One countdown is over. Another continues.

A few weeks ago, we completed our countdown to Israel's 50th anniversary. But we are still in the middle of a far more ancient countdown as we count 50 days from Passover to Shavuot. (Project Genesis has an interesting overview of the sefirat Ha'omer period **[http://www.torah.org/learning/yomtov/omer/]** and the Jewish Communications Network does a good job with Shavuot **[http://www.jcn18.com/holiday/shavuot/index.htm]**.)

Shavuot, of course, marks the giving of the Torah at Mt. Sinai. But as with all the Jewish holidays, food plays a crucial role both historically and in terms of what we find on our dinner plates on Shavuot. Today, I want to concentrate on the foods associated with this holiday and the bounty of information that you can find on the Jewish Highway.

While the Land of Israel is blessed with many fruits, seven of them had special status as seen in the Seven Species Gallery **[http://www.virtual.co.il/city_services/holidays/shavuot/sevenspe.htm]**. These were the first fruits brought to the Temple once a year at Shavuot, and offered to God. As such, they symbolize the Land of Israel and the close links of the Jewish people with that land. "God your Lord is bringing you to a good land...of wheat, barley, grapes, figs and pomegranates, a land of oil, olives and honey." (Deut 8:89 **[http://bible.ort.org/bible/htm/deuteron/torah/08060807.htm]**.

Actually, that honey refers to the sweet fruit of the date palm tree. For biblical references and a recipe for a date ring, see Let's Make a Date **[http://www.bridgesforpeace.com/dfjfood997.htm]**.

For an interesting history of the date palm and some recipes, see Desert Date Delights **[http://www.desertusa.com/magnov97/dates/nov_date.html]**.

Unlike the rest of the festivals, where meat gets the starring role, Shavuot has a very strong tie to dairy foods. Tradition has it that the laws of kashrut were given at Mount Sinai. So in anticipation, the Israelites refrained from eating meat and ate dairy. And a lot of cheesecake! **[http://www.holidays.net/shavuot/legend.htm]**

If you are looking for something a bit different, try Shirberenj, a traditional Persian Shavuot rice pudding with cardamom and cinnamon **[http://home.bc.rogers.wave.ca/sburton/bethhamidrash/rice.htm]**. And thanks to the women of Silver Spring, Md.'s Southeast Hebrew Congregation, you can help yourself to a Lemon Pasta with Asparagus and Pine Nuts and to an Eggplant Parmigiana **[http://con2inc.com/pub/sehc/recipes.html]**.

Do you have your own favorite dairy recipe? Join the Jewishfamily.com dairy recipe swap **[http://shamash.org/jfl/holidays/shavuot.htm]**. Karen Rubinstein loves her Aunt Mikki's Spinach Lasagna because it's low fat, as is Shirley Olishansky's Delicious Lowfat Kugel à la Pineapple. For some traditional recipes for blintzes and yes, cheesecake, take a look at Shavuot Summer Feasting **[http://www.jcn18.com/newstand/MARKS/blintzes.htm]**.

Israel, of course, is referred to as a land flowing with milk and honey. If you would like to prepare a dish using *both* those ingredients, you can whip up some Date Cheddar Scones **[http://www.californiadates.org/recipe.htm]** and wash them down with a Milk and Honey High Protein Drink **[http://www.deter.com/flora/mxp/noalco/52.html]**. That is, if you still have room.

Next week, the Shavuot countdown continues.

* * *

Mark Mietkiewicz is a television producer in Toronto with an interest in the Internet. He can be reached at [mdm@inforamp.net].

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Brampton Reform congregation celebrating its 20th anniversary

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

Brampton's Har Tikvah

BRAMPTON — Har Tikvah, a Reform congregation with a membership of about 50 families, is gearing up for its 20th anniversary.

Lawrie Bloom, a past president of the congregation and a co-ordinator of the celebration, says he has sent out about 100 invitations, including to old members, to attend a weekend service and dinner dance.

The congregation, originally called the North Peel Jewish Association, started up with six families as a social, cultural and educational group. Its first major event was a Chanukah party.

"A huge crowd showed up – we did not know there were so many Jews in the area," recalls Bloom.

In 1983, when it became a congregation ,the group changed its name and bought an old church. "We have been there ever since," says Bloom.

Har Tikvah also runs a Hebrew school with 50 students from pre-school to post bar and bat mitzvah age.

Synagogue services run twice a month, led by student rabbis from Hebrew Union College in New York.

The success of the congregation, says Bloom, is due to the fact that "[Many Jews] in the area are looking for a facility close to home. We are also a motivated group of people and there is lots of volunteer support."

All teachers at the Hebrew school, says Bloom, are members of the congregation and post bar and bat mitzvah students generally become assistant teachers.

"We run a very inexpensive operation. We do everything ourselves. There is volunteer lay leadership, cantors, youth group leaders and a number of volunteer teachers."

For seven years, Har Tikvah has sponsored the Israel pavilion at the area's annual Carabram, and has won several awards for entertainment, atmosphere and decorations.

"We have music, dancing, Israeli foods, a marketplace and Israeli displays. In three days last year, over 8,000 people visited the pavilion."

This year's Carabram is running July 10, 11 and 12.

Spirituality in the Workplace

TORONTO — The breakdown of old assumptions about work, coupled with a renewed, pre-millennial spiritual awakening, have resulted in a two-day conference on Spirituality in the Workplace, to take place at the University of Toronto, May 27-29.

The conference, the first of its kind in Canada, will bring together some 60 experts on business ethics, management, leadership, the workplace, as well as several clergy people, including rabbis, for a wide-ranging look at the nature of work and the quality of today's work environment.

Keynote speaker will be Martin Rutte, a former Hamiltonian who co-authored *Chicken Soup for the Soul at Work*, which has sold over 600,000 copies in North America.

Rutte told *The CJN* from his home in Santa Fe, N.M. that old assumptions like life-long job security have been replaced by harsh realities, like downsizing.

The conference will explore how managers and employees can bring compassion, integrity, respect and vision back to the workplace.

The conference is expected to draw over 1,000 professionals and managers from across Canada and the United States.

For details, call 416-482-9175.

MINYANIM IN THE GTA

Synagogue	Address & Tel.	Fri. Night	Shabbat	Sun. A.M.	Daily P.M.	Daily
Abir Yaacob (O)	7026 Bathurst St. (905) 669-7654	6:45 PM	8:30 AM	8:30 AM	6:45 AM	8:30 PM
Beth Avraham Yoseph (O)	613 Clark Ave. W. (905) 886-3810	Candle-lighting	8:45 AM	6:45 AM & 7:30 AM	6:45 AM & 7:30 AM	10 minutes before sunset
Clanton Park Synagogue (O)	11 Lowesmoor Ave. (416) 633-4193	7:00 PM	8:30 AM & 9:00 AM	7:30 AM & 8:15 AM	Mon. & Thurs. 6:50 & 7:15 AM Tues., Wed., Fri. 7:00 & 7:25 AM	15 minutes before sunset
Shaarei Tefillah (O)	3600 Bathurst St. (416) 787-1631	7:00 PM	8:30 AM & 9:00 AM	8:30 AM	6:30 AM & 7:30 AM	15 minutes before sunset

This is not a comprehensive listing of the synagogues in the Greater Toronto area. The information is provided by the Vaad Harabonim of Toronto. In due course we hope to receive similar information regarding non-orthodox synagogues from the Toronto Board of Rabbis. The Vaad and the Board will periodically revise the listings.

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Community Matters

UJA and United Way - Sharing the Celebration

▲ Anne Golden, President of United Way (left) and Dr. Joseph Wong, Honourary Chair of United Way Board of Trustees, with Prime Minister Chretien.

The atmosphere was one of pride and joy among the 600 participants who attended a VIP reception sponsored by UJA Federation and United Way prior to Israel's 50th anniversary *Night Of A Lifetime* gala at the National Trade Centre.

The reception also celebrated decades of close cooperation between the two organizations in the delivery of a wide range of social services to GTA residents. "UJA Federation has a long history of partnership with United Way and we hope to continue it for many years to come," said Sandra Brown, Past President of UJA Federation.

"We always knew the joining of our two organizations is meaningful and appropriate and the event proved us right," said United Way President Anne Golden. "I thank UJA Federation for embracing United Way in its magnificent celebration of Israel's 50th."

The Israel at 50 VIP reception was chaired by Carol Kassel, Barry Sherman, Sidney Cooper and Dr. Joseph Wong.

▲ Dr. Joseph Wong and Murray Koffler, Co-chair of Night Of A Lifetime.

▲ Sidney Cooper.

▲ Melvin and Sandra Brown with Jean Chretien.

Photos by Stephen Epstein and Randy Zelcer.

▲ Ontario Premier Mike Harris and Henry Koschitzky.

▲ Julia Koschitzky, Chair of Israel at 50 Community Celebrations and Marvelle Koffler, Co-chair of Night Of A Lifetime.

▲ Paul Godfrey and Carol Kassel.

Following the reception, the crowd of 10,000 was treated to a stellar performance by Toronto's "Three Tenors." (Left to right) cantor Yaakov Motzen, conductor Boris Brott, cantor Paul Kowarsky and cantor Benjamin Maissner. It was the first time the trio has sung together on stage.

▲ 1999 UJA Federation Campaign Chairmen Brent Belzberg (2nd from left) and Larry Tanenbaum with by their wives, Lynn (far left) and Judy.

UJA Federation

▲ Honey and Barry Sherman.

Community Matters, a supplement of the Canadian Jewish News, is sponsored and produced by UJA Federation. Website: www.feduja.org

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Lermer marks 100th birthday

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — The sounds of the Viennese waltz filled the dining room in the Castleview Witchwood Towers, where residents, nurses and social work staff gathered to celebrate Malvine Lermer's 100th birthday.

Among the well-wishers at the party at the seniors' home, organized by Lermer's only child, Trudy Lester, were Lermer's four grandchildren, six great-grandchildren, and close family friends and relatives.

The Vienna-born Lermer, who suffers from Alzheimer disease, has been a resident of Castleview Witchwood Towers for seven years, said Lester.

It was extremely difficult for her to place her mother in a home, she said, because the two had lived together for most of her life.

They survived the Holocaust together, and Lermer resided with her daughter, now widowed, and her husband, throughout their 44-year marriage.

"Who lives with a mother for 62 years? She almost went on the honeymoon," Lester said. "It was very traumatic to put her in a home...We had never separated.

"She lost her husband – my father – when I was 12. Her life was totally dedicated to me...She was only concerned for my safety and happiness."

Their story of survival began in Romania, where they had relocated from Vienna in 1934. When the Russians occupied Romania in 1940, they confiscated her father's property, and he was forced to move the family from its large city home to a shack on a country farm.

Malvine Lermer's six great-grandchildren helped her celebrate her 100th birthday. [Barbara Silverstien photo]

Lester said she last saw her father in 1940, shortly after he was arrested by the Russians for being a capitalist. After the Nazi occupation of Romania, she and her mother were persecuted for being Jewish.

Father arrested by Russians

They escaped deportation because they had German passports. Although the passports indicated they were Jewish, the Romanians helping the Nazis to round up Jews were unable to read German, Lester said. "In a very strange way, the swastika saved us."

She said her mother sold all her jewelry to secure two places on a boat bound for Palestine in 1942. The boat capsized off the coast of Turkey, but all the passengers were rescued by the Turkish army.

Lermer would not allow herself to be rescued until she was sure her daughter was safe, Lester said.

After walking for three months in Turkey, stateless and without passports, all passengers of the ship were sent to Cyprus, where they spent the rest of the war. There Lester met her future husband, a passenger on another boat, who went to Palestine with her and her mother after the war and then on to Canada with them.

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SEE MONTE RUN...

Toronto Mayor Mel Lastman (right) presents Wilson Heights MPP Monte Kwinter with running shoes to kick off Kwinter's run in the next provincial election. Hundreds of Kwinter's supporters gathered last week to mark his political "bar mitzvah" — 13 years as an MPP — and to endorse his candidacy in the new riding of York Centre. [Ron Csillag photo]

Vatican helped Nazis escape justice

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — An expert on the connections between chivalric orders and the Catholic Church recently delivered a highly critical appraisal of the Church, arguing the Vatican aided Nazis escape justice following World War II and that it bestowed its blessing on the veterans of an SS division as recently as 1993.

The blessing by Cardinal Lubachivsky, Archbishop-Major of the Catholic Uniate See of Lviv, upon veterans of the SS Galicia Division suggests an attempt to rewrite history, said Michael Steeler, a member of several chivalric orders.

"Evidence suggests the Vatican aims to whitewash not only the record of the Church in providing the fertile ground in which Nazism grew, but also the history of 'Christian' Europe, which owes so much to the Catholic Church," he told about 30 people attending a luncheon sponsored by the Jewish Civil Rights Educational Foundation of Canada (JCREFC).

"In a spirit of general forgiving and forgetting, the Catholic Church plans to celebrate the year 2000 with the page of history neatly turned on the slaughter of the Crusades, the torture and deaths of the Inquisition, the genocide of native peoples of the newly discovered America and other horrendous events, including the Holocaust and the Vatican's role in it," Steeler said.

Steeler prefaced his remarks by playing a videotape of a 1994 *60 Minutes* report entitled The Ugly Face of Freedom, which examined political conditions in western Ukraine. The documentary examined a revival of ultra-nationalism that included crude anti-Semitism and rehabilitation of the SS Galicia Division. In 1993, veterans of the division celebrated its 50th anniversary by marching in Lviv. They were then blessed by Cardinal Lubachivsky as they had been 50 years before by Archbishop Szepticky.

Steeler, 69, said he was stunned to learn a Cardinal of the Church had blessed the division.

The division was drawn from Ukrainian police which had, on its own initiative, murdered thousands of Jews before the Nazi Holocaust began and which later collaborated with the Nazis in wiping out entire Jewish communities, Steeler said.

"How could this Cardinal, acting under the authority of a Pope who claims to make improving his Church's relations with Jews a main goal of his papacy, promote Holocaust denial with impunity?" Steeler asked.

"Lubachivsky's blessing was only one step in a determined effort to sanitize the reputation of the SS," he later replied.

Tracing the unit's history, Steeler said during the war, Pope Pius XII "saw creation of this unit as key to realizing his dream of re-establishing a Habsburg imperial monarchy to rule Catholic states stretching from the Baltic to the Black Sea...To encourage his Ukrainian flock to cooperate with the Nazis by volunteering for service, the Pope authorized Archbishop Szepticky to bestow the Church's blessing on the division at its founding...In consequence, complete with Uniate Catholic chaplains, the Galicia Division of the Waffen-SS was widely recognized as 'the Catholic Army of the Ukraine.'"

Quoting books like *Blowback, Unholy Trinity* and *The Beast Reawakens* as well as *U.S. News and World Report*, Steeler said after the war the Vatican "Ratlines conspiracy" aided in the movement of illegal immigrants, including 70,000 Nazi war criminals such as Josef Mengele, Auschwitz's Angel of Death.

Religious orders and members of the Knights of Malta aided in the effort, while the Maltese Knights were also involved in gathering intelligence, he said.

Steeler said that following "mea culpas" from the French and other Catholic Churches in Europe, "there is a growing demand for the Pope to issue an explicit mea culpa for the role of the Church itself, in preparing the ground for the Holocaust and collaborating with the Nazis both during and after World War II."

(Despite the Vatican's statement on the Shoah, released in mid-March, that denounces anti-Semitism and the Holocaust, the Church was criticized for failing to acknowledge its role in creating a climate of anti-Semitism and for failing to speak out more forcefully against Nazi atrocities.)

Steeler pointed out that Pope Pius XII never excommunicated Adolf Hitler or Mengele, who were both Catholics.

Steeler was introduced by Bert Raphael, president of the JCREFC.

Meili a pariah in Switzerland

[Cont'd. from page 3]

Fagan, a New York lawyer who represents some 30,000 U.S. Holocaust survivors in a class action lawsuit against Swiss banks. Fagan persuaded Meili to testify before the U.S. Senate's banking committee, which was examining links between Swiss banks and the Nazis.

A Swiss newspaper poll at the time showed that more than half of his countrymen felt Meili had harmed Switzerland. He was a pariah.

It was then Meili knew he had to leave his homeland.

Last August, President Bill Clinton signed Meili's application for permanent U.S. residency for him and his family, making him, in effect, a Swiss refugee. He received a little financial help and dozens of job offers, including one from World Jewish Congress president Edgar Bronfman.

Today, Meili works as a security guard in New York and lives rent-free thanks to an anonymous Jewish benefactor.

"But the Swiss know where I am," he said, adding he still gets threats he regards as "serious."

But Meili isn't sitting still. He's on a mission to find the rightful owners or heirs to the properties listed on the documents he rescued. He's been to Berlin several times to do research.

He showed *The CJN* a list of what he said were 60 Berlin addresses, with the precise date the Nazis took them over after expelling their Jewish owners (the documents say the homes were "evacuated"), as well as the names of the Swiss banks that assumed title to the properties. The papers supposedly cover the period 1933 to 1939.

He is also suing Swiss banks for $2.5 billion. The action would only come into force, explained his lawyer, should Switzerland enact its so-called Solidarity Fund of compensation for Holocaust victims' heirs. The money would come from the sale of Swiss gold reserves. Meili feels compensation should come from the banks, not the Swiss taxpayer.

Fagan says copies Meili made of the documents are "his insurance policy. If anything happens to him, that triggers [the copies'] release, and not to the banks. As long as they exist, he's safe."

Fagan bluntly said he "had to get to [Meili] before they killed him. People have been killed for less.

"The minute he gets closer to the truth, the banks will come and make him an offer. They will do anything to shut him up."

But Fagan doubts his client can be bought. "He cannot be stopped. He's the nicest loose cannon I know."

In the meantime, Meili says his siblings and parents back in Switzerland "are having a hard time" because of his plight.

What motivated him?

"I'm a Christian. The Bible says when you do something good for the Jewish people, the Lord will bless you."

Ultimately, the relevance of the documents will be determined by the commission of Swiss historians studying the country's war-era role.

But for Meili, the documents belong to the Jewish people.

"I did this for you," he told the Hadassah luncheon. "This stuff belongs to you."

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By Miriam Herman

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DEADLINE REMINDER

What's New and About People deadlines: Monday, May 25, is deadline for June 4 issue and Tuesday, June 2, is deadline for June 11 issue. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 391-1836, fax 391-0829.

Thursday, May 21

ALVIN ABRAM

Sephardic Educational Centre Toronto chapter features **Alvin Abram**, storyteller of stories about real people from the Holocaust, 7:30 p.m., Sephardic Kehila Centre, 7026 Bathurst St. **Yael**. 905-669-7654, ext. 225.

Sunday, May 24

OHR SOMAYACH SHAVUOT

Ohr Somayach Shavuot lecture, When Man and God Touch, with **Rabbi Eliezer Breitowitz,** at two locations – Ohr Somayach Thornhill, 613 Clark Ave., 10-11 a.m.; and Ohr Somayach Forest Hill, 446 Spadina Rd., Suite 203, noon to 1 p.m. Concurrent arts and crafts program in both locations for children. $5/person in advance, $6 at door. 905-886-5730 or 483-0883.

100 YEARS OF ZIONISM

Entertainment and Cultural Connection and Shaarei Shomayim Brotherhood present **Jerry Ziedenberg** on 100 Years of Zionism: Part 6, **Golda Meir**, 8 p.m., at the synagogue. Members of PNAI no charge. Coordinators are **Jerry** and **Sandra Genesove**.

COOKING FOR SHAVUOT

Beth Tikvah's culinary class offers Shavuot dairy recipes, 4 p.m. 221-3433. ext. 0.

WINGATE BRANCH

General Wingate Branch, Royal Canadian Legion, general meeting, 9:15 a.m. Check bulletin board for place or any changes.

PNAI MEETING

PNAI (Parents of North American Israelis) meeting at Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue. Details in bulletin. **Charles King** 783-7872.

Monday, May 25

BATTLE FOR JEWISH SOUL

Adath Sholom Sisterhood's general meeting features **Julius Ciss**, executive director of Jews for Judaism. His topic – The Battle for the Jewish Soul. 7:30 p.m. $2.

NAGILLAH CHAPTER, JWI

Nagillah chapter, Jewish Women International, (40 plus singles), general meeting at Pride of Israel Synagogue. Program begins 7:30 p.m., prior to meeting. **Dr. Jeffrey Lipsitz** of Sleep Disorders Centre of Metropolitan Toronto, talks about How to Get a Good Night's Sleep. $2. Prospective members welcome. **Helen** 638-4326 or **Marilyn** 487-7792.

WOMEN'S ROSH CHODESH

Women's Rosh Chodesh Sivan celebration at Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue: 7:45 p.m. concert by senior girls choir of Netivot Ha-Torah followed at 8 p.m. by a shiur on Ruth with **Rabbi Elliott Diamond**. Ma'ariv following shiur.

SUPPORT GROUP

Jewish Parents and Families of Gays and Lesbians meets 7:30 p.m., Jewish Family & Child Service, 6th floor, Lipa Green Building, 4600 Bathurst St. Phone in confidence **Ruth** 763-9111.

Tuesday, May 26

CANTORIAL CONCERT

Shaarei Shomayim Congregation annual cantorial concert featuring cantors **Yaakov Motzen**, **Benzion Miller**, **Alberto Mizrahi** and **Shlomo Simcha Sufrin** with the Zemer Orchestra and the Shaarei Shomayim Choir, 8 p.m.

AS FUNNY AS IT GETS

Canadian Friends of Ezrath Nashim-Herzog Hospital evening of stand up comedy, As Funny As It Gets, **Les Aaron**, **Stewart Silver**, **Greg Eckler**, **Steve Brinder**, **Lou Eisen**, 7:30 p.m., Leah Posluns Theatre. $20 in advance, $25 at

[Cont'd. on page 19]

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Cantaloupes
Product of Central America
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.79 ea.

Single Chuck Steak
Fresh, Glatt, Kosher Beef
9.90kg
449 lb.

Clover Leaf White Tuna
Albacore in Water, Flaked or Solid
170 g tin
199

Levitt's Roast Beef
From the Deli
2.79 /100 g
1269 lb.

Hot House Tomatoes
Product of Ontario, Canada No. 1, Greenhouse
2.18 kg
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All Beef Wieners
Centinental
375 g pkg.
339 ea.

Echo Natural Spring Water
1.5 L btl.
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From The Bakery
Selected Varieties
700 g
699

Double Rye Bread
From the Bakery
450 g
199

WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO LIMIT QUANTITIES. PRICES IN EFFECT SUNDAY, MAY 17 UNTIL SATURDAY, MAY 23, 1998.

What's New

[Cont'd. from page 18]

door. Reception. Proceeds to Alzheimer disease. 256-4222.

METRO STRING QUARTET

Metro String Quartet concert, 8 p.m., Beit Rayim Synagogue, 9711 Bayview Ave., Richmond Hill. In honor of Israel's 50th, program includes music of Israeli composers in addition to classical selections. Reception follows. For tickets, 905-770-7639.

JUST FOUR LAUGHS

Alf Kwinter, **Jackie Gelman**, **Jack Markle** and **Norman Gilbert** perform at Beth Tikvah Synagogue, 8 p.m. $8. 221-3433.

LENKINSKI LECTURE

Polish-Jewish Heritage Foundation annual Louis Lenkinski Lecture with **Paula Draper** on Holocaust Survivors in Canada. 7:30 p.m., Workmen's Circle, 471 Lawrence Ave. W.

SISTERHOOD LUNCHEON

At the Shaarei Shomayim Sisterhood luncheon, pharmacist **Irving Knopman** discusses Treatment of Blood Pressure and Related Problems, 12:30 p.m. Reserve. **Ruth Fruitman** 905-731-6660.

CHUG TANACH

Chug Tanach meets 8:15 p.m. at Associated Finch. Presenter is **Abe Richman** who will study chapters 12 and 13 in the Book of Hosea.

Wednesday, May 27

OPEN FORUM

Panel discussion, When Tradition Meets Love – Interfaith Relationships, 8 p.m., Beth Tikvah Synagogue. Moderator: **Ben Zion Shapiro**, professor emeritus, Faculty of Social Work, University of Toronto. Panelists: **Rabbi Wayne Allen** of Beth Tikvah; **Pearl Groper-Berman,** director, Jewish Student Federation, York University; **Susan Jackson**, director of Continuity, Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto; **Rachel Schlesinger**, marriage and family issues.

JEWISH GENEALOGY

Jewish Genealogical Society hosts **Meyer Kirshenblatt,** who presents an audio-visual lecture about Jewish Life and Folk Art in the Polish Shtetl, 7:45 p.m., Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue. $3 non-members. **Les Train** 484-9167.

ETHICS OF THE FATHERS

Beth Tzedec Congregation series with **Arnold Ages** continues with Proper Moral Conduct, Sincere Repentance and the World to Come, 7:30 p.m.

And What Else Is New

RABBI FLANZRAICH

Rabbi Aaron Flanzraich, newly appointed senior rabbi of Beth Sholom Synagogue, inaugural Shabbat, Saturday, May 30. Morning services 8:45 a.m.; erev Shavuot evening services 8:15 p.m. followed by Tikkun Lail Shavuot on the topic Why the Jews? or Why Did God Choose Us?

LE BAL MASQUE

Israel Cancer Research Fund's annual Le Bal Masqué has something for everyone – pasta buffet dinner, casino tables, silent auction, live auction, dancing, jazz and blues, prize for best mask, loot bags. Saturday, June 6, Arcadian Court, Simpson Tower. $60 in advance, $75 at door. 487-5246.

JUNGLE CAT WORLD

Ohr Somayach Toronto family adventure at Jungle Cat World, hands-on communing with the animals, campfire storytelling, kosher barbecue, begins 4 p.m. Sunday, June 7. $15/person, $40/family. 905-886-5730, ext. 21.

PHOTO CONTEST

Jewish Pavilion photography contest in honor of Israel's 50th anniversary of photos of Israel/Jerusalem to be displayed during Caravan June 11-20. Categories: The Many Faces of Israel, Modern Israel, Historical Israel, Artistic Impressions. For details, **Marc Kates**, c/o Jerusalem Pavilion, 633-6224. Sponsored by B'nai Brith Canada and Bloor Jewish Community Centre.

CAMP SHALOM

On June 14, Camp Shalom celebrates the 50th year since opening in the summer of 1948 in Gravenhurst. Program includes dedication of Founders Gate, entertainment, recreation, lunch. Reserve by May 29. Phone 781-3571, fax 781-3166.

HEBREW SCHOOL

B'nai Shalom Hebrew School at Yorkhill Public School, 350 Hilda Ave. (at Clark) is taking registration for the 98/99 school year for kindergarten to Grade 7 classes and free bar/bat mitzvah lessons. Music, arts and crafts, Israeli folkdancing, remedial and advanced programs also included. Affiliated with Board of Jewish Education. Principal is **Joseph Klinger**. Administrator is **Sadie Domb**. 905-731-2797.

SUMMER ART CLASSES

Summer art classes start June 30 for adults at the Koffler Centre School of Visual Art. Daytime and evening Pottery, Sculpture, Watercolor Painting, all levels. Discount for multiple registrations. 636-1880, ext. 270.

FOR FATHER'S DAY

Kadima chapter, Toronto Hadassah-WIZO, Father's Day breakfast spring fundraiser. For $22, a gift bag of bagels, cheese, lox, orange juice, newspaper and other goodies will be delivered to your special Dad the morning of June 21. **Lisa** 789-9654. Proceeds to Youth Aliyah projects in Israel.

YIDDISH CLASSES

Learn Yiddish during the summer. Beginners and conversational Yiddish classes are being offered (based on sufficient enrolment). Yiddish Hotline 635-2883, ext. 700. UJA Federation.

TEACHERS FEDERATION

Federation of Teachers in Hebrew Schools gala dinner in honor of Israel's 50th birthday, June 3. For information, 785-6286.

BOOK DISCUSSION

The Feminist Book Discussion Group of North York chapter, Older Women's Network, discusses *The Taking of 28* by **Penny Kome**, 2 p.m., North York Community Centre, 505 Lawrence Ave. W., Sunday, June 7. **Ruth Goldsmith**, 782-6414.

FOR SENIORS

Association of Jewish Seniors and **Ontario Coalition of Senior Citizens Organizations** seminar on Cutbacks to Health Care Services and What You Can Do About It with **Dr. Patricia Spindel**, Thursday, May 28, 1 p.m., Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue. Reservations a must. **Goldie** 635-2860.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club: Musical program for Mother's Day, plus honoring Israel's 50th birthday, with musical comedy star **Jack Garson**, Monday, May 25, 1 p.m.; Oak Creek Boat Farm cruise June 16; Kingston cruise July 14; cruise and musical *Little Shop of Horrors* Aug. 19; *Man of La Mancha* at Stratford Oct. 27. **Lena** 785-5773. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel. **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: Ottawa Tulip Festival and Thousand Islands May 27-29; Casino Rama June 11; Catskills July 13-19; Casino Niagara July 23; Sunday dances June 7 and 28, 7:30-10:30 p.m. 395-7881.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). May 28 is a lecture on Financial and Estate Planning. **Aaron Dahary** 661-4689 or **Malka** 630-5771.

LZA Seniors Club registration for *Man of La Mancha* at Stratford Sept. 10, **Libby** 782-2059 or **Belle** 633-5841 or Borochov office 630-9444. Ladies folkdancing Thursdays 1:30 p.m. and Cultural Discussion Group Tuesdays 10 a.m. at Borochov Centre, 272 Codsell Ave. Centre is open for socializing Monday to Friday 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Young at Heart Seniors Catskills trip to kosher Raleigh Hotel, 10 days, Aug. 14-23, two weekends, gratuities and tips included. **Helen** 635-6343.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. 225-2112.

Carousel of Cultures Open House, Wednesday, May 27, 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Celebrate Creative Living in the Multicultural Way with ongoing entertainment, **Gloria Valentine** and **Nina Shapilsky** at 2 p.m.; displays, programs, sidewalk sale, prizes. **Irina Shulgin**.

Literary Luncheon Wednesday, June 3, noon to 2 p.m. **Anne Balaban** reviews *The Colour of Water* by **James McBride**. Members $8, non-members $10, review only $5. Register at Information Desk by May 29.

Current Topics in Cancer Research with microbiologist **Prateek Lala** Monday, May 25, 1:15 p.m.

Osteoporosis Support Group meeting features dental health educator **Barbara Siegal** discussing The Relationship Between Osteoporosis and Periodontal Disease, Tuesday, May 26, 1:15-2:30 p.m. Resource person is **Joan Turner.**

Israeli Club Etrog meets 7 p.m. Tuesdays for movies, sing-alongs, lectures, bingo, dances. May 26 is Jerusalem Day Party. **Anna**.

Movie, *Dear God* Sunday, May 24, 2:30 p.m.

Sunday dance May 24, 7:30-10:30 p.m.

BATHURST JC

Bathurst Jewish Centre, 4588 Bathurst St. 636-1880.

Senior Adult Services Department day in the country – Tuesday, May 26, visit Kleinberg with docent to see Group of Seven paintings; Wednesday, July 22, Orillia, tour Opera House and see musical *Dames at Sea* ; Thursday, Aug. 20, a day at the races, lunch out and afternoon at Woodbine Racetrack. **Yvonne** ext. 259.

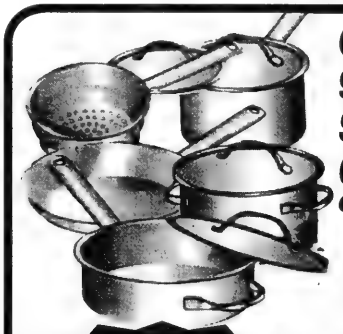
Daycare spaces available for July. Toddler to senior kindergarten. Summer daycare includes swimming, trips, all meals, theme days. ext. 351.

BLOOR JCC

Bloor Jewish Community Centre, 750 Spadina Ave. 924-6211.

Seniors Club: Thursday, May 21, visit to new CNIB office, 2 p.m.; Thursday, May 28, **Rabbi Chezi Zionce** of the First Narayever Congregation speaks on The Jewish Holiday of Shavuot: Meaning and Customs, 2 p.m. **Judy**.

SINGLES EVENTS CAN BE FOUND ON PAGE 20



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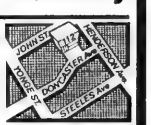

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Education linked to identity

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — The value of an education can be measured to a great extent by the opportunities it provides students to begin to settle questions of their identity, said Avi Bernstein-Nahar, speaking at the annual Ray D. Wolfe Memorial Lecture held recently at University College, University of Toronto (U of T).

In his scholarly lecture titled Accounting for Modern Jewish Identity: Hermann Cohen and Liberal Education Today, Bernstein-Nahar said that the view of education found in the writings of German Jewish philosopher Hermann Cohen (1842-1918) is the perspective which has found articulate voice in contemporary debate about liberal education.

Bernstein-Nahar, who is completing his Ray. D. Wolfe Fellowship in Jewish studies at U of T, recently defended his dissertation at Stanford University. He studied at Brown University graduating magna cum laude and at Princeton University; he was also a Lady Davis Research Fellow at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem.

Bernstein-Nahar concurred with Cohen's conclusions that a Jewish studies curriculum should be devoted to exposing students to Jewish traditions, particularly literary ones.

As well, the curriculum should cultivate in students exegetical skills and the capacity to argue persuasively about what tradition means.

Cohen's views of modern Jewish identity, said Bernstein-Nahar, are for the student to "seek his or her origins with the intent of discerning his or her distinctive purposes – those aims of life most worthy of pursuit." To understand a person's distinctive purposes is to grasp his or her identity.

Therefore, higher education should shape the self-understanding of students, forming character and instilling virtue, said Bernstein-Nahar.

The origins of Jewish identity, or any identity, according to Cohen, reside in cultural and literary traditions, including religious traditions. In Cohen's liberal interpretation of Judaism, he was not referring to rabbinic traditions, which he believed were no longer normative in a comprehensive way, said Bernstein-Nahar.

Cohen identified "tradition" as "ethical monotheism and prophetic Judaism" – a cultural, literary and religious tradition that should be normative for all modern Jews. The practice of this tradition emphasizing moral teachings, Cohen hoped, would be a by-product of study of classical Jewish texts and the observance of many of the mitzvot, said Bernstein-Nahar.

He said that Cohen suggests that higher education should address questions of identity, answering: Who am I? Where do I belong? Am I really who I ought to be?

The implications for liberal education today, he noted, flow from Cohen's thought of coupling tradition and modernism. He noted that Cohen has influenced all the major branches of Judaism – Reconstructionist, Reform, Conservative and Orthodox thinking.

Cohen's legacy for liberal education, said Bernstein-Nahar, is that traditions inform us of who we are insofar as they contain our distinctive purposes.

Students exploring Jewish identity might, as an example study any number of traditions of the Zohar or Chassidism, or more to Cohen's liking, the legal traditions of Maimonides' Mishnah Torah.

Jewish studies have "blossomed" in every major university in North America, he said. "And their courses are beginning to be recognized as an integral part of any curriculum for liberal education. It remains to be seen whether this recent development can have a significant impact on the self-understanding of Jewish students."

David Novak, director of the Jewish Studies Program at U of T, said that the fellowship was established to enable a young scholar to teach, continue with research and interact with members of the Jewish Studies Program for one year.

SINGLES EVENTS
Singles Events is an advertising feature of
The Canadian Jewish News
Deadline is Wednesday, 4pm.
8 days preceding issue date.
For rates or to place an ad, call:
Tanya at (416) 391-1836
The CJN encourages readers to direct any queries they may have on an upcoming event to the event's organizers.

Beth David B'nai Israel, Jewish Single Parents Group presents **"Thing of a Career Change?"** Thurs, May 28 at 8:30pm. Learn the process of successful job searching techniques. Open to Single Jewish Parents 30-50. $5 at door. **633-5500.**

Blading On The Island: Get in-line and explore the Toronto Islands. Special learn to blade clinic. Sun., May 24. **The Adventure Network - Doing It Outside. 905-707-0147.**

Canadian Friends of Ezrath Nashim - Herzog Hospital presents An Evening Of Stand Up Comedy, **As Funny As It Gets.** Tues. May 26, 7:30pm. Leah Posluns Theatre. Reception to follow. All proceeds to support Alzheimers Research. $20-adv, $25-door. **Tickets: 256-4222.**

Check out Jewish Singles Events on the web, www.total.net/~jsreg

Jewish Singles Registry. Over 1590 registered. Averaging an engagement every 4 wks. **483-4151.**

Oasis: Special events for the Jewish Singles Community, presents a Workshop & Interactive Presentation on Happiness. Sunday, May 31 at 7:00 pm at Above and Beyond, The Center for Adventurous Learning. This is part of the Entertainment and Educational series. Cost is $10. Seating is limited. For information and registration, **call Oasis @ (905) 763-2141.**

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Greater Toronto Area

Jewish veterans mark Legion's 65th anniversary

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Members of the General Wingate Branch No. 256 of the Royal Canadian Legion reunited with old friends at a recent dinner dance to mark the legion's 65th anniversary.

Some 90 people attended the celebration which also included the installation of the new executive officers and board members, as well as a speech by Metro city councillor Norm Gardner.

Gardner, a member of both the Canadian Army Militia and the Wingate Branch of the Canadian legion paid tribute to Jewish war veterans, noting that during World War II, the Jewish community had the largest percentage of enlisted men of any group in Canada.

According to statistics, 17,000 Jewish men and women out of a total Jewish population of 75,000 served in the army, air force and navy during World War II, he said. "I'm proud of the Jewish contribution to the armed forces."

Senior representatives from the Royal Canadian Legion were on hand for the installation ceremony of the Wingate branch officers including Sam Romberg, president; Saul Raibmon, first vice-president; Adoph Goldberg, second vice-president; and Al Labovitch secretary treasurer.

Outside the main room, acting Sergeant at Arms Lionel Mernick assembled these men along with six members of the executive board of the Wingate branch – Oscar Adler, Reuben Cherry, Harold Kates, Sam Ross, Reva Wolfson and Murray Jacobs, and led them as they marched back into the room for their formal installation.

Jacobs, who chaired the event, and was assisted in the planning and organization by his wife Millie, said they were pleased with the turn out.

"We had members there who hadn't been able to get out to meetings, Millie said. "These men deserve to be celebrated."

The Toronto-born Jacobs who became an acting sergeant major by the end of the war, enlisted in the army in 1942 and immediately volunteered to go overseas because he "felt an obligation to help our fellow Jewish brothers." He landed in France, he said, four days after D-Day making his way through Europe and helping to liberate Holland.

He was one of 25 Wingate branch members who, along with their wives, were entertained by the Dutch government for 12 days at celebrations marking the 50th anniversary of the commemoration of the liberation of the Netherlands in 1995.

The executive of the General Wingate Branch of the Canadian Legion stands during its formal installation. [Howard Goldman photo]

Romberg, who enlisted in the army in 1940 and went overseas with the tank core in 1941, led the General Wingate section of the parade in Holland on the 1995 trip. "It was heart rending the way the people took us in their arms, he said.

"We were carrying the Canadian, Israeli, and branch flags. When a section of the crowd saw the Magen David they broke out singing *Havah Nahgilah*. It just sort of tore at our hearts."

He said the legion branch can be traced back to the Jewish branch 256 of the Great War Association formed in the early '20s. In 1926, branch 256 became part of the British Empire Service League.

In 1934 the Jewish branch became a charter member of the Royal Canadian Legion, changing its name in 1950 to honor British Major General Orde Charles Wingate, a non-Jew, who served in Palestine and gave significant support to the Zionist cause in the mid '30s.

The Wingate branch does a lot of fundraising and volunteer work, said Romberg. It raised the money to build and maintain the Cenotaph in Mt. Sinai Memorial Park, and it is also active in helping the 35 Jewish veterans in the chronic care wing of Sunnybrook Health Science Centre.

Legion members do friendly visiting, run bingo nights and help with Shabbat services at the chapel, as well as with holiday celebrations including the annual seder for the ailing veterans.

* * *

As The CJN *was going to press, it learned that Al Labovitch, who was to become the secretary treasurer, passed away on May 14.*

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SAULT COMMUNITY CELEBRATES ISRAEL'S 50TH

Students from Beth Jacob Synagogue's school in Sault Ste. Marie, Ont., sing Hatikvah as part of the community's Israel at 50 celebrations. In conjunction with CJC, Ontario region's family outreach program, its coordinator, Leanne Rosen, participated in the event along with 50 other adults and children living in Sault Ste. Marie, Ont. and Michigan. Children (from left) are Ariella Arbus, Alexandra Jaffit, Miriam Arbus, Hannah Iland and Jacob Hornstein. [Leanne Rosen photo]

Toronto Jewish Folk Choir
Esther Ghan Firestone, *Conductor* Lina Zemelman, *Accompanist*

Spring Concert

Sunday, June 7, 2:30 p.m.

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Narrator

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HEBREW U ENDOWMENT

Michele Handelman, seen here, demonstrated her responsibility as a bat mitzvah by establishing an endowment for cardiac research at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

New JIAS rep for Halifax

By JOEL JACOBSON
Atlantic Correspondent

HALIFAX — Boris Tzinman knows what he went through as a refugee immigrant to Canada.

And the Halifax man wants to ensure other people have as smooth a transition as he did 18 years ago.

A successful engineer and businessman, the 43-year-old native of Riga, Latvia, is the new JIAS representative in Atlantic Canada, a volunteer position he says he'll relish.

"When I came, I didn't know what I needed, who to register with, how to integrate into the community. But my brother and I were single, we were outgoing and we reached out. The people of Halifax invited us to their homes and made us welcome. I want to do the same for others trying to make their way in Canada."

Tzinman is the Atlantic Jewish Council (AJC) representative on the JIAS national board. AJC has requested more immigration of Jews into the region and it's Tzinman's function to prepare the volunteer committee infrastructure to make it happen.

"As an immigrant myself, I have an advantage because I know what they need," said Tzinman. He recently converted a computer keyboard to Russian so he can communicate with Eastern European prospects. He has already corresponded with a woman in southern Russia interested in migrating to Canada.

"I just want to do what I can to make it easier for them to settle and feel as comfortable as I am."

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From coast to coast

New Bonds director faces higher quota challenges

By PETER CAULFIELD
Pacific Correspondent

VANCOUVER — When Geoffrey Druker became State of Israel Bonds city director for Vancouver in February, he faced more than the normal challenges that come with starting a new job: Bonds' headquarters had just asked for increases of 20 percent.

The loan guarantees that Israel has been receiving from the United States government to help it absorb Russian immigrants ends this year. Israel needs to raise an additional $3 billion, of which State of Israel Bonds needs to come up with $1 billion, 20 percent higher than in recent years.

Vancouver is equal to the challenge, Druker said. "Vancouver has been a loyal Bonds supporter over the years. I'm sure we'll do our share to help raise the extra money that Israel needs."

Druker, who is also a partner in a Vancouver company that imports mobility and rehabilitation equipment from Israel, said there were two main reasons that he chose to join Bonds.

"First, I like Bonds because they are an investment," he explained. "When people buy State of Israel Bonds, they're making an investment which pays a good financial return; they're not giving to charity. Second, because I grew up in Israel, I feel a specialty affinity to State of Israel Bonds. Over the years they have done a lot to build up the country's infrastructure."

Infrastructure projects

Current infrastructure projects include the new north-south Cross-Israel Highway, job creation and immigrant absorption projects, energy projects and industrial parks.

Druker, who was born in 1956 in Johannesburg, South Africa, made aliyah in 1964 with his parents and two younger brothers. They settled in Kfar Daniel, a moshav which lies half-way between Tel Aviv and Jerusalem.

After completing his compulsory three-year hitch in the Israel Defence Forces, Druker enrolled in the Israel Institute of Technology (Technion) in Haifa, where he earned a bachelor of science degree in industrial engineering.

In 1981, he began work as an industrial engineer in the organization and methods/operation research division of El Al, which acts as an internal consultant to Israel's national airline. He worked for El Al in Tel Aviv until 1987 and at the same time earned a master of business administration degree at the University of Tel Aviv and served two stints in the reserve infantry during the 1982 invasion of Lebanon.

In 1987, while visiting relatives in Edmonton, Druker met Rozanne Kipnes. In 1988, he left Tel Aviv and moved to Vancouver, where he and Kipnes married and still live today. Druker, his wife, who is director of real estate development and construction for Future Shop, and their two daughters, Shira, 3½ years old, and Aria, one month, live in suburban Richmond.

Since coming to the Lower Mainland, Druker has been active in Jewish community affairs. He has been president and has sat on the board of directors of the Canadian Zionist Federation, Pacific region, for two years. In 1996, he received the Jewish Federation of Greater Vancouver's Young Leader Award.

Druker says his office is planning a number of promotional special events to enable Bonds to meet its quota. The events include sending a Vancouver honoree to the annual Elie Wiesel State of Israel Bonds dinner in November, and a concert featuring a "world class Jewish entertainer" to honor the young leaders of Vancouver.

Teen has winning way with words

By MYRON LOVE
Prairie Correspondent

WINNIPEG — Michael Kives has a winning way with words.

The Grade 11 student at St. John's-Ravenscourt (SJR) School has just completed another successful year on the international debating circuit.

St. John's-Ravenscourt private school was originally Anglican, but it has for many years been open to everyone, and a growing percentage of its students are Jewish.

The school is noted internationally for its debating program, co-ordinated by teacher John Robinson.

Kives, who entered SJR in primary school, began his debating activities in Grade 8, the first year students are eligible.

By the end of Grade 8 he qualified for the national competition in Halifax. He was the youngest competitor, and he finished first in his category.

In Grade 9, he won the National Championship, the first person to win two years in a row, and in Grade 10, he placed first in the Western Canada National Debating Seminars.

He also represented Manitoba in the National High School Debating Seminars in Halifax in April 1997, where he qualified for the World Debating Seminars scheduled for Jerusalem in January 1997.

In October 1997 he finished first in the International Independent Schools Public Speaking Championships in Montreal and returned to Montreal in November for the McGill High School Debating Tournament, the largest event of its kind in North America. Once again, he finished first.

In Jerusalem at the World Schools' Debating Championship, he and his Canadian teammates were not quite as successful.

The team was undefeated in the regular rounds but lost a quarterfinal to Scotland to finish fifth. Kives finished fourth in a contest to determine the funniest debater.

He capped the year by winning the World Public Speaking Championship in Buenos Aires in March. The thesis: Be it resolved that it is better to die on your feet than live on your knees.

Next year's Worlds are in Botswana in southern Africa and Kives says you can bet that he'll be there.

After graduation, Kives is considering a career in criminal law or politics.

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From coast to coast

Hershon proud of accomplishments as CJC chief

By DAVID LAZARUS
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — It began on Mother's Day in 1995 with a plenary election that degenerated into electoral chaos and a razor-thin victory over challenger Thomas Hecht.

It went on to include a pivotal, also razor-thin referendum on separation and the first real progress on Nazi collaborators in Canada. It ended with the chance of losing the headquarters building in Montreal.

It's not the tumultuous term Montrealer Goldie Hershon had in mind three years ago when, as a somewhat reluctant candidate, she chose to run for the Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) presidency.

Three years later and just a couple of weeks before handing over the title to Torontonian Moshe Ronen, however, she is glad she did.

Not that there's no relief in Hershon's mind that she'll finally have more time to devote to her family – husband Sheldon, children David and Cindy, and five, going-on-six grandchildren.

But CJC's second female president – the first was Dorothy Reitman, also a Montrealer – is proud to have carried the CJC banner across Canada and around the world, and of the accomplishments achieved during her tenure.

Goldie Hershon

"I mean, I did things I probably would never have done in my life," the outgoing president said in an interview with *The CJN* at her Hampstead home.

"Of course, there was the downside, the aggravation, the stress. But I had a terrific staff that was loyal and very, very good to me."

The national public advocacy issues that dominated the Canadian Jewish agenda, Hershon noted, were there when she came on board and will stay there after she leaves following the CJC plenary this weekend in Winnipeg: national unity, fighting anti-Semitism, hate mongering and literature, hate on the Internet, Nazi war criminals and small communities, among others.

But Hershon still feels she was able to make a personal mark, in part because of her people skills.

Take small communities, for example.

Hershon made it a point to travel to every province (except Prince Edward Island) in Canada, including Yellowknife, getting to know the smaller communities as part of CJC's mandate to help Jews everywhere keep their Jewish communities viable.

As part of her travels, Hershon went to Kelowna, B.C., where the Jewish community felt it was being neglected. She left with a sense that the community felt more reassured.

"That's the difference," she said. "When you go talk to people, it's much different than writing them a letter. So every time I took a trip, I made it a point to add a small community.'

Hershon said talks have been going on with Federation UIA (the merged body of CJF Canada and UIA Canada) over who will preside over the smaller communities agenda.

"It is Congress that should have the ultimate responsibility," she said, "because we have established the connections.

"It is an issue of continuity. If you want to be a Jew anywhere in Canada, you have to work at it. They want to be Jews, and we have to keep them. No other organization looks after small communities."

Hershon said her people skills also allowed CJC to enhance relations with other national Jewish bodies, such as the Canada-Israel Committee and B'nai Brith.

Hershon's three years as president, she admitted, were more demanding than she thought they would be.

She went to Israel. She went to Egypt. She went to the United States, Greece, Norway. She met with heads of state and government, with ambassadors, with politicians. A nice part of the job, she conceded, but also one that revealed to her over and over again the extent to which Congress is perceived with great respect at an international level.

"If we got the same respect from Jewish leaders," Hershon said sardonically, "it would be terrific."

Not everything about her presidency was positive, however.

Hershon found that despite a strong female presence in the Congress hierarchy, the same couldn't be said about the lay leadership within other Jewish bodies.

"It's still not equal," she said. "At nine out of 10 meetings I attended, either I was the only woman there or there was one other. It's like the old boys' club."

Hershon also will always remember the fact that CJC's Quebec region, in her view, started to negotiate its relocation to FEDERATION CJA without notifying her, a Quebec-based president.

While she now supports the move, the lack of consultation, she said, "bothered me. It really did, and it still does."

Although Congress had already intended to enhance its presence in Ottawa, the effect of the relocation on the Montreal national headquarters building are still up in the air, Hershon said.

The hope is that the building will either be used by McGill and Concordia universities or become a museum and archives for the Jewish community, which would give it tax-exempt status. In either case, the desire is to keep the building for the Jewish community and to retain the national archives there, even if the national administrative office has to move.

'Choice is clear:' Peres

[Cont'd. from page 1]

If we want to remain a Jewish state, we have to have a Palestinian state. It's as simple as that. The choice is very clear."

In fact, "the majority of Israelis support a Palestinian state," putting them at odds with their leader, who opposes it.

Asked whether the United States has crossed the line in its current pressure on Israel to withdraw from more of the West Bank than Jerusalem is willing, Peres said, "We asked the Americans to serve as a honest broker. We invited them to be a witness. What do we expect? [They are] an honest broker, [taking] a middle position. I don't think [the U.S. proposals are] an imposition. It's an attempt to build a bridge."

In its effort to break the current deadlock in the peace process, Washington is pressuring Jerusalem to cede a further 13 percent of the West Bank to Palestinian self-rule. Israel says it will give up no more than nine percent.

Netanyahu, said Peres, is no longer negotiating with the Palestinians, but with the Americans, adding he doesn't think the prime minister has shown courage in standing up to Washington.

Netanyahu is beholden to "the tyranny of the minority" in his cabinet, without whose support his government would collapse.

Peres fears that given Netanyahu's hard line, "I don't see how [the two sides] can reach an agreement." If the next round of talks in Washington fail, "we shall be in a crisis" and in danger of permanently hurting relations with the U.S.

For Peres, the difference between nine percent and 13 percent is "nothing whatsoever."

"Let's be honest with ourselves, because we owe it to our children," he told the Bonds leaders. "They say we cannot give more to Arafat because we don't trust him. If we don't trust him, why give him nine percent? Why not give him nothing? If you say nine percent [represents] security, and anything above nine percent is insecurity, then we'll never have an agreement.

"Clearly, with nine percent, you cannot have a permanent solution."

Peres believes that "sooner or later," Netanyahu will hand over the 13 percent. "They may find a face-saving device [like] nine percent now, and four percent later."

However, "I don't think the price of peace will go down. But the price of postponing [it] will go up. By slowing down the peace process, the forces that oppose peace are accelerating their actions — rearming themselves, introducing very dangerous arms to the Middle East."

Peres asked his audience whether they want millions of Palestinians to become Israeli citizens and make up half the Knesset's membership.

Israel "is not a Jewish state. It is a state of the Jews. It is a Jewish state as long as we are the majority. If we lose our majority, we shall stop being a Jewish state, or we will stop being a democratic state, because then the minority will have to rule. We cannot behave this way."

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From coast to coast

Dr. Laura comes to Ottawa

By DIANE KOVEN
Ottawa Correspondent

OTTAWA — The woman who has recently captured the title of North America's No. 1 radio talk show host, syndicated on over 400 stations across the continent, made her only Canadian appearance at Ottawa's National Arts Centre.

Dr. Laura Schlessinger, known to her fans as simply Dr. Laura, was in Ottawa with her husband Lew Bishop and son Derek, as a fundraiser for Congregation Machzikei Hadas.

More than 150 people attended the pre-performance luncheon including David Sultan, Ambassador of Israel to Canada; Mayor Jim Watson; regional chair Bob Chiarelli; and representatives of the Ottawa Jewish community.

Steve Madely of radio station 580 CFRA, one of the event's sponsors, said "we are proud that there are thousands of people in Ottawa who have been enriched by your presence on our station, and we are extremely proud that you have chosen to make Ottawa your only Canadian stop on this tour."

The impetus for Schlessinger's one-stop appearance was her friendship with Rabbi Reuven Bulka who has a show, *Religion on the Air*, on the same radio station.

Dr. Laura Schlessinger

Dr. Laura does with great success."

After the luncheon, Schlessinger spoke to a capacity crowd at the Opera of the National Arts Centre.

She said, "I was patrilineally Jewish which, as you know, is nice, but not enough." Her father, a "nice Jewish boy from Brooklyn" had met her mother, a Catholic Italian, during World War II.

They married, much to the displeasure of her paternal relatives in Brooklyn.

Always feeling like "there was a hole in my heart and I didn't know what to fill it with," Schlessinger said she converted to Judaism several years ago.

Although she, Lew and Derek had all had Conservative conversions, Schlessinger said they had recently had an Orthodox conversion.

She said that Judaism has brought meaning into her life and that becoming a mother was her "introduction to living for something outside of myself."

Fans of Dr. Laura recognized her trademark advice, telling people to work on their personal relationships, to be a parent before everything, to do the "right" thing rather than just the "fun" thing.

"There is a difference between having fun and being happy," she said.

Describing her commitment to keeping the laws of kashrut, she said "It makes me happy to know that I am the master, not the slave to food cravings."

'Do the right thing'

Ambassador Sultan told the audience "It has been said that people sometimes do the right thing, but only after exhausting all other possibilities. The clever thing to do is to help people do the right thing before exhausting all other possibilities. This is what

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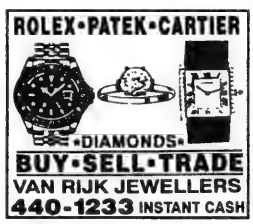
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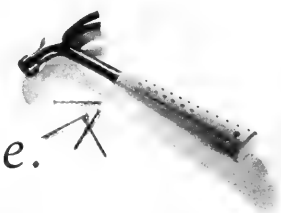

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Victoria celebrates Israel's 50th

By SUZANNE KORT
Pacific Correspondent

VICTORIA — The celebration of Israel's 50th here was a tribute to community solidarity as much as a national birthday party.

At least 18 local groups helped organize the event under the auspices of the Jewish Federation of Victoria and Vancouver Island.

Miriam Fisher, president of the Jewish Community Centre of Victoria, and Leah Levi, Congregation Emanu-El Hebrew School principal, coordinated the evening. Participating groups included the Jewish National Fund, Women's League of Conservative Judaism, Society for Humanistic Judaism, and Habonim Dror Youth.

Several organizations, including United Israel Appeal, Canadian Friends of Hebrew University, and the Organization for Rehabilitation through Training (ORT), displayed their latest information at the University of Victoria's (UVic) Student Union Building.

ORT, an international network of vocational schools founded, funded and led by Jewish individuals, shared material about their newest school in Sarajevo, which is training people to help rebuild wartorn Bosnia. "Ours is a constantly evolving organization," explained local representative, Orli Kalfon.

UVic's Pardess Jewish Student's Society arranged the party. Members of Aish HaTorah helped children braid tzitzit (prayer shawl fringes) while the Reform Congregation of Victoria guided young gardeners through the planting of sunflower seeds.

The two Victoria chapters of Hadassah-WIZO kept children occupied with crafts projects.

Israel's Arab minority had a symbolic presence outdoors, where teenage members of United Synagogue Youth and Kadima set up a Bedouin tent complete with Arabic music, pillows and halavah.

Organizers scrambled for extra plates and food as hundreds of celebrants waited in line for their Mideast dinner of falafel, tabouleh and babaganoush.

Rabbi Victor Reinstein blew the shofar. Hebrew school students explored the birth of modern Zionism with a short dramatization of the historic Dreyfus affair.

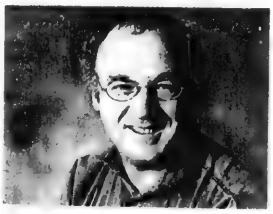
Both children and adults presented Israeli songs throughout the evening.

The 18-member adult Jewish Community Choir included several participants with no previous knowledge of Hebrew songs or language. The performance was the choir's premiere.

Israeli folk and belly dancers, and the lively Victoria klezmer band, Mammaloshen, added their own musical flare to the event.

שישאר בינינו

גידי קורן וחברים



בין תרבות ותרבוש

סוף סוף, אחרי חיפושים אינסופיים, אני חושב שמצאתי את הסימבול הכי קולע לישראל של שנת היובל. לכתובתנו בקרית-אונו, כמו למיליוני בתים אחרים בישראל הגיע לקראת הפסח קטלוג מכירות של אחד מכרטיסי האשראי המובילים והמוקרים בארץ. חוברת מהודרת בניר כרומו, שהיא כדברי מפיקיה, "הקטלוג מס.1 לשווק ישיר". הינה הוכחה להתעצמותה המדהימה של הכלכלה הישראלית, שהיא מאוד דומה, אם לא עולה, על הרבה מדינות מערביות. נו, ומה המוצר הראשון שמציעים לך לקנות בעמוד הראשון, "להזמנות 24 שעות ביממה"! מוצרי חשמל! נסיעות לחו"ל! מכוניות! אולי דירות או בתים! לא ניחשתם. הטקסט אומר ככה: "לברכה ולמזל. עדליון עם דיוקנו של המקובל הקדוש הבאבא סאלי, כדי שזכות הצדיק תגן עליך בכל עת ובכל מקום". Well, אולי חשבתם שאיזה סוחר ציני החליט " לעשות את המכה"! שוב טעיתם: המפיקה היא לא אחרת מאשר החברה הממשלתית למדליות ולמטבעות. זמן אספקה 14 יום. זהו, כמו שהגדיר עיתון "הארץ": ישראל בין תרבות ובין תרבוש.

ישראל ופלשתין - שושנה קיסרי

"לכבוד גידי קורן שלום רב,

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ראיתי רבים מיכם בהופעת הגבעטרון. הם נגעו לכולנו במרכז הנשמה. תמיד אהבתי את השירה הנהדרת שלהם, אבל עוד יותר את זה שקיבוץ קטן בעמק יזרעאל שם על הבמה רפתן,רועה כבשים,איש מחשבים,מרפאה באומנויות,מנהלת מלון,מדריכת טיולים,דייג,ועוד אנשים כמותם ליצג את ישראל בצורה כל כך נפלאה.

מוסיקה טובה כמעט בחינם-הורם פירוצקי

ישנם הרבה ישראלים שמביאים כבוד ונאווה לישראל. אחד מהם - המנצח אורי מאיר, יושב בטורונטו אך מסתובב בתבל שם הוא מניף שרביטו על תזמורות פורסמות בהם הוא משמש מנהל אמנותי או מנצח אורח. ובתור בונוס, מקליט יצירות חשובות אותם מנגנים כמעט כל יום בתחנות של מוסיקה קלאסית טובה. לפני מספר שבועות הלכתי לחמם את הלב באולם הקונצרטים של אוניברסיטת טורונטו שם ניצח אורי על תזמורת הסטודנטים. מהקונצרט נהניתי בלי ערבון מוגבל, אך באותה הזדמנות גיליתי שתי תגליות שכדאי לשתף בהן את הקוראים. קודם כל מצאתי אולם קונצרטים עם אקוסטיקה מעולה שמאפשר לויברציות של כלי הנגינה לחדור ישר ללב, ואפילו תזמורת שלא מן השורה הראשונה נשמעת יותר טוב מהסימפונית של ברלין. התגלית השניה היתה מחיר כרטיסי הכניסה. בסכום שמוציאים עבור סרט, פופ-קורן, קולה וחניה אפשר לרכוש שני כרטיסים ועוד ישאר עודף. שם האולם "מקמילן" והוא נמצא בבניין ג'ונסון מאחורי הפלנטריום של מוזיאון ה- R.O.M. רשימת ההופעות מתפרסמת בכל יום חמישי ב"טורונטו סטאר".

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On Campus

Brandeis returns to Jewish roots

By URIEL HEILMAN
The Jewish Advocate & JTA

WALTHAM, Mass. – As Brandeis University prepares to mark its 50th birthday, the Jewish-sponsored, non-sectarian university founded the same year as the State of Israel appears to be experiencing a resurgence of Jewish life unparalleled in the school's history.

While the number of Jewish students at Brandeis has remained relatively constant in recent years, students and faculty alike point to an increase in Jewish activity on campus, a growing number of Jewish institutes sponsored by the university and a renewed interest in Jewish affairs and community as indicators that Brandeis is returning to its Jewish roots.

It is not difficult for longtime members of the Brandeis community to pinpoint the beginning of this Jewish resurgence: the 1990 resignation of former university president Evelyn Handler.

During Handler's seven-year tenure, Brandeis reportedly lost considerable support in the Jewish community as a result of a drive toward diversification, which was viewed as coming at the expense of its Jewish character. When interim president Stuart Altman donned a yarmulke during Brandeis' first commencement ceremonies after Handler's departure, it was considered a harbinger of change on campus.

But, says Jonathan Sarna, a professor of American history at Brandeis, it was not until Jehudah Reinharz's assumption of the presidency in March 1994 that Brandeis took a crucial step back toward matters Jewish.

"President Reinharz has been able to articulate a vision for the university that makes its ties to the Jewish community central to what the university is about," Sarna said in a recent interview. "He glories in the university's Jewishness."

Born and raised in Israel, Reinharz is the first Brandeis alumnus to become president and his close ties with Jewish leaders and academics in the United States and Israel are regarded as a boon for the university. Fundraising has increased, university administrators report, and during Reinharz's tenure more than 12 Jewish-related centres and institutes have been created at Brandeis.

Reinharz is being credited for wooing back into the fold Jewish supporters who had been estranged from Brandeis and attracting the support of prominent Jews, including industrialists Charles Bronfman and Max Fisher and filmmaker Steven Spielberg.

"Brandeis is a microcosm of world Jewry and this imposes special obligations upon us," Reinharz said in an interview. "We are seen today by the Jewish community as the think-tank and action centre of the Jewish community."

In the past year alone, Brandeis has launched several programs to address Jewish issues.

While not everybody has been happy with Brandeis' turn back toward Jewish affairs, Reinharz remains unapologetic.

"I define very clearly what Brandeis is, knowing full well that some people will not like it," he said.

"Brandeis is unique. There is no other university that has service to the Jewish community as part of its mission."

The increased Orthodox presence at Brandeis, which began five years ago after students initiated a recruitment drive designed to appeal to day school and yeshivah graduates, has more than tripled in the last decade, according to Todd Kammerman, student president of Brandeis' Orthodox Organization.

Shabbat services have grown so large that seating space has become a problem, prompting Reinharz to acknowledge that the creation of a new Hillel building to accommodate this growth is "clearly one of the next things we need to do."

Student trips to Israel are 'life-changing'

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

NEW YORK, N.Y. — Jodi Michaels tells students who are planning Israel trips to be prepared for a life-changing experience.

The 24-year-old native of Hamilton, Ont., who works in Hillel's New York office, speaks from her own experience. The job she has now – working on Israel-related Hillel programs in the greater New York area, and recruiting for Kefiada and Project Otzma – was the last thing on her mind when she left for Israel to participate in both leadership development programs in 1996.

An alumna of Stanford University, Michaels had studied human biology/pre-medicine and in her spare time led a women's discussion group called Haveret.

Her participation in Otzma last year was sponsored through the San Francisco and Hamilton Jewish federations. She is particularly grateful for the scholarship fund named in memory of her parents' friend Ralph Travis. "He was one of my favorite people, and he helped make it possible. He was an avid Israel supporter.

"I went and fell in love with the place," she told *The CJN* by phone from her Manhattan office. "I felt it would be rewarding to help the next round of youngsters get over to Israel doing the same programs."

Jodi Michaels

Michaels, who attended the Hamilton Hebrew Academy for 11 years, had never been to Israel and had no desire to go, but once she finished college, it seemed like a good idea to go and reconnect, she said.

"It was fascinating to go to Israel and relearn Hebrew, to be exposed to life [according to] a Jewish calendar. All the traditions I hadn't kept in a long time came back to me. It was an incredible experience."

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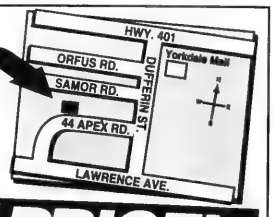

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Demonstrators killed attacking IDF positions

Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — As many as 10 Gaza residents were killed and some 400 Palestinians wounded, eight seriously, as thousands of demonstrators, many of them throwing stones and firebombs, rampaged through IDF roadblocks around the Gaza Strip last week.

It was the most violent outburst since the September 1996 clashes between Israeli troops and Palestinian Police.

It was reported by the Palestinian Authority's (PA) Health Ministry director-general, Dr. Imad Tarawiya that 10 were killed, but estimates varied.

The demonstrators ignored appeals by the Palestinian Authority and attacked IDF soldiers in Gaza and in the West Bank, in a violent commemoration of the 50th anniversary of al-Nakba (the catastrophe), the Palestinian term for the founding of the State of Israel.

PA Information Minister Yasser Abed Rabbo blamed the "massacre" on the Israeli government, saying troops shot wildly at peaceful Palestinian demonstrators.

But Palestinian and Israeli eyewitnesses asserted that the clashes began when Palestinians left the planned route of the march and attacked IDF positions.

OC Judea and Samaria Brig.-Gen. Yitzhak Eitan stressed that no live ammunition was fired by security forces in the West Bank.

In Gaza, troops fired live ammunition only when their lives were in danger, the IDF spokesperson stressed. Otherwise they used rubber and plastic bullets and tear gas to disperse the rioters.

Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai met with Chief of General Staff Lt.-Gen. Amnon Lipkin-Shahak, General Security Service head Ami Ayalon, and IDF commanders to assess the situation. He called on IDF officers to maintain contact with Palestinian security and intelligence officials, and deploy more troops where necessary, stressing that the policy is to restore calm to the area.

IDF sources said the clashes became so violent that Mordechai issued a personal appeal to Mahmoud Abbas, regarded as PA Chairman Yasser Arafat's chief aide, to use PA forces to stop the fighting.

Israeli military sources said the Palestinian Police had restored order by nightfall in most of the territories and termed their effort as genuine.

"Had we not acted with intelligence and patience, there would have been a lot more than eight dead," OC Southern Command Maj.-Gen. Yom Tov Samia said.

Reacting to the clashes, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu pinned the blame on the PA for stirring up hostility to Israel.

"It's easy to whip up a frenzy of bloodshed and violence," he said.

Speaking at the Washington Institute for Near East Policy, Netanyahu said the Palestinians "must understand that agreements cannot be hostages to violence. It puts the Palestinian cause behind."

Despite PA assurances that the planned "march of the million" would be peaceful, the IDF had beefed up forces throughout the territories in anticipation of attacks.

Palestinian sources said soon after the march began at 10 a.m., young demonstrators began to stream to the IDF checkpoints throughout the Gaza Strip.

Hundreds began to throw stones and firebombs and tried to climb the fences surrounding Jewish settlements. Troops responded with rubber and plastic bullets and tear gas.

Palestinian policemen were overwhelmed by, in some cases, thousands of demonstrators, who swept past them toward the troops. At one point, a Palestinian grabbed a policeman's automatic weapon and began firing at an IDF position.

The most severe rioting was at the Erez roadblock where Palestinians mobbed a police position and headed for the IDF checkpoint less than a kilometre away. The troops lobbed tear gas, but soon resorted to live fire to disperse the crowd.

Palestinian sources said at least three people were killed and about 75 wounded in that clash. Palestinians were also killed in clashes with troops outside Gush Katif and at the Morag junction.

In the West Bank, Palestinians attacked numerous IDF positions. Heavy fighting was reported in Hebron, where 96 Palestinians were wounded by IDF gunfire. Eyewitnesses said hundreds threw stones and other objects at soldiers, who responded with plastic bullets, tear gas, and later, live ammunition.

In Bethlehem, 25 Palestinians were reported wounded near Rachel's Tomb, when hundreds of marchers left their route and attacked an IDF position. Soldiers responded with tear gas and rubber bullets.

IDF officers charged that the Palestinians were purposely exaggerating the numbers of wounded.

OC Gaza Brig.-Gen. Yoav Gallant said in some areas the Palestinian Police successfully prevented the crowds from reaching IDF troops, in other areas they were unsuccessful, and in some cases they did nothing at all.

He charged that while the Palestinian police were responsible for restraining the rioters, it was clear that certain organizations worked behind the scenes to orchestrate last week's events.

"Those responsible for urging people into such a situation must have realized that someone would have to pay the price," he said, adding that IDF troops behaved in a restrained manner.

He disputed Palestinian charges that the large number of casualties were caused by the widespread use of live ammunition.

In Jerusalem, two border policemen were wounded while trying to contain hundreds of demonstrators outside the Old City.

Settlements here to stay, says Labor party leader

By SARAH HONIG
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Beit El, Ofra and other settlements "are here to stay forever," Labor party chair Ehud Barak declared last week.

He was speaking at the Beit El home of Yoel Tsur, whose wife and son were murdered in a drive-by shooting near the settlement in December 1996. He visited Tsur as part of a tour of five settlements in Judea and Samaria.

"From here, in Beit El, I want to send out a message to the people of Beit El and to all the citizens of the State of Israel: The Labor party and I have clear red lines. We will remain in Beit El forever."

However, he quickly added that "just as Israelis will remain here in Beit El forever, so will the Arabs remain in Ramallah.

"To achieve personal security – and no one realizes better than Yoel what a horrendous price the lack of such security can exact – we need to separate the two populations. We need a physical separation from the Palestinians."

Barak said that Labor has a "set of red lines which it will under no circumstances cross... A united Jerusalem must remain under full and unequivocal Israeli sovereignty; most of the population of the settlements will remain under Israeli rule in large settlement blocs; under no circumstances will we return to the 1967 lines; and there will be no foreign army west of the Jordan River."

Barak had warm words for the settlers and the settlements.

"I came here to see how the settlements have developed. It is heartening to see that there is so much growth and progress. There are beautiful projects here – the beauty is not only in the projects but is connected to the soul, to the soul of Israeli society."

Some residents suggested in jest that they would begin looking for a home for Barak in Beit El. They noted that neither Yitzhak Rabin or Shimon Peres had made comments like Barak's when they were prime minister.

But not everyone was pleased with Barak's remarks.

Peace Now issued a statement expressing "shock and dismay" at Barak's pronouncements.

Political observers maintained that after Barak submitted a bill last Monday calling for the draft of haredi yeshivah students, he wanted to prove that he is not a radical left-winger.

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Infrastructure plan approved by cabinet

By DAVID HARRIS
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — The cabinet last week approved the Treasury's NIS 1 billion economic growth proposals, after more than six hours of stormy debate.

Twelve voted in favor of the plan, with Natan Sharansky, Yuli Edelstein, Eli Suissa and Avigdor Kahalani voting against and Eli Yishai abstaining.

Another meeting is planned to discuss setting unemployment-reduction targets, Edelstein's spokesperson said after the meeting.

Under pressure from as many as half the ministers present, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu insisted the Treasury spend five percent of the money on people – presumably for retraining – rather than spending all of the appropriation on infrastructure.

The bulk of the funds will go into road and rail improvements, with NIS 10 million going towards preparations for the influx of tourists expected in 2000.

The theme of the plan is improving infrastructure to increase economic growth and thus reduce unemployment, now standing at 8.3 percent.

The measures approved also included non-budgetary items: Legislation for separating water and sewerage activities from the municipalities will be speeded up; the government will remove the bureaucratic blocks preventing a NIS 3b.-plus expansion of the Haifa and Ashdod ports; and rules concerning the employment of foreign workers will be tightened.

Russia-Iran ties irk U.S.

By DOUGLAS DAVIS
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

LONDON — The United States and Russia are heading for a showdown over reports that Moscow is about to sell nuclear weapons technology.

Concern about the technology transfer, which would violate a 1995 U.S.-Russia agreement, were heightened by a visit to Moscow last week by an Iranian delegation to discuss "nuclear cooperation."

Diplomatic sources quoted by the *Sunday Times* in London said President Bill Clinton would raise the issue with Russian President Boris Yeltsin when they meet during the Group of 8 conference of industrialized nations, which was slated to begin Tuesday in Birmingham, England.

Russia has conceded that it sold nuclear technology to Iran, but only for civilian use.

The Iranian delegation to Russia, which was led by the head of Iran's Atomic Energy Organization, met with officials at Russia's Atomic Energy Ministry and at a nuclear research centre in Moscow.

A former aide to Yeltsin, Aleksei Yablokov, said he found it "a little bizarre that a country with the oil resources of Iran should be interested in developing atomic energy. It's pretty obvious that the end aim is to manufacture nuclear weapons."

In his 1995 agreement, Yeltsin told Clinton he would veto the sale of nuclear technology with dual-use capability, but there is widespread concern that he is about to renege on that agreement.

The anticipated Clinton-Yeltsin meeting follows talks between Clinton's national security adviser, Sandy Berger, and Russian officials over threats posed by Moscow's nuclear program and the proliferation of biological weapons.

An even more virulent strain of the lethal Ebola disease, which ravaged the Congo, reportedly has been developed in Russian laboratories, and Clinton is said to be alarmed at the prospect of such biological agents finding their way into the hands of terrorist groups.

Moscow synagogue damaged by bomb

Jewish Telegraphic Agency

NEW YORK — A Lubavitch synagogue in Moscow has been severely damaged by a bomb.

No one was injured in the nighttime attack, according to a spokesperson for Lubavitch World Headquarters in New York.

But the explosion occurred just minutes after some 70 children and their teachers had left the three-story synagogue building after celebrating the holiday of Lag b'Omer, the spokesperson said.

This was not the first attack on the Maryina Roscha synagogue, which is also a centre for Lubavitch outreach across the former Soviet Union.

In December 1993, the 70-year-old wooden synagogue was destroyed by an act of arson.

Two months after the reconstructed synagogue was dedicated in July 1996, a bomb blast seriously damaged the building. No one was injured in that attack.

"While miraculously no one was seriously hurt, we cannot continue to rely on miracles," said Rabbi Berel Lazar, of the synagogue.

Rabbi Lazar called on "municipal and national authorities to find and prosecute those responsible for this clearly anti-Semitic act, in order to reassure the Jews of Moscow and Russia that they are still safe."

No suspects have been apprehended in connection with any of the attacks on the synagogue.

Moscow Jews pray outside their bomb-damaged synagogue. The shul was the target of a bombing in 1996 and an arson attack in 1993. [RNS/Reuters photo]

The Week in Israel

May 11

• Israel's Cabinet confirmed Zalman Shoval as Israel's next ambassador to the United States.

May 12

• A senior army official presented a Knesset committee with a plan for separating Israel and the self-rule areas by using minefields and fences.

May 13

• An Arab construction worker was knifed to death in Jerusalem on his way to work in what police said was the work of a serial anti-Arab stabber.

• At least 10 people were killed and over 20 wounded in an air force attack on the training base of a Palestinian terrorist group in the Bekaa Valley of Lebanon.

May 14

• A molotov cocktail was thrown at a wooden gate leading to the Al Aksa Mosque in the Old City, causing damage but no injuries.

• Media reported that Benjamin Netanyahu and Opposition leader Ehud Barak met secretly this week to discuss the possibility of early elections.

May 15

• Yizhak Moda'i who, during the course of a Knesset career that spanned more than 20 years, served in several ministerial posts, died in Haifa's Rambam Hospital. He was 72. He is survived by his wife Michal, a son and a daughter.

50 Years Ago

TEL AVIV, May 12 — The Jewish population of Palestine was warned today by the Provisional Jewish Government of the danger of an Arab invasion immediately after the termination of the Mandate Friday at midnight.

All able-bodied Jews were called upon to be prepared to repulse the invaders. The 13-member provisional Jewish cabinet was in session throughout the day considering a report by Moshe Shertok on the latest political developments at the United Nations and on the attitude of the U.S. Government towards the proclamation of a Jewish state this weekend.

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C²	FORD ESCORT P.S	294
N	KIA BESTA 8 SEATS	490
M	MINIBUS 10 SEATS	630
	AUTOMATIC CARS+A.C	
D	KIA PRIDE / SUZUKY SWIFT	266
E	MAZDA 323 1.6 P.S	315
F	* NISSAN ALMERA	350
G	* MAZDA LANTIS	434
K	* GMC VANDURA	735
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Israel & the Jewish World

When Israel's legal system came of age

By EDGAR ASHER
CJN Israel correspondent

Early on Friday morning, June 1, 1962, an Israel Navy patrol boat left port in Ashdod and headed out to sea. After reaching the limit of Israel's territorial waters, it continued on its westerly course and shortly afterwards, without ceremony, scattered ashes into the sea.

Commentary

The ashes were the remains of Adolf Eichmann. Eichmann, one of the main architects of the Nazis' final solution had been hanged just before midnight the previous day for his crimes against the Jewish people. His body had been cremated and his ashes were scattered in international waters so that his mortal remains could never be a source of focus for any fascist group or individual.

On Sept. 22, 1993, an El Al jet took off from Ben-Gurion Airport for a non-stop flight to New York. On board was John Demjanjuk, who was being deported after being released from the same jail where Eichmann had been held some 31 years earlier.

Demjanjuk's deportation followed the conclusion of his successful appeal to Israel's Supreme Court. The appeal judges overturned an earlier conviction and sentence of death passed on Demjanjuk, who had been accused of operating the gas chambers at the Treblinka death camp in Poland and causing the death of some 900,000 Jews. Demjanjuk was acquitted on the grounds of reasonable doubt.

The past half-century has seen many significant events that have molded the character and direction of the Jewish state. However, the scope of the Eichmann and Demjanjuk trials for crimes against the Jewish people in World War II could claim to be among the most significant events in the short history of the State of Israel. The horrors of the "final solution" were, in their own way, part of the raison d'être for the foundation of the Jewish state.

During Israel's 50th anniversary year, it is fitting that we reflect somewhat on the Eichmann and Demjanjuk "episodes" in Israel's history.

The incredible capture of Eichmann in South America and his journey to Israel to stand trial astounded the world. Here was a man who was being judged by the remnants of the very people he had hoped to annihilate. Ever since the foundation of the state, the Mossad had searched for Eichmann, following many leads that usually ended in failure. At one time, it was even erroneously thought that he was living in Kuwait. Eventually Eichmann was traced by the Mossad to Argentina, where he had been living with his family in Buenos Aires, under the assumed name of Ricardo Klement.

Once the Eichmann's identity had been verified, he was abducted by the Mossad on his way home from work in May 1960 and held secretly for 10 days in a quiet suburb of Buenos Aires, before being flown to Israel with his captors on an El Al jet.

Eichmann's trial began on April 11, 1961. For the next eight months, the nation and the world heard the survivors of the Holocaust retell their experiences. The witnesses told of death, torture, starvation, suffering and degradation.

The Eichmann trial could be regarded as a catalyst that brought to the attention of the world, in the controlled environment of a courtroom, a firsthand account of the conception and implementation of the attempt to remove the Jewish people from the face of the earth.

The trial itself was a document, an indelible record of the events of some 20 years earlier.

The court in Jerusalem represented the six million victims who were never able to confront their tormentors and bring them to the bar of justice.

The execution of Eichmann was carried out just hours after the rejection of his appeal to the Supreme Court. It was as if the Jewish people, through the judicial process, wanted to be finished with him. His presence, dead or alive, on Israel's holy soil was unacceptable.

The execution, cremation and disposal of Eichmann's mortal remains was not the end. It was a beginning.

In 1987, the attention of the world was once again focused on a courtroom in Jerusalem. This time, the accused was Demjanjuk, not an architect of the Holocaust, but rather one of its alleged executioners.

But 26 years had elapsed since the revelations of Eichmann. The people now giving testimony were that much older; their memories sometimes played tricks on them.

The trial of Ivan the Terrible, as John Demjanjuk was known in the Treblinka death camp, lasted for almost three years. Witnesses came forward to claim that the man in the dock was indeed Ivan the Terrible. The evidence seemed damning. There was no doubt that John Demjanjuk had been a concentration camp guard during World War II.

Demjanjuk was found guilty and sentenced to die by hanging. Once again, the courtroom had provided a record of the horrors of the Holocaust for future generations. There was general satisfaction that justice had been done and that the judicial execution would in some small way go towards satisfying the desire of many Jews to see a tormentor punished.

Demjanjuk's defence council, Yoram Sheftel, saw the case as a vehicle for a national desire to seek retribution against Demjanjuk. Sheftel was convinced that his client was not guilty as charged. He was, Sheftel claimed, a small cog in the Nazi extermination machine. Convinced of his client's innocence, Sheftel tracked down wartime documents in KGB files in Russia that proved Demjanjuk could not have been Ivan the Terrible.

After a protracted appeal process, the Supreme Court decided to quash Demjanjuk's sentence on the grounds of reasonable doubt. The victory was one for both Sheftel and the Israeli justice system, which, if anyone had doubted it, had come of age.

Redeployment formula sought

[Cont'd. from page 1]

The address to the Washington Institute was studded with skillfully-composed metaphors and frequent rhetorical flourishes, all meant to convince his audience that security is the foremost consideration in working out a viable peace agreement.

He contended that the peace treaties with Egypt and Jordan "are based on [the realization on the Arab side] that there is no credible war option."

Arguing that there is "a vital link between peace and security," Netanyahu said "a peace that is not secure will not endure."

He rejected the notion that normal relations with the neighboring states could be construed as compensation for risks that might be taken for the sake of an agreement.

"A cold peace is infinitely preferable to a hot war," he said. "Normalization is a bonus, but it is not the foundation of peace."

He expressed his government's willingness to abide by the Oslo accords, but argued that "Oslo was meant to advance the peace without hurting security. We gave the Palestinians land [in return for their commitment] to fight terrorism. It failed."

His concept of an anti-terrorism campaign included "public education" against hostility to Israel and the annulment of the Palestine Liberation Organization's Covenant.

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AOL CANADA

Features

A roadmap of Canadian Jewish literature

This third and final article in a series presents a capsule summary of the Canadian Jewish literary scene.

By BILL GLADSTONE

This list, which highlights a wealth of talent and literature, is meant to be neither critical nor comprehensive. If it entices one reader to read one book, it will have served its purpose.

Pioneers

• Hyman Edelstein of Montreal published poetry on Jewish themes in the 1920s and 1930s, making him "the first established serious Canadian Jewish writer."

• *Earth and High Heaven* (1944), by Gwethalyn Graham. This novel, set in Montreal, presents an early treatment of the Jew in Canada by a non-Jewish writer.

• *The Rich Man* (1948) by Henry Kreisel. Story of a Canadian Jewish immigrant who visits his family in Europe in the late 1930s.

• *The Second Scroll* (1951) by A. M. Klein. A Montreal journalist travels to Morocco and the new state of Israel in search of his uncle in this complex novel that resonates with the epic drama of Jewish history.

• *Son of A Smaller Hero* (1955) by Mordecai Richler. Reflects the struggles of the post-immigrant generation to assimilate and captures the flavor of life in Montreal's Jewish ghetto with "an earnest realism unsurpassed in his later fiction."

• *The Sacrifice* (1956) by Adele Wiseman. Three-generational immigrant saga with biblical overtones; focuses on early Jewish life in Winnipeg.

Montreal

• Leonard Cohen (*The Favorite Game*, *Beautiful Losers*, *Flowers for Hitler*) – This post-modern poet-novelist-troubador mixes eroticism, drugs, the Zohar and Zen Buddhism into a poetic stew of angst, male-female relations and intensely spiritual-mystical lyrics often imbued with Jewish themes.

• A.M. Klein (*Hath Not A Jew...*, *The Hitleriad*, *The Rocking Chair and Other Poems*, *The Second Scroll*) – Immensely important poet (1909-1972), talmudically schooled, embraced Canadian and Jewish themes; won much acclaim and a significant multicultural following.

• Irving Layton (*The Darkening Fire*, *The Unwavering Eye*, *A Wild Peculiar Joy*) – A major poet, thematically more daring than Klein, characteristically brash and forthright.

• Mordecai Richler (*The Apprenticeship of Duddy Kravitz*, *St. Urbain's Horseman*, *Barney's Version*) – In his 10 novels, our most accomplished novelist has chronicled Montreal Jewish life from the 1940s to the present with verve, ironic humor, and increasing cynicism and schtick. His characters are strong, his plots cinematographic.

• Robyn Sarah (*Promise of Shelter*) – writes short stories and verse that sometimes contain Jewish themes and characters. Part of the promising new wave.

• David Solway – Like Cohen and Layton, the poet has a predilection for writing about Greece, but his complex, erudite style owes more to Klein.

Toronto

• Matt Cohen (*The Spanish Doctor*, *Last Seen*) – Prolific Kingston-born novelist who often utilizes Jewish themes. Often considered a "Jewish writer" in Europe; hardly ever considered so at home.

• Howard Engel – His entertaining detective novels feature Benny Cooperman, a Jewish sleuth in the fictitious town of Grantham, modeled after St. Catharines.

• Cary Fagan (*The Animals' Waltz*, *Sleeping Weather*) — Utilizes both Canadian and European settings and sensibilities. *The Doctor's House*, an acclaimed experimental "micro-novel," is set in pre-war and wartime Warsaw. An immaculate stylist and an important and promising voice for tomorrow.

• Phyllis Gotlieb (*Ordinary*, *Moving*) – Mainly a poet of experimental and children's verses, including some verses on chassidic themes; has written successful science fiction.

• Shel Krakofsky (*Blind Messiah*) – His stories and poetry focus on religion, family, tradition...and baseball.

• Anne Michaels (*Fugitive Pieces*) – Her immensely successful first novel, a post-Holocaust story, reflects a deeply poetic sensibility as it stretches between the double settings of Europe and Canada.

• Janis Rapoport (*After Paradise*) – Poet-playwright whose highly metaphoric, surrealistic works touch on Canadian and sometimes Jewish themes.

• Ken Sherman (*Clusters*) – This prolific, highly lyrical poet combines Jewish and universal themes; accessible and intelligent. His recent *Void and Voice* is a collection of critical essays on Holocaust fiction.

• Morley Torgov (*A Good Place To Come From*, *The Outside Chance of Maximilian Glick*) – His novels offer a humorous, lighthearted depiction of the foibles and dilemmas of small-town Jewish life.

• Helen Weinzweig – Novelist and short-story writer. *Her Basic Black with Pearls* is "a small masterpiece, expressionistic and Kafkaesque, that owes something to the work of Joseph Conrad and the genre of the mystery novel."

Ottawa

• Norman Levine (*Canada Made Me*, *Thin Ice*, *Champagne Barn*) — This short story writer, who lived in England for many years, has been described as "Canada's Chekhov." His voice is laconic, his themes borne out of life's suffering.

• Seymour Mayne (*Killing Time*) — Important and influential poet-critic who writes in an older tradition and focuses on Jewish themes, the Bible and Israel.

Winnipeg

• Adele Wiseman (*The Sacrifice*, *Crackpot*) — A chronicler of Jewish life in Winnipeg's Jewish North End, she is one of the most important voices in Canadian Jewish fiction. Her novel *Crackpot* centres around the extraordinary Hoda, a Jewish prostitute who overcomes a painful past, regaining self-integrity like a cracked pot that is mended.

• Jack Ludwig (*Above Ground*) — Now a U.S. resident, he has produced several novels, short-story collections and sports books.

• Miriam Waddington. Important poet-essayist, now based in Vancouver, known for her authentic voice, natural diction and serious concerns. Her study on A.M. Klein (1970) and *Apartment Seven* (1989), a collection of essays, are "highly perceptive and underrated."

Western Canada

• Henry Kreisel (*The Rich Man*, *The Almost Meeting and Other Stories*) – Born in Austria, he is probably the first to write in English about Jewish immigrant life in Canada. *The Almost Meeting* is based on his unsuccessful attempts to meet his contemporary, A.M. Klein.

• Eli Mandel (*Life Sentence*, *Another Time*) – An accomplished poet-critic who writes in experimental verse that deals with his Jewish past on the Prairies. A unique, geographically isolated voice.

• Norman Ravvin (*Sex, Skyscrapers and Standard Yiddish*) – This eccentric, imaginative and darkly funny collection of stories (1997) places its author (currently based in Fredericton) squarely between Poe and Kafka. His novel *Cafe des Westens* describes Jewish life in Calgary. Part of the promising new wave.

Other voices

• Maritimes: J.J. Steinfeld. Montreal: Ted Allan, Abraham Boyarsky, Judith Kalman, Lionel Shapiro, Joel Yanofsky.

• Toronto: Norman Droidge, Nora Gold, Cynthia Holz, Jack Kuper, Libby Scheier, Emil Sher, Michael Wex.

• Ottawa: Sharon Drache, Gabriella Goliger.

•Winnipeg: Carol Matas, Allan Levine, Rhea Tregebov.

• Western Canada: Sharon Klein.

French Canada

Three acclaimed writers are available in translation.

• Monique Bosco (*Lot's Wife*) writes prose and poetry, often on themes of exile and feminism;

• Naim Kattan's *Farewell, Babylon* is a memoir of his childhood in Baghdad;

• Regine Robin's latest translated novel *The Wanderer* (1997) has been named winner of the 1998 Martin and Beatrice Fisher Jewish Book Award for Fiction (ceremony in June).

Yiddish

Five esteemed writers who helped make Montreal a centre for Yiddish literature: Yehuda Elberg, Rochl Korn, Melech Ravitch, Chava Rosenfarb, J.I. Segal.

In Toronto, there's Simcha Simchovitch.

Criticism

• Michael Greenstein, *Third Solitudes: Tradition and Discontinuity in Jewish-Canadian Literature* (1989) – An erudite, fairly comprehensive study.

• Norman Ravvin, *The House of Words: Jewish Writing, Identity and Memory* (1998) – Winner of the prize for literary criticism in the 1998 Jewish Book Awards.

* * *

Thanks to Cary Fagan, Adam Fuerstenberg, Michael Greenstein, Shel Krakofsky, Malcolm Lester, Ruby Newman, Zailig Pollock, Norman Ravvin, Ken Sherman, Libby Scheier and Ellen Seligman for their significant contributions to this list. Any errors and omissions are the compiler's alone.

Why a roadmap?

By BILL GLADSTONE

Landscape plays an important role in Canadian fiction, so what better way to negotiate a landscape than with a roadmap?

While non-Jewish writers often describe the Canadian landscape as vast, Jewish writers, especially those describing the "ghettos" of Montreal and Winnipeg, sometimes convey a sense of cramped space and confinement, according to Michael Greenstein, a Toronto professor of literature.

Canadian Jewish writers also often utilize the double settings of Canada and Europe or Israel, and retain a much grander sense of history, Greenstein asserts: "In general, if Canadian literature deals with 3,000 miles, Canadian Jewish literature deals with 3,000 years."

Montreal and Winnipeg have traditionally been important centres of Jewish literature in Canada, but since the 1970s, dominance has shifted to Toronto, a development that prompts Greenstein to express concern about where Canadian Jewish literature is headed. "The very nature of Toronto Jewish society today seems to me very thin, compared to what Richler and all the other Montreal writers were able to write about a generation ago," he says. "I just don't find the strength and the energy in Toronto that was present in the Montreal scene."

Others voice similar worries about the future of Jewish letters here. "With such a high level of assimilation I think authentic stuff in Canada and the United States is drying up," says writer-physician Shel Krakofsky, former editor of the Canadian Jewish literary journal *Parchment*. "I'm the pessimist here. I think the last gasp has been heard. You know where you may see the next wave of Jewish writing occurring in English? In Israel."

Still, Greenstein, Krakofsky and many others note with pride that Canada's Jewish minority has contributed much more than its proportionate share of literary riches and that a promising "new wave" of writers is emerging to carry the torch of the older generations into the future. And who can say how bright that torch will burn?

Patinkin goes Yiddish on CD

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — In the midst of selecting Yiddish songs for *Mamaloshen*, his newly released CD, Mandy Patinkin had a brainstorm.

Or, as the New York-based Emmy and Tony award-winning performer put it during a recent Toronto interview with *The CJN*, trying out some newly acquired, gutterally enunciated vocabulary, "*Mittn derinnen*, it hit me."

Despite the quantity of Yiddish CDs, tapes and old 78 rpm records he had to draw on, Patinkin felt something was missing.

He realized it was the music of American Jewish composers, many of whom were born in Europe, that would bring together his project's dual themes: the music's journey from eastern Europe, and the "journey of a family," encompassing birth, death, weddings and politics.

That's why the CD, which features a full orchestra, includes Yiddish versions of *Take Me Out to the Ball Game, God Bless America, Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious* and Paul Simon's *American Tune*. There's even a Yiddish rendition of Irving Berlin's *White Christmas*, which has a melody "as Jewish as anything," as Patinkin demonstrated with a brief cantorial warble.

Over a hasty late-afternoon meal of Middle Eastern take-out, Patinkin sat in a studio green room before appearing on *Jane Hawtin Live!*, discussing with *The CJN* some of his pet topics.

Last May, Patinkin had a corneal transplant in his right eye for keratoconus, a potentially blinding condition in which the cornea becomes cone-shaped, severely impairing vision. He anticipates having his left eye done as well.

He has become a public proponent of organ donation and urges people to make their wishes known to their next of kin.

"My sight was saved, but that's nothing like saving a life," he said.

Patinkin also has strong feelings about the Middle East peace process. He turned down an invitation to participate in Hollywood's televised Israel at 50 tribute because of his opposition to the current Israeli government's attitudes.

"There's nothing I would love to do more," said Patinkin, who has visited Israel twice, "but I cannot celebrate Israel until Israel has a government that wholeheartedly celebrates the peace process. I cannot appear at one of these celebrations, because it is not the place for rhetoric. There is no way to appear and not make it seem you're supporting their policy. It breaks my heart."

Proceeds donated

He has donated the proceeds from several of his concerts to Peace Now and is also a supporter of the Abraham Fund, which fosters Arab-Jewish co-existence in Israel.

Patinkin derives tremendous satisfaction from his Yiddish recording and concert work. The project stems from a promise he made eight years ago to Broadway producer Joe Papp, whom he considered a second father.

Papp, who had signed the ketubah at Patinkin's marriage to actress Kathryn Grody and carried their first son on a silver platter at his Pidyon HaBen, originally asked Patinkin to learn a Yiddish song for a YIVO benefit in New York.

At a Shabbat dinner at the Patinkin home shortly before Papp's death, he told the singer, "Mandy, you have to do this. This is your job."

Patinkin started working on the Yiddish album in earnest after giving up his regular role as Dr. Jeffrey Geiger on *Chicago Hope* to spend more time with his family. It became "the only real professional goal that ever really mattered...I felt it was my duty to do my share in passing on my heritage."

A native of Chicago with eastern European roots, Patinkin knew virtually no Yiddish, but found that singing it affected him deeply. "I loved how free it made me feel. It has filled my heart more than anything I've ever done. I don't know why this language unleashes my soul more than my native language."

Making the album was "the most complicated musical ride I've ever put myself on," said Patinkin.

He relied on a team of Yiddish experts, and the intangible presence of the six million who perished in the Holocaust, Papp, and Patinkin's late father, who used to sing him *Yome, Yome*, which is included in the album.

On a recent tour in Germany, Patinkin was surprised to see how enthusiastically his Yiddish music was received by his contemporaries, who viewed it as healing.

"My advice to everyone is, don't just eat the food and celebrate the holidays, but investigate your connection to who you are and what you come from – and particularly, learn the music of your culture."

Yiddish may not be Mandy Patinkin's "*Mamaloshen*," but his new CD is a meticulously researched, heartfelt musical tribute to the language his grandparents spoke. [Richard Avedon photo]

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Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

1931 YIDDISH FILM ATTRACTS FULL HOUSE

The capacity crowd at the Bloor Street Cinema clearly enjoyed *His Wife's Lover*, a full-length 1931 Yiddish comedy screened last week as part of the Toronto Jewish Film Festival.

Typically for that era, the plot was simple, the characters stereotypical, the cinematography unsophisticated. Yet *His Wife's Lover* conveyed a genuine screen magic, generated equally by the appealing romantic leads, **Ludwig Satz** and **Lucy Levin**, and by the comic innovations of **S.R. Simkoff's** script.

Satz, with matinee-idol good looks, plays a popular actor whom women adore. When his uncle, a wealthy and cynical factory owner, tries to convince him that all women are unfaithful in love, Satz leaps to their defence. The two make a big-stakes bet: Satz will impersonate an obnoxious old – and rich – man to test the loyalty of his potential girlfriend.

Hilariously, Satz is soon playing two corners of a romantic triangle. His impersonation of a feeble old man with a nagging, nasal voice seems very close to the nebbish that would later became **Jerry Lewis'** stock-in-trade. As his younger self, he occasionally evokes a **Groucho Marx** persona with tragicomic exclamations such as: "I'm going far away, to the place from which no one ever returns – New Jersey!"

Although Levin does indeed marry the old man for his money, she can't bring herself to consummate the relationship. Later she professes her love to the undisguised Satz, but is honor-bound not to pursue a relationship with him while she is married. Ultimately, the capitalist uncle is forced to pay up on the bet: women are indeed honorable in love after all.

It wasn't just the sound of spoken Yiddish that delighted moviegoers; it was also these early bits of Yiddish schtick. *His Wife's Lover* may be corny and slow by today's standards, but it demonstrates how deeply American cinematic comedy is indebted to the Yiddish stage.

His Wife's Lover was directed by **Sidney M. Goldin**. The organizers of the Toronto Jewish Film Festival are to be commended for bringing this and other subtitled Yiddish gems before the public each year. Eye on Arts appeals to any local video-rental establishment to make these films available all year round.

* * *

Hannah Senesh at the Bloor JCC: The life of **Hannah Senesh**, poet and patriot of prestate Israel, is the focus of the award-winning play *Hannah*, by the late **Eleanor Siminovitch**, which presents a series of vignettes that capture highlights of the wartime heroine's multifaceted but short life.

The Jewish Theatre Committee of Toronto and the Bloor JCC present a production of *Hannah*, directed by **Sylvia Lennick**, in honor of Israel's 50th anniversary. 750 Spadina Ave., June 3 to June 6 at 8 p.m.; also June 7 at 2 p.m. $10.

* * *

Chazzanim in North York: In honor of Israel's 50th anniversary and Yom Yerushalayim, **Cantor Yehuda Rottner** and guest cantors **Sidney Dworkin**, **Arie Lieb Subar** and **Yair Subar** present a festive concert of joy and song with the **Muskat Symphony**. Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Congregation, 55 Yeomans Rd. May 25, 7:30 p.m. $10 general admission; $18 friend, $25 patron, $50 benefactor. Refreshments will be served to benefactors and patrons. 633-5500.

* * *

Arts Briefs:

• Forbidden Broadway Strikes Back! roasts many popular musical productions, from *Cats* to *The Lion King*, *Annie* to *Rent*. This **Marlene Smith** production previews June 2 and opens June 9. $50 includes dinner/brunch. Limelight Dinner Theatre, 2026 Yonge St. 482-5200.

• Orange Dog Theatre presents **August Strindberg's** *Miss Julie*, directed by **Sue Miner** and starring **Alyson Green**, **Vickie Papavs** and **Alex Poch-Goldin**. Tarragon Extra Space, 30 Bridgman Ave., Toronto. Preview ($7) May 20, opens May 21. $16-$20. 538-1827.

• A Concert For Zachary features pianist **Dr. Shulamit Mor** in a rare appearance. Glenn Gould Studio, May 23, 8 p.m. Adults $22. Proceeds to help establish a musical bursary for children. 205-5555.

• The Israel committee of Beit Rayim Synagogue presents an evening of music with the **Metro String Quartet**, May 26, 8 p.m. 9711 Bayview Ave., Richmond Hill. $18 in advance, $20 at the door; $15 seniors and students. 905-770-7639.

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Artist explores truth in our lives

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — A child of Holocaust survivors, artist Rhona Konrad, will present a thought-provoking exhibition of watercolors titled An Artist's Tribute to an Artist, May 24 from 2 to 5 p.m. at Upper Canada College, Upper School Common Room.

Konrad, who has a bachelor of arts degree with honors in art and history from McGill University, says that she has always been deeply influenced by the events of the Holocaust.

"The spirits of the family members I never knew call out to me and in my desire to know them, they appear in my art."

"Through my studies and explorations, I have discovered the world is one interconnected whole. Whether it is the destruction or creation of subatomic particles, the Temple in Jerusalem or [reciting] the Shema, everything is interrelated," she says. "My whole life I have tried to balance knowledge and imagination and I am constantly brought back to something Albert Einstein said, 'Imagination is more important than knowledge.'"

Konrad has developed, and employs an ethereal technique combined with an opaque use of watercolors to express her vision of the spiritual and mystical elements of our existence.

"This is juxtaposed to the strength and grounding aspects of architecture," says Konrad. Her use of symbols such as winding streets and spirits which appear within buildings and doorways "express my, and indeed our own journey of discovery."

She explains that movement through doorways and archways is her way of approaching and delving into the layers upon layers that mask the truth in our lives.

The power and stability of her buildings offset the ephemeral spirit world – a transitory realm between these two worlds where she says, "I find myself searching the mysteries of life."

Konrad, who was steeped in music and art at home, grew up in Montreal where her mother Uka taught piano. She began studying piano when she was three years old. At the age of eight, she won a full scholarship to the Conservatoire de Musique et D'Art Dramatique.

Her father Sigmund was a professional artist and owner of an art-gallery in Montreal. She learned to paint from him and regularly exhibited and sold her art work in his gallery. Konrad moved to Toronto in 1982.

For more information on the exhibit, call 665-0347.

Artist Rhona Konrad is seen with two of her multimedia watercolors

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Travel Talk

BY BILL GLADSTONE

STANLEY PARK: VANCOUVER'S HUGE URBAN PLAYGROUND

The largest urban park in Canada and the third largest in North America, Vancouver's Stanley Park is still "half savage and half domestic" as writer James Morris noted a century ago. The historic park offers visitors a compelling mix of untamed natural woodlands and well-pruned flower gardens, fierce aboriginal totem poles and a genteel Victorian-style seaside promenade. It also features family attractions like the Vancouver Aquarium and a children's petting zoo, as well as panoramic views of downtown Vancouver and the mountainous North Shore.

Roughly 1,000 acres in area, Stanley Park is larger than New York City's 800-acre Central Park. It is also larger than Montreal's 500-acre Mount Royal Park and Toronto's 400-acre High Park put together. For visitors prepared to abandon the beaten paths for rougher nature trails, Stanley Park offers some outstanding naturalist sites the likes of which can't be found in any of these other parks.

Situated on an elevated peninsula that juts into Burrard Inlet, the park receives some eight million visitors annually. Visitors may stroll, jog, cycle, skateboard or rollerblade along the 10-km-long Seawall that encircles the park and affords convenient access to its most popular attractions; bicycles may be rented just outside the park entrance.

The Stanley Park Scenic Drive, which circles the park, provides convenient access for motorists. Eager to reduce the number of cars on this one-way road, officials recently introduced a free shuttle-bus service.

The most popular attractions are situated close to the W. Georgia St. entrance. Foremost among these is the famous array of seven totem poles beside Brockton Point, some towering more than 13 metres, each representing a different British Columbian First Nation. Moved here from coastal villages, the totem poles serve as a reminder that aboriginals occupied the peninsula as recently as 150 years ago.

Brockton Point is said to be the most visited tourist spot in all of British Columbia's lower mainland. If so, the highly-rated Vancouver Aquarium – home to some 9,000 sea creatures including dolphins, octupuses, crocodiles and beluga and killer whales – must rank a close second.

The Vancouver Zoo was also located here until 1993, when a referendum called for its demise; after much downsizing, all that remains is one lone polar bear. In its place is the children's petting zoo, a farmyard compound of domesticated animals like ponies, goats, cows and sheep, representing unusual heritage breeds.

While much of the peninsula was logged in the mid-19th century, some of the biggest trees were spared the axe. Deep in the park interior are several stands estimated to be 800 to 1,000 years old. One tree, known as the National Geographic tree, is thought to be the biggest cedar in the world.

There are no signs to direct visitors to these huge monument trees. "We let people find them on their own," says a park official. However, a pocket map showing their locations is available from the information booth inside the park entrance. More accessible stretches of West Coast forest are located near Prospect Point, a promontory offering postcard-perfect vistas of the Lions Gate suspension bridge, downtown Vancouver, the North Shore and some islands in the Georgia Strait.

Other park attractions include Siwash Rock, a giant flowerpot rock formation at the water's edge, the Brockton Point lighthouse, the Lost Lagoon nature house and freshwater wildlife reserve, and several pools and sandy beaches that are open from Victoria Day to Labor Day. The Brockton Cricket Pitch, which consists of an old pavilion and cricket lawns, is where locals in quaint white suits indulge in England's peculiar version of baseball when the weather is warm and dry.

The quintessential spot for a picnic or barbecue, Stanley Park also boasts several restaurants. Near the rose garden, the Stanley Park Pavilion is a nice spot for a light lunch or high tea. Near the golf course, famous Vancouver chef Karen Barnaby presides over the Fishhouse Restaurant. Near Third Beach is the Ferguson Point Tea House, the park's most fancy restaurant.

Stanley Park is open year-round and admission is free. From downtown, it is accessible via a reasonably short cab ride or via bus #52. For tourist information on Vancouver or anywhere else in British Columbia, contact SuperNatural British Columbia, 800-663-6000.

Richard Waugh (left) and Richard Zeppieri in *Lawrence and Holloman* by Morris Paynch, at the Tarragon Theatre.

Simple premise works

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — It's a simple premise that Jewish playwright Morris Panych of Vancouver brings to *Lawrence and Holloman*, at the Tarragon Theatre, but it works.

An overly optimistic Lawrence (Richard Zeppieri), who seems to have a rosy future ahead of him, develops a relationship with Holloman (Richard Waugh), a taciturn and nondescript individual who works in the same department store as Lawrence.

It's easy to fob off Panych's play as a comic two-hander because of Lawrence's malapropisms – he "emphasized" rather than "empathizes" with Holloman and he gets the "jest" but not the "gist" of a situation. But that would be a mistake.

There are layers of meaning within the snappy dialogue that illuminate the soulless, bitter feeling that some people have about the world. Panych uses humor (and why not?) to get his point across. It is well abetted by Ken MacDonald's stage design of the ground-floor marking of an old-fashioned elevator, symbolizing Lawrence's hope of going up, up, up in the world.

Of course, he doesn't go up, he goes down, loses his rich girl friend, is demoted to ready-to-wear, gets hit by a car, his apartment is burned down, he loses a leg to gangrene and ends up in a mental hospital.

At the same time, Holloman is drawn into the vortex, but suspicion arises that perhaps he is the author of Lawrence's misfortunes. Come to your own conclusions if you see the play, which runs until May 31.

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Parenting an 'exhausting experience'

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Parenting can be a stressful, demanding and physically exhausting experience, says the psychiatrist-in-chief at The Hospital for Sick Children.

"Most people aren't given credit for how exhausting it actually is," Dr. Susan Bradley told a meeting sponsored by Jewish Family & Child Service, York Region office; Wilshire Public School; and The Hospital for Sick Children.

Many factors, she told the group of young parents, make parenting difficult. "Many parents are caught between their own parents and their children. They are in the sandwich generation, and that can be very stressful.

"As mothers move into the workforce, the time they have with their children diminishes and that is also stressful. Most parents want to be available at all times, and they find the balancing between work and home very difficult."

The relationship that develops between a couple before they have children changes drastically when children come along, she said. "All plans change with children. The time people have to spend together shifts and the father often feels left out. If parents find the time to look after themselves, however, there will be less strain on the relationship."

She acknowledged that most parents attended the meeting because they wanted advice on dealing with their children's challenging temperments. "Problems arise because children are either strong-willed, shy and inhibited or hyperactive. All three groups pose a challenge that frustrates parents.

'When parents become frustrated... their tempers rise'

"When parents become frustrated, it is natural for their tempers to rise. What you get then is a spiraling effect where kids promote an intense reaction."

Once children start to use being oppositional as the main way of saying how they feel, said Bradley, parents must begin setting limits. "Kids want what they want, when they want it. When setting limits, it is important for parents to be consistent and firm."

She said that most children learn quickly that if they push enough their parents will back off. "Parents then become frustrated and that particular subject becomes a battleground."

Kids know when to push buttons and how long to keep up their behavior, she said. "Your reaction forms the pattern they relate to."

As soon as parents realize they have lost control, they begin yelling, said Bradley. "The secret is to find a strategy that allows the parent to gain control. It is important to find ways to manage yourself when you become frustrated."

Although there is "no magic in parenting," Bradley suggested that a reward system helps establish good behavior. "Reward kids on a regular basis for the behavior you want them to exhibit. Be very specific as to what you want the child to do. It is important, however, to set up a reward system in such a way that the child can win."

She said that if parents are stuck in a pattern that frustrates them, they need to do something different. "A different strategy helps parents out of the hole, and makes them feel less stressed."

Breast cancer clinic launched at NYGH

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The new Charlotte and Lewis Steinberg Familial Breast Cancer Clinic at North York General Hospital (NYGH) is the first of its kind in Ontario to be located at a community hospital.

The hospital recently announced a "generous annual donation" from the Steinberg family to fund the clinic, which was established to honor the couple's three daughters, Karen, of Montreal, and Heather and Lynn, of Toronto.

At the clinic, women will be able to determine if they carry the hereditary factors which occur in five to 10 percent of all breast cancers, said clinical geneticist Dr. Wendy Meschino, its medical director.

Women are referred to the clinic by their physician and will be seen for genetic consultation and counselling by a team consisting of a clinical geneticist, family physician and genetic counsellor.

"We've had wonderful treatment from doctors at the NYGH," said Steinberg, 67, a grandson of the founder of the Steinberg grocery chain in Montreal.

Through his company, Multi Restaurants, Steinberg, now retired, operated several restaurants in Toronto. He originally worked for the grocery chain in Montreal.

"We felt that we had to do something tangible to help women and their families deal with breast cancer," said Charlotte Steinberg. "Taking steps now, sooner rather than later, to know what your risk may be, can help so many women and families get on with their lives."

"My mother always said you should give something back to the community," said Lewis Steinberg.

Meschino said that women want to be tested because they hope to find out they have not inherited the gene. "For some people living at risk is worse than knowing that they will develop the disease," she said.

In recent years, two inherited breast cancer genes , BRCA1 and BRCA2, have been identified. In selected families, genetic testing for these genes is now possible.

According to Meschino, breast cancer might be hereditary when one or more of these risk factors is present: several family members are affected; diagnosis at a young age (less than 50 years); two or more primary tumors in the same individual; other related cancers (e.g. ovarian cancer); and male family members with breast cancer.

DNA testing for hereditary breast cancer genes will be conducted by the Molecular Genetics Laboratory at NYGH and the Ontario Cancer Genetics Network research laboratory.

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REAL ESTATE Section

5 HOUSES FOR SALE

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CENTRAL PROPERTIES

LOWER VILLAGE $1,395,000 REDUCED
3 stry., 5 bed., fab. mstr. suite & spa, 60'x152' lot. Gary Mitchell** 488-2875

9 YRS. NEW! EDWARDS GRDN'S.!
Immaculate 4+br. on quiet cul-de-sac, 2 frplcs., pegged oak flrs. w/o to pool & garden. A. Bekerman* 226-1987

MT. PLEASANT/EGLINTON - A GREAT HOME
On a charming street! Det. 2 sty. 3 bdrm., 2 baths, CAC, 25'x100', south exp.! Private drive! J. Bleiweis* 226-1987

FABULOUS RIDELLE FAMILY HOME!
4 bdrm., 4 bath, den, cent. air, close to everthing. Cathy Himelfarb* 488-2875

CLANTON PARK AREA. 15 RM. 57 X 115 FT.
Custom built 6 bdrm. ideal for professional or 2 families. Close to all. Rose Simon* 226-1987

BRAND NEW LISTING - DUPLEX - CASA LOMA
Old world charm, 2 kit., 4 bdrm. reno. L. Reitapple* 488-2875

1ST AD! BATHURST/PALM DR. 9 RMS.
Superb custom backsplit reno'd kit., 4 bdrms.+fam. rm.+lib., 50'x154' hrdwd. flrs. $39[SOLD] Goldie Kay* 226-1987

$349,900 AVENUE - LAWRENCE 50' X 130'
Fabulous building lot, surrounded by luxury new homes. Great location. Janie Lerner* 226-1987

HEATH ST. SUBWAY - REDUCED $319,000
3 stry., 4 bed., 4 bath, priv. drive. Gary Mitchell** 488-2875

YONGE/SHEPPARD! 50' X 300' LOT!
Now $276K! Reduced for immed. sale! Fab. 50' x 300' lot! Try your offer now! Sandon Schwartzben** 226-1987

1ST AD! BATHURST/STEELES
Terrific 2 storey semi 3 or 4 bdrm., eat-in kit., mn. flr. powder room, gar., CAC & much more. Renee Seligman* 226-1987

BAYVIEW PROPERTIES

$3,388,000 "THE BRIDLE PATH"
Elegant majestic mansion under consturction. 8,600' on 100' x 300' south lot. Janie Lerner* 226-1987

MAGNIFICENT CUSTOM! TOTAL LUXURY
On private lot, mrbl. flrs. in lr. & dr., jacuzzi, indoor pool, tennis. Must see!! A. Bekerman* 226-1987

YORK MILLS GDNS. OUTSTANDING RESIDENCE
On Laurderdale, abt. 6,100', gorgeous lower, 8 bath, spectacular foyer. A 10+++ Olga Guvenal* 226-1987

ST. ANDREWS ON GORDON RD. 60' X 175'
South abt. 4,800', Architect Richard Wengle, Builder "Shohreh", w/up low., opportunity. Olga Guvenal * 226-1987

BAYVIEW PROPERTIES

BRIDLE PATH/LAWRENCE JUST $1,199,000
Gorgeous reno'd home, 109' x 113'. F. Bongard-Sversky** 488-2875

BAYVIEW/ST. ANDREWS, INCOMPARABLE
Price, workmanship, abt. 4,000 sq. ft. of luxury. You may choose finishings, pre-const. price. Olga Guvenal* 226-1987

$749,000 BAYVIEW/YORK MILLS NEW LISTING
Totally reno'd. castle turrit res., stunning interior & pool + lavish landscaping. Janie Lerner* 226-1987

OPPORTUNITY ON GORDON RD. ST. ANDREWS
60' x 175' south, live in or build, 3 bdrm., 4 baths, main flr. den reno'd., big kitchen. Olga Guvenal* 226-1987

BAYBURY NORTH $598K EXECUTIVE
Large home 4+2 bdrm., 4 bath, private yard, comp. fin. open conc. lower, hardwd. & parquet flrs. Olga Guvenal* 226-1987

DEMAND BAYVIEW AREA - SERIOUS VENDOR!
5 bdrm., open concept, grt. potential! Rena Bader* 488-2875

FAB. POOL SIZE LOT & ROOM TO SPARE
Upgr. lrg. 4 bdrm. exec., quiet st., mtv. vndr! R. Bader* 488-2875

NORTH PROPERTIES

PARADISE IN THE CITY 142' X 250' LOT
At Bayview & Steeles, custom design bungalow, 4+1 bdrm., main flr. family, pool, landscaped. Olga Guvenal* 226-1987

BAYVIEW N./16TH AVE. $459,000
Greenpark blt., approx. 4,000', 4 bdrm., fam.+lib., huge foyer, lrge. lot on quiet cres. Janie Lerner* 226-1987

BATHURST/WILSON WALK TO SUBWAY
Det. 2 bdrm., hdwd., gorgeous 40' x 150' lot! Updated mech's. & bath! CAC + 4 appl's. Call Terry Sulley* 226-1987

CONDOMINIUM/PROPERTIES

AVENUE/ST. CLAIR CONDO
Exclusive 16 suite bldg., 2 bdrm. Faithe Bongard-Sversky** 488-2875

TRANQUIL RAVINE SETTING
Luxury 2 bedroom condo. Rosalie Roebuck* 488-2875

BEAUTIFUL TWO BEDROOMS PLUS
Solarium, new hardwood floors, $$$ spent in reno's. Move in now! Call Pauline Stortz* 226-1987

OUT OF TOWN PROPERTIES

5 BDRM. COTTAGE IN BELLEWART $177,500
Best location, gorgeous grounds, close to shul, step from lake. Rose Simon* 226-1987

ICI PROPERTIES

EGLINTON AREA INVESTMENT!
2 storey, 11 offices, reno'd. building. Reesa Sud* 488-2875

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Great prof. offices, retail, live/work, restaurant, pkg., central location. Rena Bader* 488-2875

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Michael gets results

JUST LISTED - RANCH BUNGALOW - S. OF LAWRENCE
Unique centre hall plan, custom built - 20 years ago, 3 bedrooms, 5 washrooms, den, library, large eat-in kitchen, basement has full 2 bedroom apt., rec room, lots of storage space. Approx. 2,180 sq. ft. on each floor. **Asking only $429,900.** Call Michael Harari at (416) 717-2204.

CLANTON PARK SIDESPLIT - A REAL GEM!
Spacious + updated, 3 bedrooms, den, eat-in kitchen, gleaming hardwood floors, roof, furnace, windows, washrooms are updated! Huge lot, must be seen! **Asking only $349,900.** Call Michael Harari at (416) 717-2204.

BATHURST-WILSON - BUILDERS HOME
1 1/2 yrs. old, 3,100 sq. ft., 5 bedrooms, 5 washrooms, stucco exterior, all hardwood floors, finished basement with apt. and walkout plus much more! Incredible workmanship – you will not be disappointed! **Asking only $579,900.** Call Michael Harari at (416) 717-2204.

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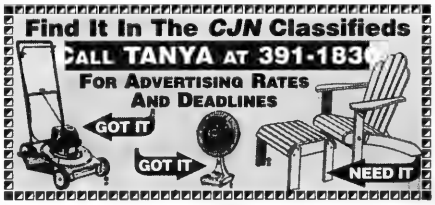
- **WILMINGTON TRIPLEX** - $298,000. Lg. 2x3 bdrm., 1x1 bdrm., ensuite wshrms., balcs., dble. gar., lg. lot, won't last!
- **BATHURST MANOR** - Bungalow, $259,000. Pretty 3 bdrm., fin. bsmt. with sep. entr., C/A, close to all.



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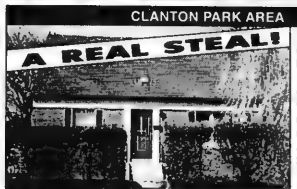
Dear David & Esther,
I am writing this letter with appreciation and gratitude. The Appreciation is for the support and service that you have provided to me in not only the purchase of a new home but in the selling of my existing home. To enter the market and find your dream home and then to sell your own home at 99% of the asking price, is a skill and an art. The gratitude is for the perseverence, guidance and dedication that the two of you have demonstrated continually. You are both true professionals in your field.
— *Sincerely, Sema Schreiber*

CLANTON PARK AREA



Renovated + decorated, stunning 3 bedroom on 70 x 115 ft. lot (irr.), gleaming hardwood floors, thermopane windows, newer furnace and A/C, only $269,000! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / GLENCAIRN
Cozy bungalow on 33 x 132 ft. building lot, only $229,000. ACT NOW! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / CLARK — RENTAL
Spacious family home, 7 + 2 bdrms., 6 baths, fam. room, library, oversized dream maple kitchen, finished basement, generous lot. Close to shul, schools, shops, TTC. Asking $3200 / month. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

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Exciting value in an ultraconvenient location! App. 3,000 sq. ft., 3-years-new, custom-built. Shows to perfection — gleaming hardwood floors, main floor laundry, family room, library. Only $499,000! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

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BATHURST / LAWRENCE — REDUCED TO SELL!
Lots of home — low price! 4 bdrms., main floor family room, library, modern eat-in kit., sep. entry to in-law suite — shows well! Only $369,000. Call Michael Klugman **NOW** at (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / LAWRENCE — SPACIOUS 3 BDRM. BUNGALOW!
On gorgeous 55 x 132 ft. lot, gleaming hardwood floors, thermopane windows, sep. entry to in-law suite. Asking $289,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

* * *

BATHURST / GLENCAIRN — SHOWS A 10++
Builder's own custom-built exec. home, loaded w / upgrades, Marlee roof, marble entry, fireplaces, approx. 3,000 sq. ft. + beautifully fin. bsmt., only $589,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

* * *

BATHURST / YORK DOWNS — SPACIOUS FAMILY HOME!
4 bdrms., library, family room, open concept, fam. size kitchen, only $359,000. ACT NOW! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

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BATHURST / LAWRENCE — EXCLUSIVE
3 bdrm. bung. on 50 ft. lot, east side of Bathurst, sep. entry to in-law suite, only $339,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

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THORNHILL'S FINEST CUL-DE-SAC – REDUCED!
1/2 acre landscaped lot, circular drive leads to impressive 6,800 sq. ft. mansion plus stunning lower level, exquisite decor, 5 large bedrooms, 8 washrooms, 4 car garage. *Lora Yakobson

• • •

HILDA-YORK HILL – DESIGNER DECOR!
Exquisite 4 bdrm., main floor library, gourmet kit., hardwood, limestone, appls.+++ About 4,600 sq.ft. *Ted Waxman

• • •

ATKINSON-CENTRE – GREEN ACRES!
Very motivated Vendor! Gorgeous 4 bdrm., finished w/o bsmt., gourmet kitchen, prof. decorated, a must see! *Lora Yakobson

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BATHURST-CENTRE "GREENPARK" BEAUTY!!
Over 3,600 sq. ft. in "Wilshire", fab large kitchen, hardwood & ceramics on main floor, south exposure, deck! *Helen Gould

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BATHURST-STEELES "RIDGEGATE"
Large 4 bdrm., 2 storey home with huge retreat, family room, 2 fireplaces+++ *Mary Fenyes

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SPACIOUS EXEC. – RAVINE SETTING $398,000
Bathurst-Steeles, New Greenhouse kitchen with w/o to large deck, prof. finished lower level walks-out to garden! Extras! Excellent property! Call Now! *Helen Gould

• • •

BATHURST & CENTRE
Perfect 5 bdrm., 2 kitchens, finished basement, 4 bathrooms, many upgrades, granite, landscaped+++. **Joan Landy

• • •

BATHURST & WILSON– DON'T WAIT
Excellent location, recently renovated, finished lower level, 3 walk-outs. *Christine Gabison

• • •

BATHURST-STEELES "BATHURST VILLAGE"
3 bdrm. sidesplit, finished basement, custom kitchen, shows Pride of Ownership!! *Helen Winer

• • •

THORNHILL SEMI – $226,900
3 bdrm., fin. bsmt., master ensuite, opposite park! *Helen Gould

• • •

BATHURST-CLARK "FOREST HILL" MODEL
Large 3 bdrm., dble garage, renovated kitchen, finished basement, great room sizes, extras galore! Call now! *Ted Waxman

• • •

BATHURST-FINCH RAVINE LOT! OUTSTANDING!!
3 bdrm. multi level semi, huge family & rec. room. *Helen Winer

• • •

YONGE-CLARK – BEST LOCATION!
Super 3 bdrm. with prof. finished basement, new kitchen, family room with fireplace, close to all amenities! $285K. *Saryl Spector

CONDOMINIUMS FOR SALE

BATHURST-CENTRE "ROYAL PROMENADE"
Exclusive listing! Bright 2 bdrm. corner unit, 2 parking spaces, $250,000. *Helen Winer

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STUNNING 2 BDRM. IN PROMENADE BUILDING
5 appls. & walk-outs to balcony, only $167,500! *Neil Bocknek

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FABULOUS VACATION PROPERTY $149,900
Year-round enjoyment. Beachfront location at Hidden Valley Resort. Steps to ski hills. 3 bdrm. Lakeside patio. Corinne Kalles*

BATHURST MANOR $319,900
3+1 bdrm., side-split, fabulous lot, updated kit./bath, family room, finished bsmt., 5 appls., CAC, garage. Ellie Parker*

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FINE HOMES

CASA LOMA AREA - $638,000.
Very special 3 bdrm. townhome overlooking a picturesque ravine setting. Features large family rm. w/walkout to gorgeous grounds, 4 balconies, double built-in garage. Central air. Walk to subway & good shopping. *Edith Weiss.

• • •

AVENUE ROAD/ST. CLAIR - $529,000.
Fabulous 4+ bdrm. home. 4 years new. Fine quality construction. Beautifully landscaped garden with deck. Garage. Finished l/lvl. CAC. *Barbara Kaplan * Jacqueline Yaffe.

• • •

LEDBURY/FAIRLAWN - $899,000.
Custom built home with wonderful finishings. Main flr. family rm. & library; master suite w/sitting room with fireplace. Lower level games room + nanny's room with 4-piece bath. *Bobby Simpson.

• • •

YONGE/SHEPPARD - $399,000.
Inviting 4 bdrm. home offers country warmth & abundant charm. Updated, eat-in kitchen w/walk-out to deck. Main flr. family rm. Master suite w/fireplace + ens. bath. Inground pool. *Marlene Federman.

• • •

CEDARVALE LOT - $409,900.
Prime location. Build your dream home on this picturesque vacant lot backing onto Cedarvale ravine. For full details, call *Cathy Goldman.

• • •

BAYVIEW - 1 + ACRES
Magnificent property. 5 bdrms. Main flr. family rm. + library. Gourmet kitchen w/wine cellar & laundry rm. Tennis court, swimming pool & cabana. Triple garage. *Barbara Kaplan.

• • •

BAYVIEW/YORK MILLS
$759,000. Exquisite 4 bdrm. bungalow. Family rm. Secluded master suite w/fireplace. Finished l/lvl with rec rm., games rm. & 5th bdrm. Circular drive & dble garage. Inground pool. *Marlene Federman.

• • •

BAYVIEW/STEELES - $328,000.
Build, renovate or just enjoy. 3 bdrm. bungalow on 52 x 125 south lot. Prime court location. Exceptional value & location.. *Heather Sherman.

• • •

COZY COTTAGE RETREAT
$74,500. Minutes from Toronto. Open concept. 3 bedrooms + 4-piece bath. Beach access. 53x150 lot. *Marlene Federman.

• • •

PRIME LOCATION - LYTTON PARK
Elegant Tudor style, 5 bdrm. home. Custom gourmet kitchen w/walk-out to tranquil g[SOLD]etreat. Main floor family rm. Master bdrm. features his/her bathrm. ensuite. Central air. Double garage. *Shawnee Slan.

• • •

FOREST HILL OFFERING
$718,000. Gracious centre hall. Beautiful & spacious 4 bdrm. w/main flr. den & powder [SOLD]aths. Reno'd kitchen & brkfst. rm. w/walk-out. Finished lower level. Built-in garage. *Donna Taylor or **Don Wagman.

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AVENUE ROAD/WILSON
Elegant 4 bdrm. home set on [SOLD]utiful landscaped grounds. Wonderful master suite. S[SOLD]me art kitchen. Main flr. den + family rm. Fin. l/lvl w/rec rm. + games rm. + nanny's rm. *Eleanor Stanton.

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REAL ESTATE Section

5 HOUSES FOR SALE

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WILMINGTON FINCH A-1 BUY
Cust. built, 4 bdrm., 4 bths., huge liv. & din., den, fam. rm., mod. kit., appls., fin. lower lvl., w/out to ravine lot, steps to all!

• • •

SHEPPARD ALLEN RD.
2 storey, 3 bdrm. + library, sep. liv. & din., fin. bsmt., 50' x 150' lot, move-in cond.

• • •

WILSON HEIGHTS SHEPPARD
$209,000. Ideal for builder or handy man, 73' frontage, 3 bdrm. bung., 2 bths., next to new homes. Don't miss.

• • •

BATHURST WILSON TRI-PLEX
2-3 bdrm. + 1-1 bdrm. apts., balcs., garages, good income!

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A. & D. SEIDMAN 633-7373

18 FURNISHED HOUSES FOR RENT

Furn. family home near schools, 5 bdrm., 2 1/2 bth., bright eat-in kit., 5 appl., lge. fenced garden, fin. bsmt., ideally situated, 404/401/DVP, quiet well established tree-line street, opposite park. Avail. mid August, 1 or 2 year lease, $2250/mo.+ 416-490-0755 eves

25 HOUSES WANTED TO RENT

Shomer Shabbat family needs 3-4 bdrm. house. 416-635-7031

30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE

ANTIBES/TORRESDALE
1, 2, 3 bdrms., condos, townhomes wanted..
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G. BARON, Rltr.

Bath/Steeles-Townsgate,2 bdr, 2bth, huge cor $249K 736-8007

Skymark - 1560 sq. ft., open concept, 1 bdr., + den, 2 bth., 2 pkg., locker, liv./din. Lots of extras, lge. lndry./storage rm. ensuite, extraordinary view. By appointment only 8:30am-9:30pm. 491-9950, Brokers protected.

35 CONDOMINIUM FOR RENT

Clark/Hilda - 2 bdrm., 2 bth., lux. bldg., 1 pkg. 905-886-6493.

40 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE/ RENT

Bath./Centre - 2 bdrm., 2 bth. sun rm., upgrades, 5 appl., rec. facilities, cable, 1,250 sq. ft. No agents. $1,275/mo. or $164,900 to buy. Call 905-763-1992.

60 SHARED ACCOMMODATION

Apt.,Bath./Steeles,n/smkr,furn, Kosher, $450/mo. 665-9967.

Bath./Steeles, seeking a roommate to share furn. penthouse condo, kosher, n/smkr, recreational facilities. 416-665-4121.

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

BATHURST-SHEPPARD
Very lg. 1, 2, 3 Bedrms., ample closets, some 1½ baths & 2 balc., roof, laundry, ravine setting, pool, ind. pkg., 6 apts. per flr. From $850.
960-3238 - Bus.
631-9377 or 631-0388 - Super

Bath./Wilson - lge. furn. apt., 2 bdrm., 1 or 2 people. 789-3607.

Steeles/Leslie, lge. 2 bdr. bsmt apt., sep. ent., lau., no/pkg., $725/mo. all incl. Call 653-2877

Toronto - Bath./Major Mack Students welcome. Bsmnt. rm., partially furn., shared Kosher kit., pkg., $750/mo. Immed. Call Karen, evenings 905-770-9136.

84 ROOM WANTED

Room/board in a Kosher home for 50 yr. old man. 226-5400

95 DUPLEX/ TOWNHOUSE FOR RENT

Bath./Lawrence - 3 bdrm. in 6 plex, 2 bths., pkg, lndry. $1,075. 905-886-5515 or 416-783-0179.

110 COTTAGE FOR RENT

Belle Ewart, 2 cottages on lge lot, nr. water. 416-636-0733.

Lake Simcoe, lakefront estate, Beaverton area,lux. 4 bed. Sandy beach. Sunsets. Tennis. Seas./mo. 226-0009, 749-6600.

Lake Simcoe, near Orillia, 3 bdr., canoe, May-July 223-6824

112 FURNISHED COTTAGE FOR RENT

Lake Simcoe, rustic 4 bdrm, lkfrnt,scrnd porch,90 mins. from TO, July or Aug $3000, June or Sep $2000. 416-487-6050.

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Belle Ewart. 5 bdrms., 63 X 318 ft. lake front cottage in exclusive prime area. Close to shul. $385,000 negotiable or $3000/mo. Call 416-783-7468.

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

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118 FURN. COTTAGE FOR SALE/RENT

Belle Ewart, 3 bedroom, private dock on the lake, near shul. Call 905-764-8334.

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Apt. in Netanya, 5 min. walk from beach, short or long term lease. For info, 972-9-954-6440

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Single lady, 52, large green eyes, blonde hair, beautiful smile, very caring, super personality, sincere & gentle, seeking gentleman who shares similar interests & can relate on all levels. Lets chase the mad hatter together. Ad# 1194

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330 OBITUARIES

NAESSEN, Dr. Roy - on April 4, 1998.
URMAN, Ida - on April 6, 1998.
GERSHUNI, Henia - on April 7, 1998.
GORDON, Rabbi Zev - on April 17, 1998.
NAPOLSKY, Abraham - on April 24, 1998.
IOSEFOVICI, Henry - on May 6, 1998.

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EISENBERG, Joseph - 72 years, passed away peacefully on May 5, 1998 after a long illness. Beloved husband of Jacqueline. Devoted father of Ethel Glinert and husband Edmund (Toronto). Howard Eisenberg and Marlene Altman (Hamilton) and Naomi Eisenberg (Hamilton). Dear Zayde of Stephen and Alexis Glinert. Also survived by many nieces and nephews. Mr. Eisenberg was a member of Shaar Hashomayim Synagogue, Windsor Lodge B'nai Brith, Royal Canadian Legion Branch 362. Honourary Member of congregation Beth El and was Executive Director of the Windsor Jewish Community Council for 38 years. Funeral was held on Thursday, May 7, 1998 at 2 p.m. at the Rachel Kaplan Hebrew Memorial Chapel, 685 Aylmer Ave. Rabbi Joseph Krupnik and Rabbi Jeffrey Ableser officiated. Interment Shaar Hashomayim Cemetery.

Hurwitz, Jack - On Friday, May 1, 1998 in Monroeville, Pennsylvania. Beloved husband of Ruth Gilbert, father of Lane, Glisson & Barbara Grant. A loving brother of Zelda Rebick & Ethel Cohen. Proud grandfather of Reilly & Alex Grant & Fiona Glisson. Jack earned his Ph.D. in Physics from the University of Toronto. Until his retirement he was employed by U.S. Steel.

SHAPIRO, Joel - on May 1, 1998, late of 84 Brownstone Circle.
SKLAR, Bluma - on May 4, 1998, late of 92 Major St.
KAWARSKY, Hyman - on May 5, 1998, late of 64 Flaming Roseway.
KREPEL, Dov - on May 5, 1998, late of 32 Alexis Blvd.
EDELL, Anne - on May 6, 1998.
ZACK, Leslie - on May 6, 1998.
GARSHOWITZ, Joseph Arnold - on May 6, 1998, late of 8 Lisa Rd.
BLAU, Esther - on May 7, 1998.
GILBERT, Brina - on May 7, 1998, late of R.R. #1 Blenheim.
BROWN, Jenny - on May 8, 1998.
LEHRFELD, Else - on May 8, 1998
HELFAND, Sarah - on May 10, 1998.
WEINER, Louis - on May 11, 1998, late of 154 Combe Ave.

Steeles Memorial Chapel

335 UNVEILINGS

yad vashem monuments

YETTA LEFLER ז"נ

UNVEILING for SUNDAY, MAY 24

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GREENBERG, Jack - on April 30, 1998, late of 3 Beverly Glen Blvd.
ALBERT, Gloria - on May 1, 1998, late of 33 Weldrick Ave., #805.
MARVIN, Max - on May 2, 1998, late of 1902 Bermuda Circle, Unit B2.
RUBINOFF, Cecille - on May 3, 1998, late of 131 Torresdale Avenue, #708.
SIMON, Else - on May 4, 1998, late of 429 Walmer Road.
BALL, Robert - on May 5, 1998, late of 1122 SW Westwood Drive
WEISS, Shirley - on May 7, 1998, late of 55 Ameer Avenue.
KLEIN, Paul - on May 8, 1998, late of 106 Richview Avenue.

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

335 UNVEILINGS

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
RABBI IRVING KLEINMAN ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, May 24th, 1:30 p.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
(Bathurst, south of Steeles)
Jewish Lithuanian Farband Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

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Sunday, May 24th, 10:00 a.m.
Mount Sinai Memorial Park
986 Wilson Avenue
Canadian Hebrew Benevolent Society Section
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Tuesday, May 26th, 4:00 p.m.

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Late start doesn't hamper squash champion

BY PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — For someone who's won his fair share of gold, silver and bronze medals, Robbie Osher got a fairly late start at the great game of squash.

It wasn't until he was 31 that he first picked up a racket in his hometown of Johannesburg, South Africa but by age 34, he was making a name for himself in squash circles across the country, representing the province of Transvaal in national competitions.

Back in those heady days, he could be counted on to finish in the top 10 in "open" events, often competing against players 10 to 15 years his junior.

He's still taking on youngsters, although the age gap might be closer to 35 years these days. Truth be told, the 59-year-old Osher finds it hard to find a good game from those in his age group. He finds most men his age have gone "a little soft"– in their games that is, so he calls upon younger players to get a good match. You can see him at the Northridge Club, his home turf, teaching some young whippersnapper the finer points of the game that come with years of excellence and experience.

But those health club "friendlies" are only tune-up matches for the big games he plays during the season.

At the Canadian Open in Calgary recently, Osher was top Canadian, losing in the final to the U.S. champion. He's ranked as the top Canadian in the +55 category and he won the Ontario +55 title in 1997 and again in '98.

Before he moved to Canada permanently two years ago, Osher won many South African provincial and national titles in the +45, +50 and +55 age groups.

He was voted Provincial Veteran Squash Player of the Year in South Africa in 1994 and won all provincial matches from 1986 to 1994.

The son of Lithuanian immigrants, Osher represented South Africa at the Maccabiah Games in Israel on three occasions, winning individual bronze and team gold in 1985, silver in '89 and silver again in 1993.

Determination more than raw talent is the key to his success, Osher says.

"I'm a very unorthodox player. I play very unorthodox shots. I delay my shots. I've got a very strong wrist and can delay it right to the end," he says.

Robbie Osher shows the form that's made him a top squash player. [Barry Shainbaum photos]

With his delay shots, Osher can get younger, more inexperienced opponents to commit themselves in anticipation of his next shot – and then put the ball where they ain't. In addition, Osher says, "I play a very lethal "boost," a sidewall shot that I can play from anywhere on the court. And I hit the ball fairly hard, compared to the older players."

When you combine all that with his veteran experience, it's no wonder he's tough to beat.

An all-round athlete, Osher has been a runner, a tennis player, a golfer and he's enjoyed swimming and hiking as well. But even he has had to adapt to advancing years.

"Up to my early 30s, I was a runner and no shot could pass me. As I got older, I had to develop racquet skills," he says.

With the summer upon us, Osher, a management consultant, has cut back his matches to two a week. When he kicks it up to four times per week, you'll know summer is over and he's gearing up for another round of tournaments.

After all, he'll be turning 60 soon and that opens up a new category (+60) he hasn't won yet.

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Henrich a likely first-round pick

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The upcoming NHL draft has never been so interesting for those who follow Jewish athletes.

The reason is simple. For the first time in more than a dozen years, a Jewish junior has the chance to be selected early in the first round.

Toronto-born Michael Henrich, a power forward for the Barrie Colts, is rated by NHL Central Scouting as fifth overall among North American skaters. While that rating does not include goalies and Europeans, there's a good chance Henrich will be picked in the top 10.

The last time a Jewish player was considered so highly was in 1984 when Toronto native Brian Wilks was chosen by Los Angeles early in the second round. With the addition of more NHL teams, that selection would have made him a late first round pick if the draft were held today.

The Inside Back

Moshe's book tour

By JORDAN MAX

"Nu, Mr. Palmer?" Moshe Rabbeynu began, as he nervously adjusted his fedora. "I heard you were the best literary agent in town. So what do you think of the Torah?"

Stephen Palmer looked puzzled for a moment, then responded "Oh yeah, the scrolls that wouldn't fit in the file drawer... Moish, let me tell you, it's a great first draft, with lots of potential, but frankly, between you and me, I think it needs a major rewrite. You see, for a book to sell big time today, it needs some real sleaze, some laughs, political intrigue, pacing. And besides, the length..."

Last Laugh

Moshe was taken aback by Stephen's bluntness. "You think it's too long, but it's in its final form. It's the blueprint for a well-functioning society. I wrote it exactly as I heard it direct from God Himself. Besides, it's got all those things, just look at the first book, Breisheet. It's filled with creation and destruction, family intrigue, sibling rivalries, murder, wedding night mixups, swindling, weird dreams, you name it.

"And Shmot... with an evil pharoah, enslavement, Ten Plagues, liberation, splitting the Red Sea, the Revelation at Har Sinai, the building of the Mishkan. And Vayikra..."

"Vayikra" Stephen interrupted. "That's the third book, right?"

"Yes" Moshe replied, sounding somewhat annoyed.

"Don't take this the wrong way, Mo, but it's dry reading, all this stuff about societal laws, animal sacrifices and priestly duties. Aside from that Golden Calf scene, readers are just going to stop reading. So, Mo, if you really want to make this book sell, how about, say, taking out those laws on adultery, and rewriting those middle sections with a political scandal or two, some romance scenes, a chariot chase, maybe even a good all-out battle... Then, we'll need to secure the movie rights, get some backers, hire a good screenwriter, a sober director..."

Moshe looked perplexed, and asked naively. "Excuse me, Mr. Palmer, first of all, I can't do a "rewrite" as you call it, and second, unless I'm missing something, shouldn't people read the book first, before it's made into, what did you call it, a movie?"

"MR, where have you been? Nobody *reads* anymore, especially something this long. So here's the plan. First, we cast Len DC as the lead, and the Spice Girls as the female parts. Then we shoot the movie offshore, call it a foreign film to get it into Cannes and Sundance, win the critics' awards, line up the distribution, get a big studio to do a massive release, put it out on video three months later, promote the heck out of the book, spun as the book behind the critically acclaimed blockbuster movie, get it?

Just think of it, MR, the book signing tours, Larry King, Oprah's book club, the Oscars even. Of course, then there's the spinoff promo products, like kids' toys, the movie soundtrack, a music video, a Disney animated version, CD-ROM video games, a cartoon series, you name it. This could be bigger than *Star Wars*. Say... you got any characters in your book for cute stuffed dolls?... Wait, I see it now, a whole new line of Torah Babies. MR, if this takes off, we're talking serious cash and a six-figure sequel advance."

Moshe was turning red. "Well, actually, Mr. Palmer, you see, Shmot 20, verse 4 expressly forbids worshipping graven images, so the dolls are out." He angrily got up to leave. "Sorry, Mister Palmer. I've heard enough. No deal. The Torah is the Torah, no rewrites, no movie. I don't want any of this funny business. I'll do it mineself. Goodbye."

With that, Moshe stormed out of the office. "Meshugeneh people, these agents" he muttered as he calmed down and flipped open his cell phone. "Yehoshua, yeah it's me. Listen, things didn't work out with that agent you sent me to. It's time for Plan B. Book me a mountain, will you? Something nice, not too high, you know I get dizzy. And, while you're at it, some thunder and lightning..."

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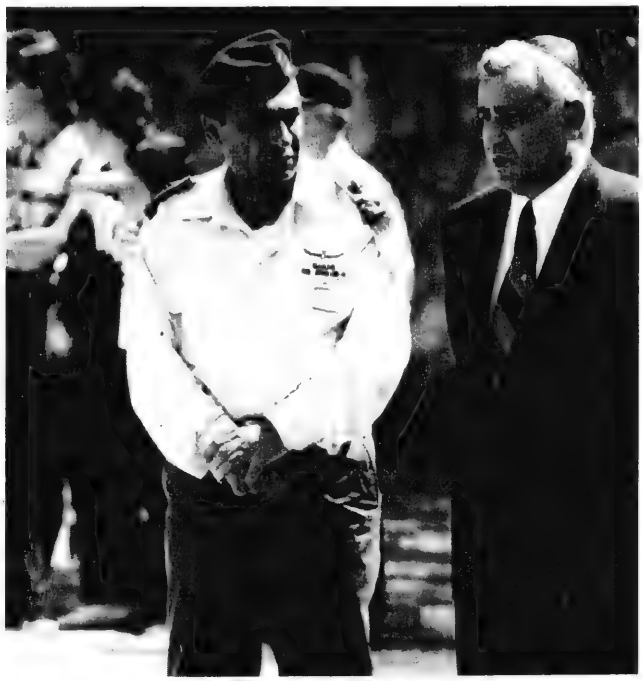
LAND OF MILK AND HONEY CHEESECAKE

A treat for Shavuot ...

1 lb. cream cheese	1 tblsp. lemon rind
3/4 cup honey	1 tblsp. orange juice
3 slightly beaten eggs	2 tsp. cinnamon
1/4 tsp. salt	1 10" graham cracker pie crust
2 cups milk	strawberries for garnish

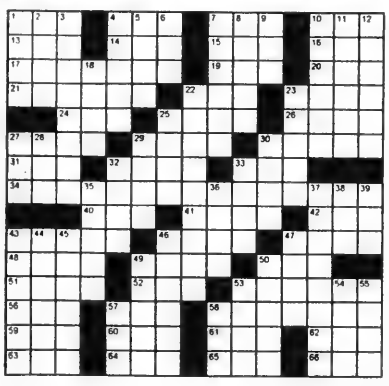
Mix honey, eggs, salt and milk. Cream the cream cheese until soft. Slowly blend in the honey mixture and then add the lemon rind, orange juice and cinnamon. Pour into the pie crust and bake at 450°F for 12 minutes. Reduce the heat to 300°F and bake for another 40 minutes (or until a toothpick in the centre comes out clean). Cool; garnish with strawberries and enjoy!



DEFENCE TEAM

Maj.-Gen. Shaul Mofaz (left) was recently confirmed as the IDF's new chief of staff. Standing beside him is Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai. [Israel photo]

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



1. Alphabet run
4. Amen
7. 700
10. Mayer Company
13. laughing sound
14. Lox starters
15. Lamed (Eng.)
16. __ Carte
17. Ishmael progeny
19. Imitate Max Baer
20. Spin: (Heb.)
21. Adviser to Presidents
22. Hank's Hammer?
23. Tithed
24. Sort of? (ending)
25. House (Heb. comb. word)
26. Utopia
27. __ Halav, Israel
29. Hearts on Rosh Hashanah
30. Alpert's Tijuana__
31. Einstein and Dreyfuss
32. Biblical crop
33. Travel club
34. Broadway songwriter
40. Isaac's stand in?
41. Life or Knowledge
42. Reason for shiva
43. Lubavitcher
46. Shamsky's Mets
47. Make the bagels
48. Artist Yaacov
49. Yael's weapon
50. Brother to Japheth
51. Adam to Eve
52. Son of? (Seph.)
53. Bigot's forte
56. 1501
57. B'nai B'rith Org.
58. Abe Attell
59. Senatorial Initials
60. Noodge (Eng.)
61. Hellenistic or Biblical
62. Gives a Seder shank
63. "__ Trial", by Kafka
64. Rent
65. That woman
66. Jerusalem to Be'er-sheba (dir.)

Down

1. Seventh king
2. Actress Theda
3. Dancer Cyd
4. Fromm or Segal
5. Father of Ham
6. Daniel's test locale
7. Disputation
8. Shmatah (Eng.)
9. 160
10. Yigael Yadin's discovery?
11. Kid Kaplan's Equipment
12. Experts
18. Moses' miracle
22. Young People's Conductor
23. Biblical weight
25. Chametz before Pesach
27. Petrol
28. Supreme (Abbv.)
29. Bialik specialty
30. Called to biblically
32. "__ Gadya"
33. Issachar city
35. __ Minister, Netanyahu
36. Talmud, __ Law
37. "Red" people
38. Patriarchs
39. Blanc or Allen
43. Hellman's honey
44. Legend (Heb.)
45. Mort Sahl's genre
46. Mount Sinai stone
47. Mikveh
49. Kol __
50. Ishmael's mom
53. Employ
54. Ma'ariv offering
55. Developed
57. Named in a Mishaberach
58. Yiddish disdain

These puzzles are the work of Kathi Handler of Waterbury, Connecticut.

(Last week's answers are on page 34.)

Israel & the Jewish World

Netanyahu receives Torah from Toronto students

By EDGAR ASHER
CJN Israel Correspondent

JERUSALEM — Representing more than 4,000 Jewish students from the Greater Toronto Area, nine students presented a sefer Torah to Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu in his office here last week.

Elizabeth Moorehouse-Stein, John Spence, Avi Vander Sluis, Lorne Birnbaum, Shoshana Klein, Menashe Rosen, Aliza Jesin, Samuel Zieleniec and Aviva Dimant-Zieleniec, as well as representatives of the Zieleniec, Jelinik and Markowitz families were not really sure if the meeting with Netanyahu would take place at all.

Due to scheduling pressures, the prime minister had to cancel several prior engagements. However, he did not disappoint his Canadian visitors.

"It really is a distinct pleasure to be here today," project coordinator and Associated Hebrew Schools Junior High principal Jerry Rosenfield told Netanyahu. "We've arrived today from Toronto, Canada, following the initiative of the Mizrachi organization of Canada to commission the writing of the Torah in honor of Israel at 50; to be given to the Israel Defence Force in memory of all those who fell, as well as to the memory of Simcha Zieleniec and Alexander Jelinik.

"We have with us as well a significant number of the members of the Zieleniec, Jelinik and Markowitz families who sponsored the sefer Torah and made the project possible.

"The students and parents who are in Israel today are the lucky ones representing the thousands of students of the day schools and supplementary schools of Toronto who subscribed for the writing of letters in this sefer Torah and really enabled this project to come to fruition. Today we bring the sefer Torah to you, Mr. Prime Minister, and on Thursday [we bring it] to Zahal (Israel Defence Forces). We come united with you from around the world in love of Torat Yisrael and Medinat Yisrael."

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu holds the sefer Torah presented to him last week by nine Toronto-area students. The Torah was written through "subscriptions" to individual letters by over 4,000 Toronto Jewish day and supplementary school students. It was then handed to the Israel Defence Force to commemorate Israel's fallen soldiers. *[Edgar Asher/Isranet photo]*

Netanyahu interjected at this point, "There's another one, Eretz Yisrael, the Land of Israel."

Rosenfield agreed and continued, "The Torah is the bridge between the Yadut Hagolah [Diaspora communities] and Eretz Yisrael. Mr Prime Minister, we know that you face tremendous challenges as you shoulder the awesome responsibilities of leading our people as you seek true peace with security for Am Yisrael here and around the world . Be strong. It has to be right to be good; we are with you.

"The rabbis teach us that when HaShem wanted to bestow merit upon His people He gave them the Torah and the opportunity to be able to live by its teachings and tradition and therefore find favor in His eyes. With this sefer Torah that the youth of Toronto bring today to share with you and Zahal in celebration of Israel at 50, we pray that HaShem will give you the strength with which to achieve the peace."

"Thank you very much to you all," the Prime Minister responded. "I am delighted to receive this sefer Torah and pass it on to the soldiers of Israel. As you know, when fighting with weapons, the most important weapon is this – our faith and traditions and the justice of our cause; that is our real weapon. I thank you for strengthening it."

The Canadian delegation presented the sefer Torah to the IDF later in the week, when they visited a Jordan Valley army base.

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This Week

National

No evidence Israeli prisoner-refugees have terrorist links, UN commission says. *Page 5*

Mike Burstyn's concert will benefit Disabled Veterans of Israel Beit Halochem. *Page 17*

Health

Two-tiered health system is frightening seniors, former NDP cabinet minister says. *Page 31*

Fashion

Swimwear has come a long way since its conservative start. *Page 44*

Business

Jeffrey Shuster runs a succesful business chasing lost golf balls. *Page 47*

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Shabbat: Bemidbar
Candlelighting: 8:32
Sivan 4, 5758
Havdalah: 9:38

www.cjnews.com

Israelis celebrate Jerusalem Day

By ELLI WOHLGELERNTER
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Energetic dancing, a military parade, nationalist songs, memorial ceremonies, a couple of scuffles and a huge traffic jam marked Sunday's 31st annual Jerusalem Day celebration.

The main event was the parade, which was more elaborate than in past years as it also was part of the 50th anniversary celebrations. It included 13,000 paratroopers, pilots and sailors, and many army vehicles, while F-15 fighter planes and C-130 transport planes flew overhead.

Tens of thousands of people lined the parade route along Jaffa Road and King George Street, waving flags and waving to their friends, as a festive holiday ambience prevailed throughout the downtown area.

In eastern Jerusalem, however, it was a different story. Outside the Old City walls, two dozen Arabs threw stones at police and the passing parade, wounding two marchers before police dispersed the stone-throwers. No one was arrested.

On the streets inside the walls, a few flag-waving celebrants got into a tussle with some Arabs, but no one was hurt.

Outside Orient House, the spokesperson for Our Jerusalem, Ronn Torrosian, got into a fight with one of the security guards when he placed a placard on the sidewalk in front of the gates of the building.

"Today, on Jerusalem Day, we see that the Arabs respond with violence to peaceful Jewish protesters," Torrosian said. "Even worse, however, is that the Israeli police refused to take action against those Arabs who resorted to violence."

For their part, the Arab population saw the day's activities – which actually began the previous night, with celebrations at the Beit Orot yeshivah on the Mount of Olives that continued until dawn Sunday – as a provocation.

Several Palestinian groups distributed a leaflet urging Moslems to gather at Al-Aksa to prevent the Temple Mount Faithful from praying on the Temple Mount. Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat's Fatah movement and Moslem clerics signed the leaflet.

Police stopped about 40 members of the Temple Mount Faithful, which claimed it had police permission to enter the Temple Mount Sunday, from entering the area.

"We came to say that Jerusalem is a Jewish city forever," the group's leader Gershon Salomon said outside the Mugrabi Gate, the entrance to the Temple Mount from the Western Wall plaza. "Never will a

Continued on page 36

From Montreal to Tel Aviv

By EDGAR ASHER
Israel Correspondent

BEN-GURION AIRPORT — The first regular non-stop Air Canada flight from Montreal to Tel Aviv was given a festive welcome at Ben-Gurion Airport on May 20.

The flight, which was almost full, had about 145 fare-paying passengers; the remainder were guests of the airline.

As the 203-seat Boeing 767 taxied to a stop a few minutes after 5 p.m., two side windows in the cockpit were removed and a huge Israeli flag and an Air Canada flag were waved from each side of the aircraft by grinning aircrew.

Continued on page 37

MAYORS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert (front row, tenth from the left) poses with 55 of his counterparts from around the world in front of the Dome of the Rock in Jerusalem. The mayors were in Israel for the 18th Jerusalem Conference of Mayors. *[Israel photo]*

INSIDE

German social workers estimate one third of youths in former eastern Germany identify with neo-Nazism. Please see *Perspectives* on page 9.

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The News in Brief

Canada

Reaction Regrettable

MONTREAL — Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC), Quebec region, finds regrettable the negative reactions which have arisen as a result of David Levine's recent appointment as director of the newly merged Ottawa Hospital.

"Freedom of opinion and of conscience are at the heart of our democratic life. It is truly regrettable that certain individuals have rejected these fundamental principles and are quick to condemn a respected administrator for presumably having the wrong political opinions," said Dorothy Zalcman Howard, CJC Quebec region chair.

Jeffrey Boro, CJC Quebec region community relations committee chair, said there is little doubt that Levine is highly qualified for the position.

Beutel Appeals

TORONTO — New Brunswick cartoonist and illustrator Josh Beutel is appealing a Court of Queen's Bench decision that found he libeled former Moncton school teacher Malcolm Ross.

Judge Paul Creaghan had ruled that Beutel libeled Ross through an illustration that depicted the former teacher as a Nazi. Creaghan accepted Beutel's contention that Ross was a racist and that he held anti-Semitic beliefs, but he also found that Ross strongly denied being a Nazi and that his views differed with Nazi views on Jews on several key points.

In his appeal documents, Beutel claims the judge erred in finding the illustration was false or defamed Ross. He also alleges that Creaghan was mistaken in dismissing Beutel's defence of fair comment. Beutel contends he needs not prove Ross was a Nazi before establishing the defence of fair comment.

He is also contesting the award of damages, which amounted to $7,500. The appeal is expected to be heard in late fall.

Israel

Performances Cancelled

JERUSALEM — A controversy erupted over whether female singers should perform at Israeli President Ezer Weizman's swearing-in ceremony. Weizman, who is beginning his second term, first suggested that female singers in an army choir not perform at the ceremony, in deference to religious Knesset members. But that idea drew strong objections from secular lawmakers, prompting Weizman to cancel all performances by artists at the ceremony.

Israel Pays For Drugs

JERUSALEM — The government has said it would begin paying for drug cocktails for patients infected with HIV, the virus that causes AIDS. The estimated annual cost of the therapy is $13,000 per patient.

No Charges Laid

JERUSALEM — A judge decided not to bring charges against soldiers who opened fire at a van carrying Palestinian workers from Israel to the West Bank earlier this year, killing three of them. The van had overtaken a line of cars waiting to go through a checkpoint near Hebron and veered toward the roadblock. The soldiers then opened fire, thinking the van's driver was trying to run them over. The incident, which provoked widespread Palestinian demonstrations, was later found to have been caused by the van's accidentally going out of control.

Group Accuses Shin Bet

JERUSALEM — Israel tortures 850 Palestinians per year, according to the human rights group B'Tselem. Most of the incidents, according to the group, came during interrogations of prisoners.

The group made the statement as the head of Shin Bet defended the shaking of prisoners as an essential part of the activities of Israel's domestic security service.

Ami Ayalon, who called the practice a vital method of stopping acts of terror, submitted a statement to the High Court of Justice before it holds a hearing later this week on whether to continue to allow the practice.

New Centre Being Built

JERUSALEM — The cornerstone was recently laid for the Samson Centre at the World Union for Progressive Judaism (WUPJ). The new structure will include a 400-seat, state-of-the-art theatre, a fully equipped conference centre and a hall for major events. It was designed by Israeli architect Moshe Safdie.

Partners involved in the new centre include WUPJ, The Jewish Agency for Israel, The United Jewish Appeal, UJA/Federation of New York and the Israel Movement for Progressive Judaism.

Kotel Prayer: Peace Urged

JERUSALEM — Am Echad, an Orthodox group, has placed an advertisement in national newspapers asking worshippers to rethink their planned mixed-gender Shavuot prayer service at the Western Wall.

Last Shavuot, a small group, mostly from the United States, held a mixed-gender prayer service, described by one of the organizers as a rally for Jewish religious pluralism. Many people were offended by the rally and some reacted in an "ugly and indefensible manner," said Am Echad.

World

Congress Writes Albright

WASHINGTON — The United States should cease its support for the Palestinian Broadcasting Corporation, 62 members of Congress said in a letter to U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright. The letter, which has been circulating the past month in Congress as part of a Republican-led effort, cites what it charges is the corporation's continued support of violence and terrorism against Israel. Since 1994, the corporation, which runs a television and radio station, has received about $500,000 from various U.S. federal agencies.

Sharansky Assured

MOSCOW — Russian officials assured visiting Israeli Trade Minister Natan Sharansky that a tank on display in Moscow did not contain the remains of three Israeli MiAs. Media reports originating from Moscow had suggested that the tank was from the 1982 Lebanon War and held the remains of Zechariah Baumel, Yehuda Katz and Zvi Feldman. According to Israel officials, the three were taken prisoner during the war and were subsequently declared missing.

Kissinger Made Citizen

FUERTH , Germany — Former U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger, 74, received honorary citizenship from the German town that he and his family fled when the Nazis were in power. Germany's foreign minister, Klaus Kinkel, joined the town's mayor in honoring Kissinger's contributions as a diplomat.

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CJC Plenary addresses wide range of issues

By MYRON LOVE
Prairie Correspondent

WINNIPEG — On May 24 and 25, delegates from across the country gathered here for the 25th Plenary Assembly of the Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC).

It was the first time the plenary was held in a location other than Toronto or Montreal.

Close to 500 delegates attended, including over 300 from the host city, despite earlier concerns that the turnout from the host city would be poor.

The plenary's first order of business was the annual general meeting (AGM).

Outgoing treasurer Zave Climan of Montreal reported that the last six years have been financially difficult for Congress, as the budget has shrunk from $3.7 million to just under $3 million.

"There has been tremendous pressure on our staff," Climan said. "We have had to eliminate some programs and severely curtail others."

Outgoing president Goldie Hershon noted that the CJC is involved in discussions with constituent federations to develop plans to change how the organization functions.

Jack Silverstone, the CJC's national executive director, observed that this year's AGM was the best attended of any he has participated in.

"In the past three years," he said, "we have tried to maintain stability during a time of change. We have had to do as much as usual with less as well as dealing with other issues that have cropped up, such as the controversy over the Holocaust gallery in Ottawa, in addition to looking after our normal mandate."

He identified hate and Holocaust denial on the Internet, restitution for Holocaust survivors and millennium-inspired Christian proselytizing

[Cont'd. on page 16]

TORONTO TORAH GOES TO IDF

Maj.-Gen. Uzi Dayan, recently appointed deputy chief of staff of the Israel Defence Force (IDF) and nephew of the late Moshe Dayan, carries a Torah presented to the IDF by nine Toronto Jewish day and supplementary school students, and members of the sponsoring families. The event took place at the Rotem army base in the Jordan Valley. Over 4,000 Jewish students in Toronto and area participated in the writing of the Torah, which was presented to Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu earlier. [Israel/Edgar Asher photo]

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From the editor's desk

If I give you one dollar and you give me one dollar, we are each left with one dollar. But if I give you one idea or one song or one poem, and you give me one idea or one song or one poem, we are each left with two ideas, two songs or two poems.

* * *

Elsewhere in this issue is an article by Edgar Asher, *The CJN's* Israel correspondent, on the three-day Canada-Israel Law Conference that recently concluded in Tel Aviv.

As Asher reported, it was the third such conference to be held in Israel since 1992. The significance of the conference, intriguingly called Litigating the Values of a Nation, and even more so, the significance of the Canada-Israel Legal Cooperation Programme, one of the conference's co-sponsoring bodies, cannot be overstated.

Canadian jurists, a broad word that encompasses lawyers, judges and scholars well versed in the law, have met and are meeting with Israeli jurists. At the highest levels of the interdependent, contiguous fields of law in both Canada and Israel – namely, the bench, the bar and the academy – ideas are being exchanged, formal relationships are being formed or enhanced, and personal and institutional ties are being strengthened.

It is a virtual cross-pollination of two legal cultures and systems, with each gaining a measure of freshness and reinvigoration in the process.

The Canada-Israel Legal Cooperation Programme is an inter-university consortium of Canadian and Israeli law schools. It began in 1992 and was, in part, the brainchild of Irwin Cotler of McGill University.

Cotler is no stranger to readers of *The CJN*. He is one of the world's foremost experts on international human rights, an intrepid, fiery activist against human rights violations, and an occasional essayist for this paper. In this space, two years ago, I wrote about his testimony to an investigative committee of the United States on the subject of the Palestinian Authority's treatment of its own citizens.

He explained that the founding of the program in 1992 was inspired by a statement of Justice Aharon Barak, now the chief justice of Israel's Supreme Court, to the effect that "Israel in 1992 is where Canada was in 1982; and Canada will be the single most important [constitutional] repository for Israel in the months and years ahead." (In 1992, as Asher has recorded in his article, Israel enacted a "mini-bill of rights" modelled on the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms.)

At the same time interestingly enough, Cotler notes, Chief Justice Antonio Lamer was speaking of the "revolutionary" impact of the Canadian Charter of Rights, and how it had emerged as a model for countries enacting rights charters.

This fortuitous confluence of judicial pronouncements was the springboard for Cotler's creative, driving imagination.

The Canada-Israel Legal Programme was organized from a number of universities that included the faculties of law at McGill University, the University of Toronto, the University of Alberta and the Faculty of Law and the Halbert Centre for Canadian Studies at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. It has since been joined by Tel Aviv Law School and the Israeli Association of Canadian Studies.

The initial honorary co-chairs in 1992 were Lamer from Canada and Meir Shamgar, president of the Supreme Court of Israel.

The current honorary co-chairs of the program are Lamer and Aharon Barak, current president of the Supreme Court. Cotler and Justice Yitzchak Zamir of the Israeli Supreme Court are the de-facto co-chairs.

The directors of the program include the presidents and the deans of the faculties of law of the participating universities.

It is worthy of emphasis, therefore, that the people involved in this ongoing program are at the very centre of the heartbeat of legal developments in Canada and Israel.

The first two initiatives of the program were the conference in Jerusalem in 1992 entitled Chartering Human Rights, and a Supreme Court Judges Seminar involving supreme court and appellate court judges from both countries.

Cotler observed that the Canadian group at the conference in Israel in 1992 was "one of the most impressive Canadian legal rights delegations ever to visit another country." It included justices Claire L'Heureux-Dube, Beverley McLachlin and Charles Gonthier of the Supreme Court of Canada; Appellate Court justices Rosalie Abella and the late Walter Tarnopolsky from Ontario; Quebec Superior Court Judge Herbert Marx, the then-deans Yves-marie Morissette, Robert Sharpe, and Bruce Elman of McGill, Toronto and Alberta respectively; and such distinguished scholars as professors Kathleen Mahoney of Calgary, Lorraine Weinrib of Toronto and Danielle Pinard of Montreal.

This year's conference had even a larger roster of eminent participants.

One of the key reasons I bring the conference and the program to the attention of the reader is to show yet another way, with the participation of the Canadian legal establishment, in which Israel, merely 50 years after its founding, is strengthening its democratic institutions. In the process of participating, of course, both democracies are strengthened.

MBD

Legal cross-pollination

Israel's Jubilee 50 — *from the archives*

PRECIOUS CARGO EN ROUTE TO ISRAEL

Immigrants from Morocco on board a ship bound for Israel in 1950.
[Keren Hayesod – UIA Communications photo]

* * *

For the latest in *Israel at 50* news, check out the *Israel at 50* Web site: [www.feduja.org] or call the *Israel at 50* hotline 416-635-2883 ext. 706.

Greater Toronto Area

Refugees are dissidents, not criminals: Israel

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The 10 refugees currently in Israeli jails whom Canada has been asked to take in are not criminals but "dissidents," says Israel's embassy in Ottawa.

And according to the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR), there is "no evidence at all" to suggest that the 10 refugees have criminal or terrorist links.

Israel's embassy says the 10 – six Iraqis, two Syrians and two Iranians, all men – are army deserters who entered Israel illegally.

"They are dissidents, not criminals," said embassy spokesperson David Cooper.

And contrary to a CTV news report, one of the men is not an Iranian hijacker, Cooper added.

The men have been in jail since the early 1990s. They are political asylum seekers, and there's nothing to suggest they are terrorists or spies, a UNHCR spokesperson told *The CJN* last week.

A Toronto newspaper quoted an Israeli source as saying the defectors are "enemies of Israel."

But Israel never charged any of the men with a crime and detained them simply because they sneaked into the country, said Nanda Na Champassak, the UNHCR's spokesperson in Ottawa.

Champassak said Israel asked the UN to look into the detainees' plight. The UN agency conducted interviews and found them to fit the definition of refugee: someone with a well-founded fear of persecution should they be returned to their homeland, Champassak said.

Israel won't allow the men to stay, saying there's no guarantee they are not spies. But neither does it want to send them back home.

The UNHCR recommended the men to Canada because this nation is regarded internationally as "a country of resettlement." It is not unusual for the agency to ask Canada to consider admitting refugees who are in diplomatic limbo, she added.

Officials last week attempted to allay fears that Canada would be admitting Israel's enemies, including terrorists.

Should Canada proceed, the 10 men would be subject to a strict screening process, said Rene Mercier of Citizenship and Immigration Canada.

Canada's screening is "serious. We will not take people with a criminal background.

"They would have to meet criteria like any other refugee [applicant]," including checks into health and backgrounds, Mercier said.

The same view was sounded by Prime Minister Jean Chrétien last week. The refugees "will have to be processed the same way as any other refugees who come to Canada.

"The law does not permit us to take people who could be a threat to the security of Canada," Chrétien said while in Rome.

Mercier said Canada is simply reviewing the cases: "We have not been accepting refugees. We are looking at the possibility of accepting them. Either we accept some or we don't. If we do, they will be coming."

Champassak said that if Canada rejects the asylum-seekers, another country will be asked to accept them.

In January, Israel reportedly asked Canada to grant political asylum to a Syrian and an Iranian held in an Israeli jail.

Israel's High Court of Justice heard a petition from the two, who were seeking their release after having infiltrated Israel several years earlier.

Moshe Ronen, the new president of Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC), said he's confident that this country's "checks and balances" on immigration and refugees will work.

"It's a pretty tight system, [which] gives us some assurances that the government is doing the right thing," Ronen said.

In a statement, B'nai Brith Canada said it trusts that each case "will be subject to the government's careful screening procedures to ensure that [the detainees], should they be admitted, will in no way be a threat to the people of Canada."

According to a recent article in the *Jerusalem Report*, dozens of Arab nationals steal into Israel each year to ask for asylum. By 1995, the total included 30 Iraqis, 24 of whom were released from jail and given residency permits.

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LAG B'OMER PICNIC
George Wagner of the Bow Shop gives some "tips" on the finer "points" of using a bow and arrow to Esther Leah Spalter and Yale Spalter at the recent Chabad Lubavitch Lag B'Omer family picnic at G. Ross Lord Park. Looking on is Rabbi Moshe Spalter. Over 1,000 people enjoyed traditional activities like archery, a bonfire and a puppet show telling the story of Rabbi Shimon Bar Yochai. [Randy Zelcer photo]

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Rabbi Pachino leaving CHAT after 19 years as headmaster

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

Rabbi Marvin Pachino

TORONTO — Although he has energetic plans to study, write and travel, Rabbi Marvin Pachino finds the prospect of retiring as headmaster of Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto (CHAT) "strange and unreal."

But he can leave proud of the fact that "I have been able to develop a school where the sense of family is strong.

"There is a cohesiveness and esprit de corps in both the faculty and the student body – a warm, caring and giving atmosphere," he told *The CJN*.

Rabbi Pachino will be honored by the officers and board of directors of CHAT at a tribute dinner on June 2, at the Sephardic Kehila Centre in Thornhill.

The Baltimore-born and raised Yeshiva University graduate (he earned both a BA in psychology and smichah, rabbinic ordination, there, as well as a MEd from Antioch College) spent 14 years in the pulpit rabbinate, moving from Lewistown, Pa., to Des Moines, Iowa, to South Bend, Ind., to Montreal's Congregation Chevra Kadisha B'nai Jacob .

"I was always active in teaching or coordinating Hebrew school," he said, and "in Montreal I also taught at Herzliah High School."

In 1973, he became assistant principal of the Ida Crown Jewish Academy in Chicago, a post he held until he came to CHAT in 1979 as headmaster.

(The title "headmaster," Rabbi Pachino explained, was chosen to indicate that "the person holding that title was the administrative head of the school, as opposed to having both a general studies and Hebrew principal. Although Rabbi Pachino is in charge of the Hebrew studies part of the program, there is still a general studies principal.)

Rabbi Pachino joined the school when it moved to its present location on Wilmington in Bathurst Manor in 1979. Before, he explained, it was loosely connected to Associated Hebrew Schools, and was located at its Neptune branch.

"When I came," the rabbi recalled, "we just occupied a fraction of the building. There were 229 students – our registration for 1998-1999 is already 1,870."

The bulk of the incoming student body is from the feeder schools, Associated, Bialik, United Synagogue Day Schools and Leo Baeck, he said.

As well, in the last several years, CHAT has been able to integrate children from She'arim, a day school for children with learning disabilities, along with a small number from the public schools.

Rabbi Pachino attributes this growth to several factors. First, he said, "we established our credibility as a solid academic secondary institution, with an excellent and a professional staff who have good rapport with the students, have a collegial attitude and are loyal to the school and to each other."

He noted that the school "looks for the best teachers." A number have master's or doctor's degrees, and are specialists in their fields. Physics teacher Dr. Eli Honig, for instance, also teaches at the University of Toronto, and Alex Gropper, who teaches history, is an active archeologist.

"In the Jewish history department, two out of the five teachers have doctorates, and one has a master's," he said.

The education level is very high, and very demanding, he said. Still, or perhaps because of that, "there is a sense of pride in the school, which is a source of pride to me too."

CHAT is the only secondary Jewish day school with an independent, fully staffed guidance department. Rabbi Chaim Sacknowitz, who has headed it for some 25 years, told *The CJN* that he and the other two full-time guidance staff people (next year there will be one more) offer academic and peer counselling, peer tutoring, university preparation, study skills instruction and social programs.

Special programs include an upcoming one on eating disorders, PAD (Parents Against Drugs), where specially trained grade 10 and 11 students speak to the feeder schools about the dangers of drugs, and a recent theatrical production called *Heroes*, where feeder schools were invited to learn about safety concerns.

Many of the Grade 9 registrants have chosen CHAT because "their brother, or their sister, or their friend had a good experience here," Rabbi Pachino said.

A number of graduates have gone on to post-secondary education, some to careers in the rabbinate or in Jewish education, he said.

Jewish education, he said, "is not the ideal that Jewish parents have for their children." The community also doesn't enhance the status of teachers, he charged, adding that no one is "doing what they should be doing to encourage kids who want to go into this field."

Across the continent, the upshot of that situation is that while enrolment in the day school system is growing significantly, the number of qualified teachers necessary to teach them is not increasing proportionately, he said.

On the other hand, Rabbi Pachino said that he doesn't know how much more growth there can be in Toronto. "We already have the largest per capita enrolment of kids in the Jewish day school system of any city on the continent."

Nevertheless, he said, CHAT is going ahead with plans to build a new facility on the grounds of the Bathurst Jewish Centre. Construction is expected to start in the fall, he said.

Looking back over his years in the education field, Rabbi Pachino mused that there have been definite changes in students. "As the world changed, so students changed too," he said wryly, saying he was referring to their "attitude toward life, ethics, morals – they are all influenced by the outside culture."

This is mirrored by their dress, how they speak and the language they use, he said.

"Society today is non-judgemental, in that it is reluctant to categorically establish moral and ethical norms, to establish a universally accepted standard of right and wrong."

So too, he said, kids are reluctant to take strong moral and ethical positions, and declare that some behavior is wrong, immoral or of questionable value. They are reared in an atmosphere where everyone is entitled to do their own thing."

He especially decried the unwillingness of youngsters "to stand up and state unequivocally that Israel has a right to exist."

For instance, he said, 10 or 15 years ago, "no kid would be pushing for someone from the PLO to come and present their side [of the conflict] – they knew who the enemy was."

CHAT, he said, however, "has no serious discipline problems. Maybe [it is because] we have a pattern of relating more."

For more information about the tribute dinner or to reserve, call CHAT, 636-5984.

Greater Toronto Area

Mideast peace a reality in Israeli 'Master Plan'

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The National Master Plan for Israel, as well as the longer-term plan, Israel 2025, reflect the hoped for reality of an Israel at peace with its neighbors and within secure borders, according to Arie Shachar, professor of urban geography and urban planning at Hebrew University.

Shachar, who helped prepare the plans, is also chair of the advisory committee of the Israeli Central Bureau of Statistics and director of the Halbert Centre for Canadian Studies at Hebrew University.

He was giving the keynote address at Israel and the University of Toronto: celebrating academic partnerships, a program at Hart House devoted to scholarly links between Israel and the U of T.

Government policy since the establishment of the state, he said, has been formulated on the idea that security and land are the most important things.

Because Israel is such a small country (and was even smaller in 1948), occupying and settling the land was considered basic. The Israel Land Authority kept tight control over land use, as other government bodies did with public housing; building and infrastructure, such as ports, roads and telecommunications; and capital investment.

Immigrants were directed to whatever location was considered strategic at the time, for example, the Negev, he said.

"Individual choice, economic considerations and social factors simply didn't play a large role [in government thinking]" Shachar said.

Much of the new thinking is a result of the huge influx of immigrants from the Former Soviet Union, nearly a million people, which led to many shortages, especially in housing.

For the first time, Shachar said, new immigrants were allowed to freely choose their place of residence. "A high proportion went, not to outlying, strategically significant areas, but to the central region, where employment possibilities and opportunities were greater.

"The new plan abandons the importance of the small town in favor of large metropolitan areas.

"The signing of peace treaties with Egypt and Jordan has led to less danger on those borders and thus a decreased importance of settlements in those areas."

Along with the increased demand for housing, as well as the refusal by new immigrants to settle for poor housing, there is a wave of new infrastructure, such as the expansion of Ben-Gurion airport, new military camps for soldiers who are withdrawn from the territories and from, for instance, the Golan, and a new coastal highway.

There is an increased awareness of environmental dangers, Shachar said, which has led to new policies aimed at containing urban sprawl and maintaining open spaces, as opposed to the old emphasis on converting agricultural space to urban use.

As well, there has been a change in the economy from largely agricultural to high-tech, especially in the country's core.

The government, he said, "no longer seeks to influence the economy, but rather wants to promote sites and infrastructure to meet the demands of a new economy facing global competition."

The new plans, he said, assume that there will be more and more specialization, especially in high-tech, computer and biotechnical fields.

All these new plans, however, are predicated on peace with the Palestinians and Arab countries and on the pursuit of social justice, Shachar warned.

Other sessions at the conference highlighted specific links between the university and Israel, such as Telink, a system of telecommunications and teleconferencing that enables physicians in Toronto to examine patients and procedures in Israel; research in, for instance, cancer, genetics, pain, dental techniques; and the exchange of students and researchers and information.

The Halbert fellowships established by Ralph and Roz Halbert enable visiting professorship exchanges between Canada and Israel in such diverse fields as law, political science and psychology.

BROOKS, REINER HEADLINE BAYCREST GALA

Comedy legends Mel Brooks (left) and Carl Reiner ham it up after receiving back supports at last week's annual Baycrest Centre gala. The duo performed an updated version of their classic routine, *The 2,000-Year-Old Man in the Year 2000*. Proceeds from the event will go toward construction of Baycrest's Apotex Centre, Jewish Home for the Aged and Centre for Cognitive Disorders. [Ron Csillag photo]

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Editorials and Letters

The Canadian Jewish news

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Understandable anger, misguided expression

Canada is precious. It represents the highest of human values embodied in a way of life that combines freedom with law, that reconciles rights and responsibilities, that accommodates the uniqueness of the individual with the pre-eminence of the community.

That is simply one of the reasons among the very many, why it is so important to engage the forces, as *The CJN* does on every appropriate occasion, intent on Canada's dismemberment.

This newspaper is unreservedly federalist. It carries no brief for separatism or for separatists. But the public outcry over the recent hiring of David Levine to administer the Ottawa Hospital is a misguided expression of people's understandable anger.

There is no doubt about Levine's politics. He is a separatist. He was a defeated candidate for the Parti Québécois in a 1979 by-election and is currently the agent-general for Quebec in New York.

We deplore his politics.

But his politics should not be a bar to his employment at the Ottawa Hospital. This proposition is not merely a statement of editorial opinion. It is a statement of Canadian law. It is, in and of itself, one of those "highest of human ideals" that confer value and goodness to the way of life that we hold so dear in the country that we regard so proudly as the exemplar of those ideals.Indeed, that proposition is one of the fundamental freedoms of Canada's Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

"Sec. 2. Everyone has the following fundamental freedoms: (b) freedom of thought, belief, opinion and expression..."

In addition, the Human Rights Code of Ontario also ensures that Levine, like everyone else in Ontario, has a right to employment without fear of discrimination on account of his beliefs.

"Sec. 4(1) Every person has a right to equal treatment with respect to employment without discrimination because of race, ancestry, place of origin, citizenship, *creed*, sex, sexual orientation, age, record of offences, marital status, family status or handicap."

We assume Levine's selection by the executive search firm was bona fide, that he is a man of integrity, that he will fulfil his responsibilities to the best of his abilities and that he will not use his position to advance his political loyalties.

Therefore, if our values are indeed true, and our laws meaningful, no one should try to prevent him from assuming his position at the hospital in July. To object to his employment on the basis of his political beliefs is to ignore Canadian law and to debase "Canadian" values, high among which is the right of every individual to believe what he or she wishes without fear that they will be punished for their beliefs.

It is an understandably indignant, but doubly ironic ill-wind, which animates the enraged passions of those who are urging Levine's dismissal. They are purporting to stand up against the separatists but are in truth merely feeding the constantly grinding mill of separatist propaganda.

They are purporting to stand up on behalf of Canada but are in truth, betraying Canada, and by doing so diminishing it ever so slightly to a place that would be governed by mob rage and anger rather than by freedoms and the law.

That would not be the Canada that we know to be so precious.

* * *

In the editorial entitled "The real catastrophe" that appeared in this space last week, the figure given for the number of Palestinians who were killed in the *al-nakba* demonstrations was 10. In fact, five people were killed.

Dry Bones

THE HOLIDAY OF SHAVUOT MARKS THE DAY THAT THE JEWS...
...BROUGHT THE TEN COMMANDMENTS TO THE WORLD!
SO WHY ARE WE WHISPERING?
BECAUSE THE WORLD HAS NEVER FORGIVEN US!!

Editorial Advisory Board
Irving Abella, Donald Carr, Q.C., Sydney Eisen, Rabbi Elyse Goldstein, Zac Kaye, Lou Ronson, Herb Rosenfeld, Kurt Rothschild, Joseph Steiner, Elias Toby, Elizabeth Wolfe.

Claims coverage of Bouchard speech distorted

As president of the Canada-Israel Committee, Quebec region, and chair of the dinner honoring Israel's 50th birthday, and as a responsible communal leader, I am compelled to inform you that the English language report in the May 14 issue of *The CJN* was a distorted version of the sense and mood of the actual events. Your French reporting, on the other hand, in complete contrast with the English article, reflected truthfully both the profile and spirit of the evening's proceedings.

Premier Lucien Bouchard's address and his presence, as did that of all our guests, focused on honoring Israel on its 50th anniversary. It is amazing that *The CJN* is capable of capturing faithfully in Elias Levy's article the evening's essence and mood as to speakers, audience and musical theme, while the report in English was tendentious and unequivocally unfaithful to the occasion and its proceedings.

The purpose of the function was to honor Israel, whereas your headline must be regarded as either tendentious, malicious or both. Innumerable communal leaders, including Liberal Mount Royal MP Sheila Finestone, complimented Bouchard's praise of Israel: "a very eloquent text... I was very moved by what he had to say."

To have focused in your headline on the fact that Bouchard called on Israel to accommodate the Palestinians as the essential component of his address, would also be in contradiction with the understanding of the 600 people who were present. The cornerstone of the evening's speeches, the mood and the musical program were all characterized by the warm and cordial feelings of admiration for Israel on its 50th jubilee. To focus on any other theme is fallacious reporting.

The English version of your newspaper's report of the 50th Anniversary Gala was an injustice to the Montreal Jewish community who came to celebrate with friends of Israel, Israel's 50th anniversary.

Thomas O. Hecht, Chair
Canada-Israel Committee, Quebec region

Poor record on war crimes justifies CJC stand

Peter Kremer, the former director of the Canadian Justice Department War Crimes Section, takes solace from the McCamus report, which concluded that there was no evidence of anti-Semitism within the unit whose task it is to bring Nazi war criminals to justice. (*CJN*, April 30)

We never asserted that Kremer was anti-Semitic, nor do we allege that that was a reason for the abysmal performance of the unit during his watch. The record of the war crimes unit under Kremer's direction speaks for itself.

During his tenure from 1990 to 1995, all war crimes prosecutions were either lost or withdrawn. It was only at the very end of his assignment that the first denaturalization cases were brought forward. In cases as time sensitive as those relating to Nazi war criminals, more than four years of preparation before bringing a case to trial raises serious questions. We believe we have the answer to those questions, and it is also found within the McCamus report, but not referred to by Kremer in his letter. This relates to Kremer's attitude toward war crimes cases, made crystal clear to me in a 1991 meeting when he said that he would not be "sticking his neck out" in these cases the way his predecessor (Bill Hobson) did.

This is the crux of the matter and the results – or rather the lack thereof – are readily explicable in that context. It has almost become trite to say so, but the proverbial "fire in the belly" that was the hallmark of the unit from 1987 to 1990 under the direction of Hobson and Arnold Fradkin was glaringly absent for five years thereafter.

We are gratified that the War Crimes Section currently has more than 14 cases relating to Nazi war crimes ongoing or resolved, with more expected. Canadian Jewish Congress is pleased to salute good work, but we have struggled too long and hard on this issue of justice and morality to shrink from registering criticism in its absence.

Jack Silverstone
National Executive Director
and General Counsel
Canadian Jewish Congress

Editor's Note: Kremer has denied making the statement alleged by Silverstone. Please see the article by CJN *reporter Paul Lungen, titled "Report's methodology concerns CJC" (May 21).*

Who was at this 1946 seder in Munich?

On April 15 and 16, at the first Pesach celebrated after VE-Day and the liberation of the camps, seders were celebrated in the city centre of Munich at a public facility (the Deutsches Theatre Restaurant), for survivors of the Shoah then living in the city. The service was conducted by an American army chaplain, Rabbi Abraham J. Klausner. As part of these seders, there was a Haggadah, in both Hebrew and Yiddish – or rather a pamphlet described as a "supplement" to the Haggadah. The Haggadah identified itself as "arranged and illustrated by Y[oseph] D[avid] Sheinson," with woodcuts by "Ben Benyamin."

Two years ago this Pesach, I discovered among my late father's papers a copy of this Haggadah, inscribed to him with thanks on behalf of the DPs by a joint staff member (Joe Levine) in Munich at the time. I took it that the inscription was made to my father, Ben Touster, in the early '50s in his capacity as president of HIAS.

I have traced Rabbi Klausner, still alive and clear of mind, and I have learned many details of these events. But there are still many gaps in our knowledge. Y.D. Sheinson has been traced to Montreal; and he appears to have been alive at 80 in the 1986 *Lexicon of Yiddish Writers*. Is he still alive? Or where are his surviving family? Who is "Ben Benyamin?" Can any of your readers provide more information?

Saul Touster, Professor Emeritus
Brandeis University
Tel.: 617-262-7062.

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Perspectives

Neo-Nazis march in Germany

By TIBOR KRAUSZ

The German town of Jena once earned great international fame for its exquisite chinaware. Today, the town has a reputation for wares of a different kind. In Germany, at least, Jena is becoming a byword, not only for porcelain figurines, but also for homemade swastikas and other Nazi regalia, which are in great demand in some eastern parts of the country.

A tranquil university town in Thuringia state in the former German Democratic Republic (GDR), Jena is fast becoming a stronghold of neo-Nazism. And by no means the only one. Support for neo-Nazi ideology is sweeping across large swaths of the formerly communist East Germany, effectively making whole regions off-limits to foreigners and imposing curfews on visible minorities. Given over to the hatred of anyone "un-German," an increasing number of small-town and inner-city young people are dedicated to turning parts of Germany into an Auslander-frei (outsider-free) zone, say German sociologists and social workers.

Tacit sympathy or overt support for rabidly xenophobic views, especially among the under-30s, has become common in many villages, small towns and urban districts across eastern Germany. German social workers estimate that at least a third of those between 15 and 25 identify with neo-Nazism or other forms of extreme right-wing ideology.

By far the worst affected area is Brandenburg, where German authorities have already categorized nine regional towns as neo-Nazi dens, and foreign, mostly Turkish, guest workers are increasingly becoming prey to racial violence but non-white tourists, too, have routinely been targeted.

So far, however, the prevaling neo-Nazism has not translated into the kind of virulent anti-Semitism that spawned Nazi ideology in the 1920s, if only because so few Jews have remained in Germany – 30,000 at the last count. In addition, as a result of the painful memories of the Holocaust, the German government remains vigilant toward anti-Semitic manifestations. All Nazi regalia are banned by law in Germany, and the dissemination of Nazi propaganda and Holocaust denial carries with it years of imprisonment and hefty fines.

German authorities clamp down on the distributors of hate propaganda with utmost severity. Last year, the German government came in for a lot of flak from international citizens of cyberspace because it blocked the reception of an American Internet service provider for allowing hate literature to circulate on its servers. But if they can no longer spew their bile into cyberspace, some German anti-Semites have fallen back on a well-tested substitute.

With spray cans at the ready, they defile Jewish gravestones and "redecorate" the facades of public buildings. Yet by many accounts, the occasional spray-painted swastikas and anti-Semitic graffiti on the walls of synagogues and Jewish community centres are more an irritant to groundskeepers who have to clean them up than they are a palpable threat to the well-being of German Jews.

Anti-Semitism is not extinct in the ranks of the German right, but so far, anti-Jewish sentiments have usually fizzled out in the pranks of self-styled graffiti artists and Holocaust-denying pamphleteers. Yet, while it would be stretching it to read too much into isolated and mostly non-violent manifestations of anti-Jewish sentiments in Germany, the writing is on the wall for all to see, literally and figuratively.

Ignatz Bubis, the head of Germany's Jewish community, said in a recent article in the British daily, the *Guardian*: "What could emerge in the next two, three or five years could be very dangerous."

Just how dangerous can be seen in the figures. In 1997, there was an average of one violent racially motivated attack every week in Brandenburg, and a further 148 recorded racist assaults elsewhere during the year. Seven million of Germany's 78.5 million people are foreign by origin, and even though only about 1.5 percent of them reside in eastern Germany, the reported number of racially motivated attacks against foreigners in east Berlin stands five times higher than in the western part of the formerly divided city. Last year, there was a 25 percent increase nation-wide in the number of recorded racist attacks, while other extreme right offences, such as the distribution of forbidden Nazi ideology, soared 34 percent to 11,720 cases.

And the situation will likely get worse, German authorities predict. Nationally, the German extreme right increased its membership by 14 percent last year alone. The German police currently estimate the number of active neo-Nazis at around 47,000, a 4.5 percent increase over the previous year, and the number is growing in the east.

But the acknowledged figures represent only the hard core of the extreme right – those skinheads who openly flaunt their views and are itching to take a swing with their clubs and baseball bats at the first opportunity. Though this hard core comprises mostly people in their teens and 20s, in the east, many of the older generation also seem prone to Nazi ideology, often tacitly endorsing violence against foreigners or turning a blind eye to it.

Except for a few sporadic reports, however, this phenomenon goes largely unreported in the international media. Many of the German political elite also failed to take notice until late April, when the extreme right-wing German People's Union party (DVU) received 13 percent of the votes in the regional election in the state of Saxony-Anhalt. The DVU is run by Gerhard Frey, a neo-Nazi Munich-based millionaire publisher who has made a fortune printing rightist material and is friendly with such other ultra-nationalists as the Russian Vladimir Zhirinovsky and the French Jean-Marie Le Pen. Frey's party was contesting its first election in the state and ended up being the third-largest party in the parliament of Magdeburg, the state capital of Saxony-Anhalt.

Many commentators have attributed the DVU's victory to the inability of Chancellor Helmut Kohl to grapple with the severe socio-economic malaise that continues to afflict east Germany more than eight years after reunification, despite the $800 million (US) that have been poured into the east's dilapidated infrastructure since 1991.

In many parts of the east, chronic unemployment continues to remain double the national post-war record of 12 percent. Saxony-Anhalt's official unemployment rate is 22.6 percent against the backdrop of 0.6 economic growth rate, but the real jobless rate is more likely to be around 40 percent once temporary jobs and restraining measures are factored in. Since 1991, some three million jobs have been lost in the six eastern states with a combined population of 18 million.

But if a concentrated federal government policy is lacking, some regional authorities are doing their utmost to rein in the pervasive racist violence. In a bid to combat neo-Nazi brutality, the Brandenburg regional police have launched a helicopter-borne action unit of 35 officers to swoop down on fascist gangs, literally out of the blue. Yet even such regional initiatives will have little effect until the federal government takes a series of long-awaited steps to ease the strain on east Germany's laggard economy.

Many inefficient factories, formerly the backbone of East Germany's economy, failed after reunification in 1989, with resulting soaring unemployment. Many east Germans were thus drawn into a society of plenty with the feeling of having even less of their own than before. In absolute terms, their standard of living has risen rapidly over the past eight years. Most households now have modern western-made cars, color televisions and other appliances that were unimaginable luxuries even a decade ago. But their relative deprivation compared to their brethren in the western part of the country is still a painful thorn in the sides of many.

Whereas the Christian Democratic government of Chancellor Helmut Kohl has made strenuous efforts to redress such inequalities, many people in the east still feel that it has not done nearly enough to encourage the robust west German industry to locate in the east. The psychological backlash has evidenced itself most visibly among the working-class youth who inhabit the very same strata of society that once formed the rank and file of the Nazi party.

Yet more than just disaffection with economics, the upsurge of neo-Nazism may reflect a return to an all-too-familiar stage in German politics: not just left versus right but xenophobic nationalist versus Europe-oriented internationalist. In the Communist GDR, people had little exposure to the democratic pluralism that has shaped non-communist countries in western Europe, the Democratic Federal Republic included. And eight years of democracy seem to have been far from enough for pluralistic values to take root immovably.

Then combine that with teenage angst. Neo-Nazism had been a provocative form of youth protest in the Communist east long before the Berlin Wall came down. Yet despite hopes for the opposite, neo-Nazism has waxed, not waned, in east Germany since 1990.

But even western Germany has not been immune to xenophobia and racist ideology. Rightist groups in the west have latched happily onto the growing radicalization of the east and are welcoming eastern reinforcements with open arms. Thanks to the great boost in their following, extremist and racist parties now stand to influence the mainstream political agenda in the federal elections slated for Sept. 27.

Recently, Defence Minister Volker Ruhe has reluctantly had to approve an inquiry into the spread of neo-Nazi propaganda in the German army, as some junior officers were discovered distributing neo-Nazi propaganda and schooling recruits in the virtues of "a racially pure" Germany.

Meanwhile, in some towns like Jena, neo-Nazi thugs are escalating violence, using explosives instead of baseball bats. In late January, police there discovered a crude bomb factory after intensive investigation into an incident last September, when a suitcase bearing a swastika and containing enough explosives to maim and kill was discovered outside a theatre in downtown Jena.

Soon, it may take German Jewry more than just some clean-up work to wipe the writing off the wall.

Tibor Krausz, a political commentator and journalist, lives in Ottawa.

Neo-Nazis raise the colors of the German ultra right-wing party, National Democrats (NPD), at the rally in Leipzig early in May. Some 10,000 extremists took part. [RNS/Reuters]

Opinions

An incitement to violence

The violence with which the Palestinians marked 50 years since Israeli independence is a clear indication of the failure of the Middle East peace process. On May 14, the Palestinians marked al-Naqba – the "catastrophe."

By Gerald Steinberg in Jerusalem

Inspired by the celebrations and international attention that Israel's 50th anniversary attracted, the Palestinians created their own media events, hoping to get (and succeeding in getting) sympathy, making Israel look bad, and adding more martyrs.

For months, the Palestinian Authority (PA), which Israel accepted as part of the peace process, has been preparing for this event. The central theme is that the establishment of Israel was illegitimate, based on "stolen Arab land" and the support of the Western "colonialist" powers. The message is clear: Since Israel was established by force on "Arab land," the Palestinians are justified in turning to violence and terrorism in order to correct the historic injustice. Now, as in 1948, the Palestinians ignored the fact that if the Arabs had accepted the United Nations partition plan creating two states, the violence would have been avoided.

The preparations for the commemoration of al-Naqba were an incitement to violence against Israeli targets. As a result, thousands of Palestinians throwing stones and firebombs went on a rampage, attacking Israeli checkpoints and roadblocks outside settlements in Gaza and in the West Bank (Judea and Samaria). The tens of thousands of Palestinian police were nowhere to be seen, except where they joined the mobs. When the Israeli troops were attacked, they had no choice but to defend themselves, leading to the deaths and injuries.

The Palestinians got what they wanted – more martyrs for the cause, news clips with Israeli soldiers firing at "innocent victims" and international condemnation of Israel. PA officials blamed the "massacre" on Israel, claiming that troops shot wildly at peaceful Palestinian demonstrators.

In addition to the continued violence, the Palestinians also demonstrated that for them, the creation of Israel 50 years ago remains "a catastrophe."

At the beginning of the peace process, during the Oslo talks and afterwards, both sides agreed to put history behind them. The logic was that if Israelis and Palestinians continue to blame each other for the violence and warfare over the past five decades, they will never be able to live together. For this entire period, the conflict was kept alive by the Arab effort to demonize Israel as an illegitimate state. This demonization and denial of legitimacy, in turn, fuelled and continues to fuel Palestinian terrorism and hatred.

Israel has kept its end of the deal, forgetting the acts of terrorism and murder committed by Yasser Arafat and other prominent Palestinians.

However, in this, as in many other areas, the Palestinians have systematically violated their commitments under the Oslo accords. There has been no change in the language of the Palestinian leadership or their policies. Israel is still seen as illegitimate, the result of the usurpation of "Palestinian rights." The Palestinians are portrayed as the victims, while the Jews and Israel are the aggressors and "colonialists."

In his speech commemorating "the catastrophe," Arafat noted the "half-century of wounds and pain in our modern history," and declared: "The Naqba has thrown us out of homes and dispersed us around the globe. Historians may search, but they will not find any nation subjugated to as much torture as ours."

This combination of incitement and violence are not unusual and cannot be simply dismissed as a sign of Palestinian frustration with what they see as the slow progress of the peace process. Rather, this behavior has been consistent from the first days after the Oslo agreement was signed in September 1993.

To make real progress, the Palestinian leadership, beginning with Arafat, must publicly acknowledge the legitimacy of Israel, and end the constant propaganda and incitement that feeds terrorism. This is the basis for Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's insistence on the unambiguous and public repeal of those sections in the Palestinian Covenant that call for the destruction of Israel and deny the legitimacy of the Jewish state. Such a public move by the Palestinian National Council would be a small step in the right direction.

As long as this distortion of history and denial of the historic rights of the Jewish people to sovereignty in at least part of the Land of Israel continues, there is no possibility for peaceful coexistence and mutual acceptance. The peace process faces enough obstacles without the campaign to commemorate the 50th anniversary of "the catastrophe."

Eurovision exposes Israeli differences

It takes a mighty big story to hog the headlines from the victory of Beitar Yerushalayim in the National Soccer League championship. Earlier this month, a few hours after thousands of Beitar fans stormed the field of Jerusalem's Teddy Stadium in ecstasy over their team's 1-0 defeat of Maccabi Petah Tikva, millions of Israelis were glued to their TV sets in suspense over a different kind of competition.

By Robert Sarner in Jerusalem

The next morning, the lead story in newspapers and the main topic of radio talk shows and office conversations was Israel's victory in Eurovision in Birmingham, England. Israelis, especially the fanatic supporters of Beitar, take their soccer seriously. But the nation takes even more seriously an annual European song contest in which Israel competes every year against 24 countries.

Beitar's on-field exploits proved no match for the surprise triumph of a maligned transsexual in the final seconds of the Eurovision competition.

Israel's victory proved only the beginning of a huge story that spoke volumes about the state of the nation. In subsequent days, in typically Israeli fashion, the achievement was lost in a clamor of controversy and political debate. It played into a larger, increasingly bitter dispute between the secular and Orthodox segments of society. Like most issues in Israel, it was fair game for politicians always quick to quarrel.

To most North Americans in Israel, almost all of whom had never heard of Eurovision before moving here, the event's massive appeal defies comprehension. A sugary tribute to musical kitsch and mediocrity, Eurovision never fails to command the nation's attention. Although considered by many an anachronism and a monument to bad taste, the three-hour live broadcast of Eurovision attracts astronomically high TV ratings in Israel.

This year, Israel injected a new dimension into the competition by choosing a gender-bending singer by the unlikely name of Dana International to represent the Jewish state.

Already last fall, Dana's nomination as Israel's contestant was greeted with derision in many circles. Music critics dismissed her as a lightweight, while haredi Knesset members said having a woman who used to be a man represent Israel, especially on its 50th anniversary, was a "shame and abomination."

But Dana has never been easily deterred. Three years ago, she came close in her first attempt to represent Israel in Eurovision. In 1993, the former Yaron Cohen, who first gained prominence as a female impersonator in Tel Aviv nightclubs, underwent a sex change operation in London and became Dana International.

Today she is a household name in Israel and beyond, thanks to her performance of a vaguely catchy dance tune called *Diva,* which brought home the trophy in dramatic fashion. For the first time in Eurovision's 43-year history, favorite singers were chosen by television viewers in participating countries in telephone voting polls. In previous years, winners were picked by national juries. This time, voting was tense right until the end, with first place shifting between Israel, Britain and Malta until the final votes were cast by Macedonia.

Israel's pride over its victory was quickly overshadowed by a heated argument between secular and religious politicians. The country's Orthodox establishment denounced Dana as a decadent disgrace to the Jewish state.

Shas Knesset member Shlomo Benizri lamented: "In order to win the Eurovision, we had to send a gimmick. It's a sign of the bankruptcy of Israeli song."

The secular side responded with a volley of complaints about religious intolerance and narrow-mindedness. Upon her return from England, Dana found herself in the midst of the latest chapter in the growing rift over religious coercion, civil liberties and artistic freedom.

Part of the controversy centred on plans to hold next year's Eurovision in Jerusalem. The city's haredi deputy mayor Haim Miller voiced fierce opposition, saying such spectacles should "stay in gentile countries."

Mayor Ehud Olmert called his deputy a "blabbermouth," and in a memorable political put-down, replied, "What Miller says, at most, represents only himself and even that I'm not sure about."

Miller issued a veiled threat ahead of municipal elections to be held in November: "Mayor Olmert would do well to remember he owes his job to Orthodox Jewish voters."

For his part, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu shrugged off opposition from the religious, saying Jerusalem would host next year's Eurovision.

Although the Dana dispute provided a refreshing diversion from the more gnawing problems of the troubled peace process, it was yet another disturbing reminder of how increasingly polarized Israel is. As the secular majority and Orthodox minority grow further apart, even a seemingly innocuous song contest can trigger political noises that are anything but melodious.

How God responds to prayer

My friend Dennis Prager, widely known California broadcaster and erstwhile director of the Brandeis-Bardin Institute, is also a prolific writer. He has published some popular books on Judaism and issues a bi-weekly newsletter entitled the *Prager Perspective.* It brings the reader a discussion of provocative subjects, and the author never fails to inject a highly personal perspective into the argument. He excels in logical deduction and careful dissection of opposing points of view, and then comes down clearly and most often persuasively on one or the other side.

By Rabbi Gunther Plaut in Toronto

Baseball lovers will remember the dramatic home run that Joe Carter hit for Toronto's Blue Jays in the World Series some years ago. And another former Blue Jay, Tony Fernandez, was the hero in the Cleveland Indians' win of last year's American League pennant race. He hit a home run in the 11th inning of the deciding game. Afterwards, he said, "I believe that the Lord arbitrated it this way, he wanted to make me play for some reason and I did."

Here Prager begins his discussion: "As fate would have it, however, just two weeks later in the 12th and final inning of the final game of the World Series, it was Tony Fernandez who committed the fielding error that led to his team's losing the World Series against the Florida Marlins. I wonder what Mr. Fernandez believed about God's arbitration after the game."

Prager too believes in that God intervenes in personal lives and he approves of Tony's speaking to the press about his personal belief. But he does not overlook the problems.

"One is the tendency of many of us who believe in Divine intervention in individuals' lives to do so only when things go well. While we cannot know what he believes in his heart, we do know that Mr. Fernandez did not tell the press after the final World Series game that God arbitrated that he play the way he did in *that* game. The question then is this: Are we right or wrong in assuming that God intervenes in our lives only when things turn out well?"

Among the multiple problems that this whole issue raises is the question of how God responds to personal prayer when such prayer negatively affects the fate of other people. If I pray to get a certain job, I am by implication also praying that God should make sure that nobody else gets that job. If I pray for sunshine to bless me on a certain day, I am by implication also praying that rain will not fall on parched fields that need it more than I do. "If I pray," says Prager, "that the child hurt in a school bus crash not be my child, I am also praying that the child who was hurt be some other parents' child."

So how should Tony Fernandez have prayed, given his particular form of belief in God. Prager suggests this, and I leave you with his suggestion: "I don't know if God actually influences the outcome of baseball games, but I do know that I am a very fortunate person to have been given the ability to play professional baseball, and I thank God for this and all His other blessings."

Play ball!

The Kirshner File

Bennett relishes role as Canadian publisher

To the casual observer, publishing and real estate development seem eons apart, constellations which cannot meet.

By Sheldon Kirshner

But to Avie Bennett, who should know, the two disparate fields are remarkably identical.

Bennett, you see, wears two hats. For the past 13 years, he has been chair, president and chief executive officer of McClelland & Stewart, Canada's oldest as well as largest publishing house.

Yet long before he bought this august bastion of Canadian arts and letters, he was a real estate developer, the scion of a Toronto family which, in the 1950s, was reportedly the biggest commercial landlord in this country, with properties stretching from coast to coast.

Even today, as chair and president of First Plazas Inc., Bennett dabbles in real estate. He sold the bulk of his holdings in 1987, when the market was still sizzling, leaving himself a shopping centre and interests in several choice buildings, including one near Chinatown which serves as McClelland & Stewart's impressive headquarters.

A fairly tall, robust-looking man of 70, Bennett sits behind a big, uncluttered desk in an airy, book-lined office filled with framed photographs of his family and of Canadian and international public figures from Jean Chretien to Mikhail Gorbachev.

The ninth-floor room is the nerve centre of McClelland & Stewart, which publishes about 100 titles annually and whose authors include Margaret Atwood, Leonard Cohen, Alice Munro, Margaret Laurence, A.M. Klein, Pierre Berton and Robertson Davies.

Bennett, who had been a member of McClelland & Stewart's board, purchased the venerable company when it teetered on bankruptcy.

To Bennett, it seemed like a case of deja vu. In 1963, the family business, Principal Investments, founded by his father, three uncles and grandfather during the Depression, plunged into receivership after decades of immense success. Paying off more than $1 million in personal guarantees, Bennett went on from there to establish First Plazas, which today requires little of his attention.

Asked why he acquired McClelland & Stewart, he said flippantly, "Because it was there." Leaning forward slightly, he turned more serious. " Jack McClelland said he was ready to sell, and I surprised myself by saying I'd be interested. I felt that McClelland & Stewart was an important cultural institution which needed financing to keep it going. It was an impetuous decision, but one I haven't regretted at all."

When I asked him whether, as a Jew, he could have bought McClelland & Stewart 40 or 50 years ago, his reply was immediate. "Probably not, though I had never thought about it."

Pausing momentarily, he observed: "I was brought up with a great deal of cognizance about discrimination."

Archie, his Belarus-born father, was a gold medalist in English and philosophy at Queen's University. Yet he never realized his dream of becoming a university professor. Jews were denied such posts during his era.

Stymied by anti-Semitism, he and his brothers made a fortune in real estate, constructing the Sunnybrook Plaza in Toronto, the first shopping centre in Canada, and the majority of theatres in the Famous Players chain.

Bennett himself, raised in Forest Hills when few Jewish families lived in that posh neighborhood, still has vivid memories of the fist fights he got into with local bigots as he walked to school.

"The worst of the anti-Semitism, for me, stopped in 1939, when the bullies joined the army."

At the height of World War II, Bennett enrolled at the University of Toronto. He was not a studious student, and failed to pass the four-year course.

"I studied bridge, reading, basketball, girls, political science and economics. I don't think university would have made any difference in my life. There are a lot of things you can get out of university without a degree. I spent many hours in the library immersing myself in 20th century novels. I went to concerts and art exhibitions. It was not a complete waste of time."

Fresh out of university, he joined Principal Investments, whose holdings ultimately were part of an empire of 35 shopping centres, vacant land and buildings allegedly worth $200 million.

Nowadays, Bennett – who holds two honorary university degrees and is an officer in the Order of Canada – considers himself a publisher, not an entrepreneur. With the benefit of hindsight, he evinces uncanny similarities between publishing and real estate development.

"They're both businesses where you can see the fruits of your labor in a tangible way. You're developing a book – and a building – and you're marketing and selling it. And just as no two real estate deals are the same, each book is different."

Since acquiring McClelland & Stewart, Bennett has made no major changes. But in 1991, he bought *The Canadian Encyclopedia* and *The Junior Encyclopedia* from Mel Hurtig. And of late, he has expanded into CD-Roms.

A fast and avid reader, he reads virtually every book published by McClelland & Stewart, and, he's proud to say, always receives the first copy hot off the press.

He has vetoed publication of a few books, more on economic than on editorial grounds. An amiable but private individual, he is loathe to elaborate, but adds, "Let's just say I wouldn't publish a book by Ernst Zundel."

Similarly, he declines to disclose his favorite McClelland & Stewart books. "That's like asking me to name my favorite child," said Bennett, whose wife Beverly and himself have six grown children.

However, he does enjoy political and sports biographies. "I have difficulty with poetry," he allows.

As a rule, McClelland & Stewart does not publish books aimed at a Jewish audience. But lately, there have been volumes about Mt. Sinai Hospital and the Holocaust, the second of which was edited by Senator Jerry Grafstein. In addition, McClelland & Stewart was the publisher of Anne Michaels' acclaimed novel of the Holocaust, *Fugitive Pieces*.

Bennett is an acknowledged patron of the arts, and through the Bennett Family Foundation, has helped the National Ballet of Canada and small theatre and dance troupes. Some years ago, he donated funds for a native studies program at the University of Toronto.

Last month, he was appointed chancellor of York University, a ceremonial three-year position. He will officially be inducted on May 29, and looks forward to the contributions he can make. "It will be very rewarding."

Bennett's father headed the Central Region of Canadian Jewish Congress for many years. Bennett himself is not formally involved in Jewish community affairs but he gave generously when a chair in Jewish studies at Queen's University, his dad's alma mater, was established.

Although Bennett has reached the biblical age of three score and ten, he has no intention whatsoever of retiring.

"I'm in terrific health, and I intend to continue at McClelland & Stewart for as long as I can," he said, his voice steady and even.

Is he restless? Are there new worlds to conquer?

The questions hardly fazed him. "Something will come along that will interest me," he declared, his self-confidence as bright as the sunlight streaming into his office.

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In the interest of public health, noxious weeds which require eradication are: Thistles, Ragweed, Goat's Beard, Poison Ivy, Wild Carrot etc. Although Dandelions, Burdock and Goldenrod are not considered noxious weeds within the City of Vaughan, the cooperation of all citizens is solicited in the elimination of all nuisance weeds.

Persons in possession of parcels of lands less than ten (10) acres in size, who are recurring offenders, will receive no other notice. For further information please contact the Weed Inspector, Adriana Filice at 832-8577, extension 6139.

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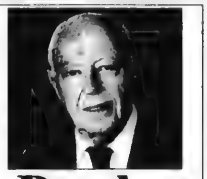


Books

By Bernard Baskin

Author explores reasons societies become wealthy

The Wealth and Poverty of Nations,
Why Some Are So Rich and Some So Poor,
By David Landes
(Penguin Canada, $39.99).

Why are some nations rich and others poor? What led Great Britain to set the pace for the Industrial Revolution? Is organized religion a help or a hindrance to economic growth? How did China, years ahead of Europe in technology and exploration, lose its advantage in the 17th century? Why have Latin America, the Middle East and most of Africa lagged behind western nations? Why are some countries able to spark economic growth, and progress in industry and trade while others remain destitute and mired in hopelessness?

These – and a host of similar questions – are at the heart of this massive and formidable study by David Landes, professor emeritus of history and economics at Harvard University.

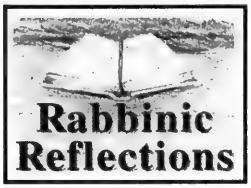
In reviewing the history of the recent past, the author argues that the major event for change and the key to national wealth was the Industrial Revolution that began in Britain in the 18th century. Some countries were able to stoke this hungry machine for progress, others were not. As a result, some prospered while others remained poor.

But significantly, what made the difference was the attitude of the countries involved toward industrialization. Landes argues – contrary to the views of others economists – that climate, water, rich oil minerals were not the primary factors. Geography, he states, is not destiny. What is of ultimate importance is culture which, in its widest sense, includes curiosity, religious toleration, inventiveness, loose restraints on commerce, a sense of national cohesion and opportunities for women.

Countries that cannot compete in the economic race tend to fall behind because of xenophobia, intolerance, bureaucratic corruption and the stifling of enterprise by restrictive and short sighted edicts. The author writes, "The most successful cures for poverty come from within. Foreign aid can help, but like windfall wealth, can also hurt. It can discourage effort and plant a crippling sense of incapacity…No, what counts is work, thrift, honesty, patience, tenacity. To people haunted by misery and hunger, that may add up to selfish indifference. But at bottom, no empowerment is so effective as self-empowerment."

One salient reason why progress was delayed in the medieval Muslim world was opposition to print-

[Cont'd. on page 13]



Rabbinic Reflections

Unlike 'Seinfeld' series Torah story never ends

By RABBI MORDECHAI E. ZEITZ

At any given time there are places to be or places to be seen. For many, the world stood still last week as Seinfeld and company signed off. There were Seinfeld parties and bashes before, during and after. Whether alone or in groups, 60 million people watched. It was unacceptable to watch the tape. You had to witness it.

Stanley Cup or Super Sunday are additional occasions that capture worldwide audiences. You can feel it in the air; there is great suspense and anticipation. Watching the replays or re-enactments just isn't the same.

Three thousand years ago there was another such event. It was called Torah at Sinai – and it was a start up and not a sign off. According to tradition, 600,000 families tuned in.

It was some event. Special effects, a special appearance by God, and a lasting record of the broadcast. It can truly be said that Shavuot, the Revelation on Sinai, was the event that changed society for all times.

The Torah is truly that Divine document that has been not only the basis of Judaism but the basic fabric from which most religions and cultures have been cloned. The original production of Torah on Sinai has had many successful spinoffs, which only indicates that extent of its initial success.

We sometimes fantasize as to what it must have been like to be at Sinai. We lament the fact that we missed this once in a lifetime chance. We will never be able to experience what our ancestors of 3,000 years ago experienced. But the beauty of Torah and the Sinai experience is our ability to recreate the original revelation every time we perform a mitzvah or follow a precept of Jewish law. When we recite the blessing, "Blessed art Thou who has commanded us," it is the same voice of God speaking to us or directing our actions. When we read, study or practice Torah, we are on Sinai. Unlike replays of great happenings, the Torah story never ends; revelation is every day as I endeavor to breath life into inanimate words. That is the true essence of Sinai.

But in the rush of all the words and deeds, we sometimes overlook the most profound phenomena of Sinai. In a world filled with factional and denominational turf wars, we forget the greatest feature of Sinai which took place even before revelation. We allude to it at the seder but after a little wine, we just merely sing along oblivious to the profound thought contained in this most popular song.

We sing: "If God had only brought us to Sinai and not given us the Torah, Dayainu."

How strange? What is Sinai without the Torah? We certainly are not celebrating going to Mount Sinai for a picnic. Sinai is obviously important only because of the Torah.

The amazing answer is, that Torah was a bonus and only made possible by the previous step. "*Vayichan Yisroel Neged Hahar*: the people of Israel camped adjacent to the mountain." In Hebrew *Vayichan* is in the singular although their arrival *vayavou* is pronounced in the plural. So obvious, so simple, so fundamental that we prefer to overlook it.

The basic condition leading to revelation was that all the Jewish people camped together as one. More frum or less frum; this synagogue or no synagogue, every one was *glatt a Yid*, and each had a place at Sinai. It produced a sense of unity and mutual respect that paved the path leading to the revelation at Sinai.

How ironic that each of us sounds the shofar of our local denomination, claiming exclusive rights for the rebroadcasting of Torah on Sinai. On Shavuot, as on every day of every year, we have the ability with our actions and our attitudes to recreate Sinai with not only serious study and practise but most important with a sense of unity, respecting all Jews who strive to ascend Sinai.

Without this unity of erev Shavuot there can be no Shavuot. On this erev Shavuot I wonder, with a heavy heart, if we could make it to Sinai? With everyone claiming Torah, do we possess the prerequisite for Kabbalat Torah on Sinai? Perhaps this year the emphasis should be on erev Shavuot so that there may be a true Shavuot.

Rabbi Zeitz is the spiritual leader of Congregation Beth Tikvah in Montreal.

Jewish Life

The original top 10 list

By MARK MIETKIEWICZ

This Sunday morning, the Ten Commandments will be read from the Torah to mark the first day of Shavuot.

According to Virtual Jerusalem, "When the Ten Commandments were given at Mount Sinai, the course of human history was changed forever. No document has influenced the course of civilization like the Bible, and it can be argued that of all the contents of the Bible, these ten laws have been the single most influential section." **[http://www.virtual.co.il/city_services/holidays/shavuot/ten. htm]**.

You can also listen to a preview of them at Navigating the Bible **[http://bible.ort.org/bible/htm/exodus/torah/ 19252001.htm]**.

Some people can be forgiven for being a bit groggy while listening to the Commandments,because they've have just stayed awake the entire night for Tikkun Leil Shavuot **[http://www.chabad.org/eli/tikkun.html]**. According to the Ohr Somayach All-Nighter page, one of the reasons we stay up all night is to commemorate a mistake committed centuries ago **[http://www.virtual.co.il/education/education/ohr/special/shavuos/index.htm]**.

"On that first Shavuot morning, there were some who overslept and had to be awakened to receive the Torah. In order to rectify this, we stay up."

Another interesting Shavuot tradition is decorating the synagogue with plants and flowers to remember how the barren desert exploded with blooming flowers when the Torah was given on Mount Sinai **[http://www.virtual.co.il/city_services/holidays/shavuot/decorate.htm]**.

Eliezer Segal suggests the basis for the greening of Shavuot is obscure and that even Torah giants like the Ga'on of Vilna were uncomfortable with the custom and called for it to be abolished **[http://www.acs.ucalgary.ca/~elsegal/Shokel/Calendar_Index.html#Shav]**.

The site set up by Beth El Temple Centre of Belmont, Mass., suggests that the holiday has lost its agricultural significance and that it has been reinvested with new symbols **[http://www.shamash.org/reform/uahc/congs/ma/ma002/shavuot.html]**. In the mid 19th century, "the Reform movement added its own enhancement to Shavuot, the Confirmation ceremony." This ceremony is meant to parallel the acceptance of the Torah at Mount Sinai with the confirmation that these young Jews are taking the Torah to their hearts.

On Shavuot, the Book of Ruth is read. For several of the reasons we honor the memory of the Moabite convert to Judaism on this holiday, see **[http://www.virtual.co.il/city_services/holidays/shavuot/ruth.htm]**. If you have installed Hebrew fonts on your Internet browser, you can read Ruth in the original Hebrew at **[http://www1.snunit.k12.il/kodesh/bible/mrut-.html]**. The King James English translation of Ruth can be found at **[http://www.greateropendoor.org/bible/08_ruth.html]**. Or you can have the entire book sung to you **[http://www.613.org/rut-ra28.ram]**. And for much more Shavuot audio, listen in at 613.org **[http://www.613.org/shavuot.html]**.

The Ten Commandments have even woven themselves into our popular culture. The folks at the Jewish Communications Network have scoured the Internet for dozens of customized "Ten Commandments" **[http:// www.cjcn18.com/holiday/shavuot/index.htm]**. I leave you with a sampling – some sublime, some ridiculous:

Ten commandments for the car collector: "Thou shalt not despise thy neighbor's Edsel, nor his DeSoto, nor even his 1947 Plymouth."

Ten Commandments of the World Wide Web: "Thou shalt not offer any link, unless thou tellest also why that link is worthy of the reader's traversing."

Ten Commandments for Sane Living: "Strike a balance between work and play…Nobody ever said on their death bed, 'I wish I had spent more time in the office.'"

Have a very happy holiday.

* * *

Mark Mietkiewicz is a television producer in Toronto with an interest in the Internet. He can be reached at [mdm@inforamp.net].

Culture of curiosity key to wealth

[Cont'd. from page 12]

ing, which had become widespread in the 16th century. The Muslim countries remained opposed, largely on religious grounds. The idea of a printed Koran was unacceptable. Jews and Christians had presses in Istanbul, but not Muslims. It is true that the Christian Church had tried to forbid the dissemination of unauthorized religious texts. But "the demons of heresy were out long before Luther, and printing made it impossible to get them back in the box."

The response of the Catholic Church to the Protestant Reformation, which brought new ideas, skepticism, growing literacy and scientific endeavor, was closure and censure. This reaction sealed the fate of southern Europe for the next 300 years. "Such retreat was neither predestined nor required by doctrine. But this path once taken, the Church, repository and guardian of truth, found it hard to admit error and change course. How hard? One hears nowadays that Rome has finally, almost rehabilitated Galileo after almost 400 years. That's how hard."

For Landes, the best clue to a nation's growth and development is the status and role of women. This is the greatest handicap of Muslim Middle Eastern societies today, the flaw that most bars them from modernity. "If we view gender relations as a continuum running from nothing to full equality, the Muslim countries, and especially the Arab Muslim countries, would bottom out the scale."

'Therefore choose life'

In addition, says the author, the huge Arab oil profits have been a monumental misfortune because "it has intoxicated rulers, henchmen, and purveyors, who have slept on piles of money, wasted on largely worthless projects, and managed to exceed their figuratively (but not literally) limitless resources. Even Saudi Arabia cannot balance its books. In the process, these spoilers have infuriated the Muslim poor who in turn have sought an outlet for rage and outrage in fundamentalist doctrine."

In this astonishingly wide ranging book, replete with intriguing detail and sprinkled with wit and humor, the author discusses, among many other topics, post-World War II alignments that led to the Cold War, the fall of the Berlin Wall, the breakup of the Soviet Union, the rise of Japan as an economic giant and the nature of "tiger economics" in Asia and the Pacific Rim.

At the book's end, Landes stresses the need to accentuate the positive "In this world the optimists have it, not because they are always right, but because they are positive. Even when wrong, they are positive, and that is the way of achievement, correction, improvement, and success." Above all he suggests that we must cultivate a skeptical faith, avoid dogma, listen and watch well, try to clarify and define ends, the better to choose means." And he warns us with these portentous words from Deuteronomy "I have set before thee life and death, the blessing and curse; therefore choose life."

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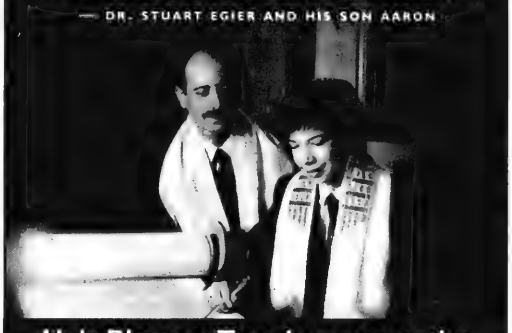

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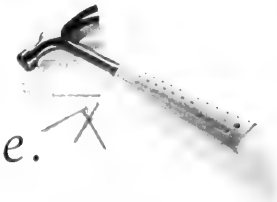

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Pesach in the Soviet Union an unforgettable experience

Diplomatically Speaking

By JEHUDI KINAR

With all the events and activities related to the 50th anniversary of Israel, it is possible to lose sight of earlier, equally important personal anniversaries. During Pesach this year, I was reminded of the fact that 30 years ago I had visited the Soviet Union.

Until the Six Day War there had been an Israeli Embassy in Moscow, but after the war there was a rupture between the Soviet Union and Israel, and the embassy closed. Nevertheless, Israel always tried to maintain contact with the Jewish community in the Soviet Union; to see how they were doing, keep them up-to-date on what was happening in Israel and make sure that they were supplied with religious articles. In 1968, when I was a university student in Geneva, Switzerland, I was recruited to visit Jewish communities in the Soviet Union.

Shortly before Pesach that year, I was approached by a member of an organization called BAR, which sent Israelis to the Soviet Union to help bring Jews to Israel. I was at that time chair of the Swiss Jewish student organization and had been active in the campaign for Soviet Jewry. I agreed to go to the U.S.S.R., although I had promised my parents that I would go with them to Israel for Pesach, and it meant that I had to tell them, without really telling them why, that I was going to the Soviet Union instead.

I went to the Soviet Union along with a friend, both of us having received new (Dutch) passports without any Israeli stamps in them. There were many such "teams," each headed for different cities. My friend and I went to Moscow, Vilnius and Leningrad. We took enormous quantities of food: tinned meat, Israeli wine, matzah, sausages. When we arrived at the airport in Moscow, they separated the foreigners from the Russians, and I was concerned that they might discover our stash, so I started yelling angrily, to nobody in particular: "What kind of country is this where they treat tourists in such a way?" and sure enough, they let us through without inspecting our bags.

The Chief Rabbi of Israel, Shlomo Goren, had given us permission to use public transportation (if necessary) to go long distances even on Pesach or the Sabbath, because of pikuah nefesh (in religious law, it is permissible to break the law in order to save a life).

We arrived in Moscow just before Pesach so we went to synagogue the next day. At the synagogue, people asked where we were from and invited us to their communal seder. But that evening our would-be hosts told us that the authorities would not allow them to invite us, so we gave them the wine and matzot, but did not attend their seder. Everybody at the synagogue talked to us, in either English or Yiddish. Many slipped us little pieces of paper on which were written their requests for Israeli visas.

The second day at the Moscow synagogue, someone told us: "The Philistines are on top of you," which we understood as a warning that we were being watched. Indeed, we would see our "watchers" sitting in the lobby of our hotel whenever we came or went. We would sometimes take the train in the wrong direction, jump off suddenly and grab the train going the other way just to shake them off.

Later we went to Vilnius, where I was able to visit the grave of the Gaon of Vilna. In the graveyard, we met a man sitting nearby who had no legs. He spoke Yiddish to us, and told us that even if he had to walk to Israel on his knees he would try to get there. A couple of years later, I attended a wedding in Israel. The groom was originally from Vilna, and I saw a relative of the groom arrive at the wedding on crutches – it was the same man. I asked him if he remembered meeting two Dutch boys at the grave of the Gaon of Vilna, and he said he did. I felt a tremendous satisfaction at seeing that he had been able to get to Israel.

Thirty years later, now that so many Jews from the former Soviet Union are living in Israel, I often think of what I witnessed of their lives when the possibility of aliyah was, for most, a distant but cherished dream.

MINYANIM IN THE GTA

Synagogue	Address & Tel.	Fri. Night	Shabbat	Sun. A.M.	Daily A.M.	Daily P.M.
Abir Yaacob (O) (Sephardic Kehila Centre)	7026 Bathurst St. (905) 669-7654	6:50 PM	8:30 AM	8:30 AM	6:45 AM	8:40 PM
Beth Avraham Yoseph (O)	613 Clark Ave. W. (905) 886-3810	Candle-lighting	8:45 AM	6:45 AM & 7:30 AM	6:45 AM & 7:30 AM	10 minutes before sunset
Clanton Park Synagogue (O)	11 Lowesmoor Ave. (416) 633-4193	7:00 PM	8:30 AM & 9:00 AM	7:30 AM & 8:15 AM	Mon. & Thurs. 6:50 & 7:15 AM Tues., Wed., Fri. 7:00 & 7:25 AM	15 minutes before sunset
Shaarei Tefillah (O)	3600 Bathurst St. (416) 787-1631	7:00 PM	8:30 AM & 9:00 AM	8:30 AM	6:30 AM & 7:30 AM	15 minutes before sunset

This is not a comprehensive listing of the synagogues in the Greater Toronto area. The information is provided by the Vaad Harabonim of Toronto. In due course we hope to receive similar information regarding non-orthodox synagogues from the Toronto Board of Rabbis. The Vaad and the Board will periodically revise the listings.

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September	Concrete structure from ground to roof complete
November	Bricking of exterior walls complete
	Mechanical and electrical systems roughed in
December	Roofing complete
February	Interior walls and framing complete
June	Elevators installed
July	Interior finishes complete
August	Exterior landscaping complete
Fall	Building cleanup in preparation for moving day

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Greater Toronto Area

West Bank mayor seeks help from Canada

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

Benny Kashriel

TORONTO — The mayor of the West Bank's largest settlement wants Canadian Jews to help shoulder the task of building it.

Benny Kashriel was here earlier this month to whip up interest in Ma'aleh Adumim, which lies in the Judean Desert some 10 kilometres east of Jerusalem.

Established in 1979, Ma'aleh Adumim was granted city status in 1992. Its current population of 23,000 is expected to double within a decade.

Two-thirds of its residents are Sephardi Jews, with about 15 percent from English-speaking countries. Kashriel himself is of Sephardic origin, his parents having been born in Iran.

In an effort to meet its future needs, Kashriel wants to construct a new municipal building, a mall, a centre for the performing arts, an art museum, an amphitheatre, a high school and indoor gymnasium, an outdoor sports field and more day-care facilities. He also hopes to expand its swimming pool and recreational park.

Kashriel's associate, Eddie Ben-Tzur, director of the Ma'aleh Adumim Foundation, estimated that these projects will cost $20 million.

The Israeli government and the municipality of Jerusalem are supposed to provide much of the funding, said Ben-Tzur, whose wife, Ruth, heads Air Canada's Israel division. Jews in the Diaspora will be called upon to donate two to three million dollars.

Donations will be channeled through a newly-formed organization, Friends of Ma'aleh Adumim.

As part of his mission here, Kashriel, 48, spoke to several Canadian businesspeople in a bid to interest them in investing in Ma'aleh Adumim's existing industrial park. The site already has some 100 factories, producing hi-tech products and such goods as aluminum, chemicals, food, wine and marble.

The settlement, he added, has vast land reserves for additional industrial development.

During his brief visit here, his only Canadian stopover, Kashriel expressed fear that the Israeli government may cede part of the Judean Desert to the Palestinians and thus isolate Ma'aleh Adumim and play havoc with its plans to expand its residential neighborhoods on approximately 3,000 hectares of unused land.

Kashriel, a leader of the settlers' movement in the West Bank, is working with the Land of Israel Front to ensure that this does not happen. The Land of Israel Front, headed by far-right Knesset member Michael Kleiner, opposes any further withdrawals from Judea and Samaria.

In his view, Israel should not relinquish territory to the Palestinians during the five-year interim period ending next May. Instead, Israel should postpone such withdrawals until the advent of final status negotiations, which are two years behind schedule .

Kashriel, therefore, believes Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu should resist American pressure to redeploy from 13 percent of the West Bank over a three month period.

"We don't have to give the Palestinians one inch until final status talks."

Philosophically, Kashriel subscribes to the Third Way's position with respect to the disposition of the West Bank.

If the Palestinians uphold their end of the Oslo agreement, Israel should ultimately withdraw from 50 to 60 percent of the West Bank, leaving the rest to the Palestine Authority, he said.

Under this scenario, Kashriel explained, all of the settlements beyond the Green Line, including Ma'aleh Adumim, would remain in Israel's hands, though some smaller ones would unavoidably be isolated.

In closing, Kashriel acknowledged that segments of Ma'aleh Adumim's land reserves belong to Arabs, but that no construction has taken place there.

Winnipeg hosts Plenary

[Cont'd. from page 3]

among the issues currently preoccupying Congress staff. On the positive side, he noted, there has been dramatic progress in prosecuting Nazi war criminals living in Canada.

He reported that Congress has plans to greatly enhance its Ottawa office and is discussing relocating the Quebec office to the new Montreal Jewish Community Campus.

The latter was the only item of controversy among those attending the meeting. Historian Abe Arnold, a Winnipeg delegate, noted that Congress has virtually no profile here because it is merged with the Winnipeg Jewish Community Council. Montreal delegate Bernard Finestone expressed concern that a similar merging in Montreal may also result in a decline in visibility of Congress in the community.

Over lunch, Hedy Fry, secretary of state, Multiculturalism and the Status of Women) spoke of Canada's success in melding together "in a stir fry" disparate peoples, cultures and religions to form a Canadian identity that also recognizes the distinctive cultures and traditions we all bring with us.

During the luncheon, CJC past president, Prof. Irving Abella, introduced the new executive.

The highlight of the luncheon was the presentation of the Nahum Goldmann Medal to Sol Kanee. In a reprise of a speech he made when Winnipeg's Jewish nursing home was renamed in honor of the Kanee family last fall, Rabbi Israel Singer, executive director of the World Jewish Congress, praised Kanee.

"Sol Kanee has been the man behind the scenes in every major event in Jewish history since World War II, from the creation of the State of Israel to the mass exodus of Soviet Jewry," Singer said. "He has been a fixer par excellence, a man who has changed the world."

Kanee served as president of the CJC from 1971 to 1974 and was the longest serving member of the board of governors of the Bank of Canada.

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Versatile Burstyn presents one-man 'party' for Israel

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

Mike Burstyn

TORONTO — Consider it another birthday gift to Israel. Or more accurately, a birthday party, courtesy of one of the world's most beloved and versatile performers.

Mike Burstyn – singer, dancer, actor, spinner of yarns and, for good measure, circus performer – is coming to Toronto to stage *Hatikvah, the Hope*, a theatrical, musical and multi-media retrospective celebrating Israel's 50th birthday.

Burstyn's June 4 show at the Ford Centre for the Performing Arts will go towards a park for the disabled, a project of Disabled Veterans of Israel (Canada) Beit Halochem.

The one-man show "is my way of saying happy birthday to Israel," Burstyn told *The CJN* in a telephone interview from his New York home. "I do that with songs of the last 50 years, anecdotes and jokes about politics, and dramatizations of the people who helped create the state."

Burstyn, now 52, has done just about everything, and done it well. Born in New York and fluent in eight languages, Burstyn has had success on stage, screen and television ever since he first strolled out into the limelight at age seven in Buenos Aires and stole the show from his parents, Pesach'ke Burstein and Lillian Lux, both stars of the Yiddish theatre.

Before settling in Israel in 1954, the family toured the globe, with Burstyn and his twin sister the main attractions. They left Israel two years later, but returned for good in 1962.

Burstyn encountered almost instant fame, winning the first of two Israeli "Oscars" for his portrayal of the twin title roles in the musical film *The Two Kuni Lemls*. He never looked back.

For a while, he starred in his own TV show in the Netherlands and Israel; he has 25 albums to his credit, has won four Israeli Song Contest first prizes, and has had roles in five of Israel's most popular films.

He's perhaps best known here for his starring role on Broadway in the Tony-award winning musical *Barnum*, which he reprised for a Dutch version that toured Holland and Belgium.

He's also known as the Israeli Bob Hope, having entertained troops through three wars.

Burstyn's show deftly navigates around politics, but personally, the artist doesn't shy away from Israel's foibles.

"It's one big family feud. There are two people living in Israel today, the secular and the Orthodox. To me, that's a bigger danger than the Arabs. Once we make peace, we will have to figure out how to live together."

But the show "is about entertainment," he said. "It's a positive outlook." A highlight, he noted, is his characterization of Srulik, the popular editorial cartoon figure and symbol of Israel since the state's creation.

* * *

The $700,000 Beit Halochem fundraising campaign will go toward the first stage of Halochem Park to be located in Northern Israel, close to Kibbutz Kfar Menachem on the border between the coastal plain and the Jerusalem mountains.

Designed specifically for disabled veterans and their families, the park will also include facilities for disabled children and their families and will be open to the general public. The park will be made accessible to those with various disabilities.

According to Ralph Snow, national president of Beit Halochem, 47,000 disabled war veterans are served by the organization's rehabilitation centres.

"Since 1978, Aid to Disabled Veterans of Israel (Canada) has contributed millions of dollars to their support," Snow said.

Each year, Canadians host a group of disabled veterans for a holiday. The 10 visiting disabled veterans in Toronto, this year cosponsored by the Beth Tzedec Synagogue, will be honored guests at the Mike Burstyn performance, Snow said.

For tickets to the fundraising performance, call 787-8950 or TicketMaster 872-5555.

With files from Cynthia Gasner.

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By Miriam Herman

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DEADLINE REMINDER

What's New and About People deadlines: Tuesday, June 2, is deadline for June 11 issue, and Monday, June 8, is deadline for June 18. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 391-1836, fax 391-0829.

Saturday, May 30

ALL-NIGHT TORAHTHON

Beth Tzedec Congregation Tikkun Leyl Shavuot begins 8:45 p.m. with Minchah-Ma'ariv service and continues through to the 5:45 a.m. Shacharit-Musaf service with **Rabbi Roy Tanenbaum** and **Cantor Tobias Gabriel.**

DOWNTOWN MINYAN

Downtown Reform Minyan, Snack and Study for erev Shavuot, 7:30 p.m., Bloor Jewish Community Centre. **Shelley** 469-4287.

Monday, June 1

NEW CONGREGATION

Founding meeting of a new family-oriented, egalitarian congregation for the North Toronto Jewish community, 8:30 p.m., Habonim Synagogue, 5 Glen Park Ave. 488-0688.

Tuesday, June 2

HEALTHY MIND AND BODY

Healthy Mind and Body, final lecture of Mount Sinai Hospital's spring series, hosted by Jewish Women's Federation, Bathurst Jewish Centre and Mount Sinai, 7:30-9:30 p.m., Leah Posluns Theatre. Moderator is broadcaster **Micki Moore**, speakers are **Dr. Anne Biringer**, family medicine practitioner; **Fran Berkoff**, dietician/nutritionist; **Dr. Jonathan Hunter**, psychiatrist; **Anne Cho**, physiotherapist. Register 586-8338.

TRIBUTE DINNER

Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto (CHAT) tribute dinner honoring **Rabbi Marvin Pachino** on the occasion of his retirement. Reception 6:30 p.m., dinner 7:15 at Sephardic Kehila Centre, 7026 Bathurst St. Couvert $65.

SERIES ON HALACHAH

Rabbi Moshe Stern's series on Halachah and Topics of Current Interest starts off with The Role of the Contemporary Synagogue in the 21st Century, 7:30-8:30 p.m., Shaarei Tefillah Synagogue.

Wednesday, June 3

IMA MEETING

Canadian Chapter of the Israel Medical Association general meeting followed by a talk by **Dr. William E. Sidelman** on The Scalpel and the Guillotine: Medicine and Political Terror in the Third Reich, 7:30 p.m., Beth Tzedec Synagogue. 781-9562.

SPRING FLING

Renana chapter of Hadassah WIZO Spring Fling '98 featuring fashions of today for women, men and children, 8 p.m., Pride of Israel Synagogue. Boutiques, door prizes. $18, patrons $36. Proceeds to support Youth Aliyah/Youth Services. Tickets prepaid by May 28 are eligible for a prize. 494-3310 or 905-661-4082.

JEWISH STEPFAMILY

Temple Sinai presents The Jewish Stepfamily Network, guest speaker **Selma Sage**, topic Stepfamily Myth Busters, 7:30 p.m., at the temple. $3.

VOLUNTEERS FOR ISRAEL

Canadian Volunteers for Israel invites all volunteers and guests to hear **Alex Serota** report on his recent 53rd visit to Israel and a Sar-El base. Slide show. 8 p.m., 788 Marlee Ave. Contribution at the door.

ROMANIAN BB LODGE

Romanian-speaking Dr. Filderman Lodge, B'nai Brith, focuses on Shalom Aleichem with speaker **Prof. Viorica David**, followed by musical comedy film *A Wedding in Shtetl*, starring **Mike Burstein,** 7 p.m., 15 Hove St., B'nai Brith Building. 631-0634.

LUNCH AND LEARN

Holy Blossom Temple Lunch and Learn in Retirement group presents Canadian Friends of Givat

[Cont'd. on page 19]

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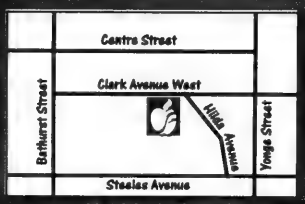

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What's New

[Cont'd. from page 18]

Haviva, speakers **Yehuda Marle, Ruth G. Roth**, at noon. Bring lunch and $1. Coffee, tea, cookies served.

EMUNAH COUNCIL

Emunah Women of Toronto council meeting 8 p.m. at the Emunah office.

Thursday, June 4

NCJW MEETING

National Council of Jewish Women of Canada, Toronto Section, annual meeting and volunteer recognition evening featuring **Judy Feld Carr** speaking on The Rescue of Syrian Jewry: The Untold Story, 7:30 p.m., Council House, 4700 Bathurst St. $5. The evening is dedicated to the memory of **Mindy Rosenberg**. RSVP 633-5100.

BETH SHOLOM LECTURE

Martin Lockshin lectures on Does Being the Chosen People Mean Looking Down at Others?, 8 p.m. at Beth Sholom Synagogue.

And What Else Is New

CONCERT OF STARS

To mark Israel's 50th anniversary, Beth Radom Congregation will be presenting Magen David Adom with funds for an ambulance. To raise the necessary funds, Beth Radom is featuring a Concert of Stars with **Cantor David Bagley, Daniel Domb, Jacques Israelievitch, Leonid Karpinsky, Victoria Taranova, Klara Bagley** and **Robert Kortgaard,** Tuesday, June 9, 8 p.m. at 18 Reiner Rd. Tickets $18, $25, $50, at synagogue office, 636-3451.

AISH HATORAH EVENTS

Making a Difference: The Power of One, **Larry King** and **Dr. Laura Schlessinger** host a live, international and interactive satellite broadcast, Wednesday, June 3, 8 p.m., Le Parc, 8432 Leslie St. For tickets, 905-764-1818, ext. 215.

Summer Shabbat Retreat at Camp Wahanowin featuring the Discovery Seminar, Friday, June 5 to Sunday, June 7. For schedule and fees, 905-764-1818.

"30 PLUS" DANCE PARTY

Israel Educational & Cultural Institute "30 Plus" Dance Party, Saturday, June 6, 8:30 p.m., Earl Bales Community Centre. 787-3226 or 438-4086.

BOOK SIGNING

Book signing with **Cherie Smith**, author of *Mendel's Children: A Family Chronicle*, Sunday, June 7, 2-4 p.m., Negev Books, 3509 Bathurst St.

FLAMENCO DANCE

On Wednesday, June 10, at 8 p.m., Temple Har Zion presents an evening of Flamenco Dance and Sephardic Songs featuring Flamenco Clasico with **Tanya Bakala, Judith Cohen** and **Tamar Hana Cohen Adams**. $10. 905-889-2252.

REBBITZEN FELDER

Shomrai Shaboth Chevrah Mishnatoth Sisterhood invites all women of the community to a farewell brunch in honor of **Rebbitzen Batsheva Felder**, Sunday, June 7, 10:30 a.m. $30. Pre-paid reservation required. 783-5558.

NEWS FROM SOLEL

Solel Congregation, Mississauga, June events:

Prospective Members' Tea June 7, 2 p.m.; Brotherhood Night at the Races June 13; Solel 25th anniversary dance June 14; **Arliene's** book review of *Thirst, the Desert Trilogy*, June 22, 7:30 p.m.; regular Friday night services June 5 and 19; family Friday night services June 12 and 26; regular Saturday services 10 a.m.; Tuesday morning minyan continues 7 a.m. 905-820-5915.

JEWISH FOLK CHOIR

Toronto Jewish Folk Choir Spring Concert features works marking the 55th anniversary of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising and Israel's 50th birthday, Sunday, June 7, 2:30 p.m., Walter Hall, Edward Johnson Building. $16, seniors/students $13. 489-7681.

BAYCREST BIKE-A-THON

Fifth annual Baycrest Life Cycle Bike-a-Thon, Sunday, June 14, at Seneca College, King City Campus, Dufferin Street and Bloomington Sideroad. 14K, 30K, 60K. $20 pre-registration, $25 on day of event, $5 children. 789-7438.

PASSING THE TORCH

Passing the Torch: Last Eyewitnesses of the Holocaust Pass the Legacy to the Second Generation. The Federation of Jewish Child Survivors/Hidden Children of the Holocaust 11th annual conference Oct. 16-19 in the Washington area. In addition to survivors, the second generation and kindertransport will be involved. Reservations accepted until September. 635-2883, ext. 153.

FOR SENIORS

The Care Watch Phoneline is now operating in the GTA. The phone line responds to the growing community concerns about in-home care services available to seniors and the chronically ill. 441-3500.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). Newly elected president is **Jerry Bengall**. June 4, Israeli film *Snow in August*; June 11 bingo and games; June 13 dance party celebrating 50 years of Israel, Teddy Music Band, singer **Dalia Dahary**, greetings by **Shula Ofir,** regional director, Israel Aliyah Centre, members $8, non-members $10; June 18 Casino Rama, bus and lunch $5, register with **Rina Alexander** 783-5761; June 25, comedy film *Fishke Biluim*; June 30 picnic, Earl Bales Park 11 a.m. guests $2. Jerry Bengall 633-6360 or **Malka Cola** 630-5771.

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: June 1, Thornhill Square Mall, members $2, non-members $5; June 11, Casino Rama; June 29, Cullen Gardens, Whitby, members $15, non-members $18; July 13-19 Catskills; July 23, Casino Niagara; Sunday dances June 7 and 28, 7:30-10:30 p.m. 395-7881.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club: Oak Creek Boat Farm cruise June 16; Kingston cruise, July 14; cruise and musical *Little Shop of Horrors* Aug. 19; *Man of La Mancha* at Stratford Oct. 27. **Lena** 785-5773. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel. **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

LZA Seniors Club: registration for *Man of La Mancha* at Stratford Sept. 10. **Libby** 782-2059 or **Belle** 633-5841 or Borochov office 630-9444. Ladies Folkdancing Thursdays 1:30 p.m. Cultural Discussion Group Tuesdays 10 a.m. Centre is open for socializing Monday to Friday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. 225-2112.

Low Vision Support Group, Tuesday, June 2, 1:15-2:30 p.m. **Dr. Paula Garshowitz**, optometrist, discusses Age Related Eye Conditions.

Israeli Club Etrog meets 7 p.m. Tuesdays for movies, sing-alongs, lectures, bingo, dances. June 2 is a movie. **Anna.**

BATHURST JC

Bathurst Jewish Centre, 4588 Bathurst St. 636-1880.

Spaces available for Centre Camp '98, ages 2½ to 15, swim, dance, sports, drama, arts and crafts, Judaica, music and nature. Specialty programs in sports, arts and computers. **Jamie** ext. 378.

Centre Camp presents Endless Summer (Aug. 24-Sept. 2), ages 4-12, swim, sports, arts and crafts, drama, music, dance, theme days, and more. **Jamie**.

BLOOR JCC

Bloor Jewish Community Centre, 750 Spadina Ave. 924-6211.

Wednesday, June 3, **Rabbi Michael Skobac** speaks on Mystery of the Messiah, 8 p.m.

Seniors Club: Thursday, May 28, 2 p.m., **Rabbi Chezi Zionce**,First Narayever Congregation, speaks on The Jewish Holiday of Shavuot: Meaning and Customs. Thursday, June 4, 2 p.m. chiropodist **Nicholas Durand** discusses Common Foot Problems.

ABOUT PEOPLE

HONORARY CHAIR

Dorothy Reitman will be honorary chair of National Council of Jewish Women of Canada (NCJW), Toronto Section's Spring Fashion Tea Sunday, June 7, 2-5 p.m. at the home of **Jill** and **Joel Reitman.**

Dorothy Reitman is a member of the Order of Canada and past president of Canadian Jewish Congress and NCJW of Canada. Proceeds of this event will go to NCJW's Israel Family Counselling Association and Toronto Section's community services. For information, Council House, 633-5100.

Dorothy Reitman

HINENI MISSION TO ISRAEL

Members of Hineni '98-Israel at 50 Mission, Karen Morton and Allan Offman, lay a wreath at Ammunition Hill for Yom Hazikaron (Israel's Memorial Day).

SINGLES EVENTS CAN BE FOUND ON PAGE 24

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Community Matters

Schwartz/Reisman Make $6M Gift to Community

One of the largest gifts ever received by UJA Federation has been donated by Gerry Schwartz and Heather Reisman. The couple, well-known in Toronto's business and philanthropic circles, contributed an unprecedented $6 million to UJA Federation's Legacy Campaign.

"It's simply outstanding," says Ted Sokolsky, Vice-President of Fundraising for UJA Federation. "This is one of the most meaningful and exciting gifts the community has ever received." Legacy contributions will be used to meet the emerging needs of Toronto's Jewish community as our population of 175,000 continues to grow.

Since the 1980s, Schwartz, a Canadian entrepreneur, has been demonstrating his ability to spot and capitalize on new business opportunities. He is the founder and chief executive of Onex Corporation, Canada's 14th largest company. Now, thanks to this Legacy contribution, the quality of the Toronto Jewish community in the future is also that much enhanced, according to past UJA Federation Chairman David Goldstein.

Gerry Schwartz *Heather Reisman*

"This high profile gift causes other people in comparable economic situations to sit up and take notice," remarks Goldstein. He, along with other well-respected community leaders, is seeking to raise $150 million worth of Legacy endowments and capital funds over the next three years. More than $60 million has already been raised.

"The gift was a great opportunity for Gerry to maximize his charitable allocation to UJA Federation and help secure the community's future," adds Goldstein, referring to the new tax incentives now applicable to charitable donations through stocks.

"The Schwartz/Reisman contribution not only gave a tremendous boost to the Legacy campaign in terms of dollars," notes Legacy Chair Barry Sherman, "it also went a long way toward building the campaign's momentum. We're enormously grateful for their example and belief in community."

"Heather and Gerry have always been great supporters of the community," adds Brent Belzberg, who is co-chairing UJA Federation's 1999 campaign with Larry Tanenbaum. "I am confident their leadership will have a multiplying effect on other potential donors."

Market Maximizes Donations

A healthy economy, a booming stock market and new tax incentives governing charitable stock donations are combining to make UJA Federation's Legacy Campaign a magnet for Jewish philanthropists.

In less than a year, over $60 million has already been raised toward the $150 million Legacy endowment and capital campaign established to secure long-term funding for the community's development. And many observers, such as Legacy Chairman Barry Sherman, are crediting both a vigorous stock market and significant tax breaks from Ottawa for creating an unprecedented climate for charitable giving.

To date, Legacy has received $30 million in donated stocks ranging from $6 million to $10 million — the most recent coming from Gerry Schwartz, CEO of Onex Corporation and his wife Heather Reisman, President and CEO of Indigo Books & Music Inc.

New incentives introduced in last February's Federal budget have cut in half the 75% capital gains tax levied on the disposition of stocks for charitable donations. These incentives, added to other tax breaks on all charitable contributions, have made it more advantageous than ever for people realizing gains from stock appreciation to assist charities, such as UJA Federation, and enjoy tax savings at the same time.

"Legacy endowments are a great way for people to maximize their charitable allocations and shelter the value of their gift for years to come," explains Sherman. "These endowed funds, critically important to the future of our community, will minimize our annual struggle to retain gifts after some of our most significant donors are no longer with us."

"We are offering our donors opportunities to maximize and perpetuate their gifts to UJA Federation at a time when the conditions are ideal to do so," explains Morris Zbar, Vice President of Planning and Development. "We must encourage those families who have the means to make significant gifts to do so before the climate changes."

Barry Sherman

Gifted Gift-Getter

UJA Federation campaigners were recently schooled in the benefits of fundraising for both donors and recipients by one of the best in the business. Internationally recognized specialist Bill Sturtevant is Vice-President of Trust Relations and Planned Giving at the University of Illinois Foundation. Sturtevant, author of the long awaited book The Artful Journey, *guided his audience through the book's step by step strategies on how to understand the needs of contributors.*

***Community Matters**, a supplement of the Canadian Jewish News, is sponsored and produced by UJA Federation. Website: www.feduja.org*

Community Matters

MARCH LIVES ON IN THEIR HEARTS

By Adi Neuberger

When a group of 155 Jewish high school students from the Greater Toronto Area, sponsored by UJA Federation, embarked on the 10th March of the Living to Poland and Israel, they knew what they were going to see, hear and feel would be deeply emotional and highly disturbing. The subject of the Holocaust always is. What most didn't realize, however, was how much the two-week journey into their Jewish past and present would profoundly affect their lives.

"It was the most incredible experience of my life," explains Amy Newman, a grade 11 Northern Secondary School student. "The connections I made to Judaism and the relationships I have developed have literally changed my life."

The tour climaxed in Poland, on Yom Hashoah (Holocaust Remembrance Day), when Toronto participants walked hand in hand with 7,000 of their peers, chaperones and survivors from 30 different countries on a 3 km march from Birkenau concentration camp to Auschwitz. While in Poland, the group also visited towns and villages to view remnants of once thriving Jewish life, memorials to Holocaust victims, concentration camps and a Jewish day school.

Left to right: Alana Kirshenblatt, Adam Banack and Samantha Spencer comfort each other outside Majdanek concentration camp.

Left to right: Beth Cole, Samantha Spencer, Samuelle Mednick, Jen Schachter and Amy Eisen pray together following an emotional tour of Auschwitz.

Rachel Goldman (center) and Jodi Larry with children from the Lauder Foundation Jewish day school.

At the school, MOL participants greeted students as they left for the day and spontaneously began singing and dancing with the children. "It was unbelievable," recalls grade 11 Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto student Samantha Spencer. "We could tell that by being there and singing Hebrew songs with the kids, we made a very big difference to them," adds Spencer. "It gave all of us so much hope."

The March of the Living was also more than a lesson in Jewish history for Adam Banack. According to the grade 10 Forest Hill Collegiate student, it was the continuation of a journey of discovery that began before his bar mitzvah when Banack decided he wanted the occasion to be about more than himself.

Two years ago Adam and his family dedicated his bar mitzvah to the memory of child Holocaust victim Shmuel Eisen, the brother of survivor Max Eisen, one of 25 March of the Living chaperones. While visiting Auschwitz, Eisen, whose granddaughter Amy also participated in the March, showed Adam where his baby brother Shmuel had perished.

"I was captivated by Max the first time he told his story," explains Banack. "But until we got to Poland and I saw the Holocaust through his eyes, I never realized how brave and strong he really is," he adds. "I will remember this trip for the rest of my life because I was able to walk out of Auschwitz for all those who did not."

In Israel, participants celebrated Israel's 50th anniversary at historic Latrun with 5,000 other marchers. They also visited the grave of Yitzhak Rabin, spent Shabbat by the kotel and toured other Jewish historical sites across the country.

"Words cannot express the profound impact March of the Living has on all the participants," says mission Chair Barbara Bank. "The fact that we had to add an extra bus this year testifies to the growing interest among our young community members and their commitment to maintaining their Jewish identity and respect for their past."

"The way the kids absorbed and continue to articulate their experiences throughout the trip signifies that we have little to worry about if these are to be our future leaders," notes UJA Federation Campaign Vice-Chair Abe Glowinsky, whose 16-year-old son also participated on the March. "I left with one child and came home with 155."

Photos by Samantha Spencer

Anita Ekstein admires a feature of Crakow that she hasn't seen since her childhood.

STAYING IN CYBER-TOUCH

Many participants on the 1998 March of the Living felt less homesick during their two-week mission thanks to UJA Federation's *Jewish Toronto* web site (www.feduja.org). Their parents slept a little easier too knowing their kids were just an e-mail away.

Over 700 messages were sent back and forth via *Jewish Toronto* between MOL participants and loved ones back home. Everything from reminders to wear sunscreen to heartfelt summaries of the day's events to photos were transmitted daily. Visitors logged on the March of the Living page over 8,000 times during the trip.

"The kids loved knowing their families and friends could experience parts of the trip through them over the internet," notes March of the Living Chair Barbara Bank. "It also helped bridge the distance."

UJA FEDERATION BRINGING DIPLOMAT TO TORONTO

Former U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations Dr. Jeane Kirkpatrick will be in Toronto next month to address UJA Federation's Past Campaign Chairs.

The scholar, diplomat and syndicated columnist will share her years of experience in international politics at a tribute evening honouring former campaign leaders on June 29 at the CBC Building, Glenn Gould Studio, 250 Front Street West.

Kirkpatrick, who also served as a member of the U.S. Cabinet and National Security Council, has authored seven books. The most recent is *The Withering Away of the Totalitarian State*, which describes the collapse of Communism and the end of the Cold War.

The dinner is being held by UJA Federation to salute communal leaders for five decades of outstanding service and dedication. "We have a lot to be proud of in our community," notes Gil Palter, who is chairing the event with Rhonda Sheff. "It's time to thank many of those who played key roles in making Toronto one of the greatest Jewish communities in the world."

Dr. Jeane Kirkpatrick

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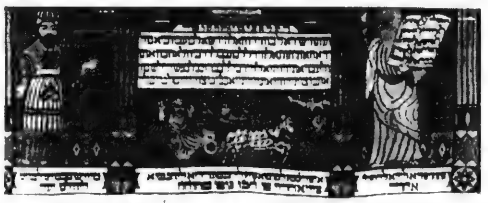

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600 non-Jewish kids attend 3rd annual Holocaust seminar

By DANIEL WOLGELERENTER

Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Children in Canada's multicultural society have an extraordinary opportunity to learn from each other and must respect one another because "each human being is a star," said Holocaust educator Inge Auerbacher.

"You are the garden of many different flowers," Auerbacher told a large gathering of Toronto-area elementary school students last week. "Make it a better world," the concentration camp survivor urged a group of over 600 non-Jewish students from grades 5 through 8 participating in the third annual Junior/Intermediate Students Seminar on the Holocaust, held at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education (OISE).

The children listened intently as the native of Kippenheim – a small town in southern Germany near the French border – told them German Jews who "were very good citizens," loved their country and had "lived in their communities for hundreds of years," were shocked when Hitler came to power in 1933.

She warned students to remain vigilant and resist racist stereotyping, lest history be repeated.

A retired chemist and author of four books of poetry and prose, including two – *I Am a Star* and *Beyond the Yellow Star to America* – about the Holocaust, Auerbacher showed slides from inmate artists and spoke of her experiences from age seven to 10 in the Terezin concentration camp in Czechoslovakia between 1942 and 1945.

The title of her 1987 book *I Am a Star* is meant to turn "something negative into a positive" and show that "every human being is special and has a right to be happy," she said.

The seminar was organized and sponsored by UJA/Federation's Holocaust and Education Memorial Centre, which supplied participating teachers with copies of the book beforehand. Many had integrated it into justice and equity modules in their classes.

'Those children were just like you'

In a talk meant to evoke the Holocaust from a child's perspective, Auerbacher noted that about 1.5 million children were among the six million Jews who died.

"Those children were just like you... The only difference is that they were Jewish," Auerbacher told the students from 15 different GTA public, Catholic and private schools.

"Had Hitler succeeded, he wouldn't have stopped with the Jews," she said. "Maybe he would have targeted blacks, or maybe Orientals."

Surveying the crowd, she suggested many of the children might not be alive today if Hitler had won the war and overrun some of the countries their parents and grandparents may have come from.

She showed slides of herself with other children from her local Jewish school, of whom she was the only survivor.

Students also saw slides of Auerbacher with her favorite doll Marlene, named for the German and Hollywood film star Marlene Dietrich. A gift from Auerbacher's grandmother, "she would be the only object that would survive those horrible years," she said.

She recently donated the doll to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C.

Abul Ashraf Mohammad, an 11-year-old Grade 6 student at Parkdale's Queen Victoria Public School where he read Auerbacher's book *I Am a Star* in class, said the talk was exciting. "We should learn more about [the Holocaust]," he added.

Her talk made him realize how lucky he is to be living in Canada, he said.

In addition to Auerbacher's hour-long presentation, students broke off into 20 smaller groups for question and answer seminars with other survivors.

In one group, Mohammad and classmates from Queen Victoria heard recollections from 75-year-old Berlin native Robert Engel, a member of the Dutch resistance and a survivor of the Westerbork concentration camp.

"I really believe the Holocaust can happen again," Engel told students. "It could happen to any identifiable minority. You are the only ones in the world who can stop this nonsense."

His granddaughter Tamara Stieber was there to hear Engel answer students' questions. She is part of the centre's Continued Voices pilot program for young people. Survivors' stories are videotaped to be shown after their death by witnesses like Stieber who will try to answer questions in the way survivors might have.

On June 12, as part of another pilot program by arts educator Helen Fine, students at Queen Victoria will perform excerpts from Terezin's opera, *Brundibar*, composed by Terezin inmate and Auschwitz victim Hans Krasa.

All the students later reconvened to hear songs with Auerbacher's lyrics performed by a choir from York Region's William Berezy Public School.

A similar program for high school students running for the last 18 years attracts between 800 and 1,200 students annually, organizers said.

Chief organizer Stephen Bloom of the centre's executive committee told students the survivors are "heroes who are members of a vanishing breed.

"It's vital that you hear their first-hand accounts of genocide – they were there," he said. "Your are their living witnesses, you are their testament."

Bloom told *The CJN* this year's program, which saw students and teachers sitting in the aisles, was oversubscribed due to unanticipated demand from local teachers.

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Greater Toronto Area

Lillian Benlolo in the Richmond Hill Judaica Centre, which offers a gift shop, educational materials and Hebrew classes. [Ron Csillag photo]

Judaica centre opens in Richmond Hill

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

RICHMOND HILL — The Jewish community here now has its own Judaica centre.

Lillian Benlolo, director of Beth Israel Hebrew Academy, a supplementary Hebrew school, said she opened the centre "because we needed a place where people could drop in, get information on the Jewish community, and read Jewish books and newspapers.

The 1,000-square-foot centre on Edward Street contains a gift shop, which carries a wide range of Judaica items, a lounge, a resource centre and a library.

Benlolo is planning Hebrew language classes for adults, and summer tutoring for children who need extra help. As well, the centre will feature lectures throughout the year on various topics.

Typically, people in Richmond Hill feel isolated from the rest of the Jewish community because they do not live in the hub of activity, said Benlolo.

"I feel confident that the centre will become quite popular. There is no obligation to join. People can just come in, meet some friends and feel comfortable."

Rabbi Wolf Gordon, 86, respected scholar, teacher

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Rabbi Wolf Gordon, a well respected scholar and teacher and a stalwart of Associated Hebrew Schools, died recently of cancer. He was 86.

Rabbi Gordon was principal of the evening school of Associated until it was consolidated into the day school. He then became a teacher, until his retirement in 1981.

After his retirement, he led many shiurim, and did a great deal of chesed work. He was especially faithful to the Mir Yeshiva, which he felt had saved his life, and helped it as much as he could.

Rabbi Gordon was born in Ivanitz, Poland. When the war broke out, along with the other students of the Mir Yeshiva, he escaped first to Japan, and then went to Shanghai, where the institution operated until the coming of peace.

In 1948, he went to New York, where he met and married his wife, Gitel. The couple moved to Toronto the same year.

Son Josh described him as a giving and sweet man, "a giant in good deeds. He could identify with peoples' sorrow, and could rejoice with their joys."

Former students were seen to greet him with great affection many years after they had finished school.

Josh Gordon told *The CJN* that last summer, Rabbi Gordon had spent a good part of the time studying Talmud with two of his grandchildren. When the grandchildren thanked him for studying with them, he replied "don't thank me — I have to thank you."

"He always saw the bright side — he was optimistic and positive about life."

Rabbi Gordon lost his father and two sisters in the Holocaust. He brought his surviving sister and her family to Canada from Russia in 1961.

Rabbi Gordon is survived by his wife of 49 years, Gitel; son Josh; sister Luba Rolnick; and four grandchildren.

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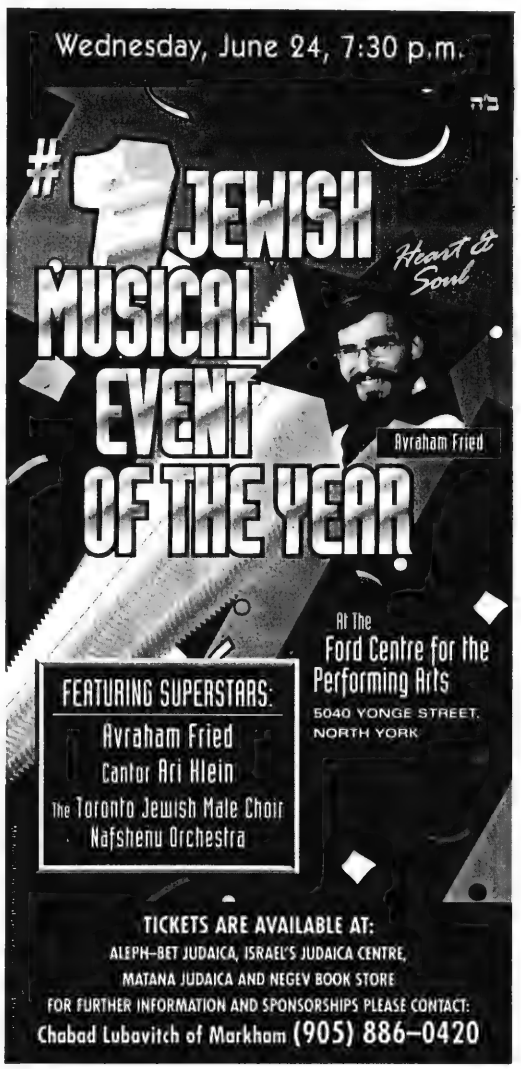
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Experts on Indian Jews believe B'nai Menashe are a lost tribe

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — About 3,000 Jews live in the border area between India and Myanmar (Burma), and those in the Indian province of Manipur are in danger of being massacred, according to documentary filmmaker Simcha Jacobovici.

Only 300 have so far been allowed into Israel because they cannot prove they are halachically Jewish, Jacobovici said at a recent executive meeting of the Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC), Ontario region.

Called the B'nai Menashe, they believe they are descendants of one of the 10 lost tribes of Israel, and as a result of instability in the region, many of them face danger and death from Indian insurgency movements, he said.

In response to his presentation, the 60-member CJC regional executive donated $1,000 out of their own pockets to pay for about half the cost of a plane ticket from India to Israel.

From left, Rabbi Eliyahu Avichal, Simon Gangte and Felix Golubev, president of the Freinds of the B'nai Menashe. [Barbara Silverstein photo]

In addition, CJC's outgoing president Goldie Hershon said the CJC will look into the situation and may ask the Jewish Agency and the Israeli government to help rescue the B'nai Menashe.

It appears that the Jewish Agency "mishandled" the situation, said CJC president-elect and Ontario region chair, Moshe Ronen, adding that he has been in touch with the Israeli justice minister about the plight of the B'nai Menashe.

At the meeting, indications that the B'nai Menashe are indeed one of the 10 lost tribes came from three sources: Jacobovici, whose documentary, *Quest for the Lost Tribes*, is due to be aired on CBC this fall; Shimon Gantge, 24, a B'nai Menashe who is studying for his smichah at Aish HaTorah in Jerusalem and is now in Toronto for three months as a rabbinical intern at Aish HaTorah here; and a report by Toronto photographer Stephen Epstein, who spent Purim '97 with the B'nai Menashe in Manipur.

The B'nai Menashe who go to Israel must go through a year-long conversion process to be formally accepted as halachic Jews, and in that time, they do not receive any benefits, Gantge said.

He and his compatriots in Israel owe a great deal to Rabbi Eliyahu Avichail in Jerusalem, who has helped sponsor them, he said.

In his report confirming the B'nai Menashe's claim that they are Jews, Epstein wrote: "Evidence of their Jewish roots is very strong with customs such as performing circumcision on the eighth day following birth, an obligation of a B'nai Menashe to marry his brother's widow, offering sacrifices on altars and wearing shawls that resemble tallit."

Jacobovici said he first heard about the B'nai Menashe when he met one of their members in an Israeli soldier's uniform at the Kotel in Jerusalem.

He also described a meeting with an "articulate and intelligent" B'nai Menashe woman in India who told him that, because the government was afraid she would not return, she was not allowed a visitor's visa to Israel to see her sister who lives there.

"We know the B'nai Menashe are Jewish because there are so many disagreements among them," the award-winning filmmaker joked.

* * *

Gantge, Jacobovici and Rabbi Avichail also spoke at a fundraiser co-sponsored by the Riverdale Jewish Community Centre and the Canadian Friends of the B'nai Menashe in honor of Israel's 50th anniversary.

At the event, a total of $4,000 was raised to help evacuate the B'nai Menashe.

Gangte said that gaining acceptance in Israel has been a painful experience for him because his skin color is different and because "people are not ready to embrace us as mainstream Jews."

On the other hand, two of his sisters are married to Canadian Jews, he said, and when children in his Manipur community saw videos of the weddings, they were surprised to see "white Jews."

He said his parents, who had considered themselves Christians, had converted to Judaism along with thousands of community members some 30 years ago. However, even when they were children, they were brought up with oral traditions and customs that incorporated vestiges of Judaic traditions.

For example, he said, the community practised ritual circumcision on the eighth day after a male child birth; they sang songs about Passover and the parting of the Red Sea; and around Passover, even though they did not observe that festival, they sacrificed a goat and painted its blood on their doors.

With files from Barbara Silverstein.

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Greater Toronto Area

Is it kosher to make money? Issue is debated

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Though poverty is evil, wealth is not an unqualified good unless it is used to better the world's lot, speakers at the recent Alan Coatsworth Memorial Lecture agreed.

The lecture at Holy Blossom Temple was titled Is It Kosher/Christian to Make Money? How Judaism and Christianity Approach the Question of Wealth.

One difference, said Jim Marshall secretary for human rights and economic justice for the United Church, is that Christians sometimes feel guilty about their wealth.

Marshall said he felt ambivalent about taking part because he himself felt somewhat guilty.

For 18 years, Marshall said, he tried to depend as little as possible on possessions, living in a small house on the Danforth.

Now, however, "I own two houses, one in the Beaches and one in the Bahamas," he said. "And I'm wearing a jacket I got from Goodwill and a shirt and tie from Harry Rosen."

"The presence of poverty is a moral indictment of the present world; it is morally unacceptable," said Prof. David Novak, dean of Judaic Studies, University of Toronto.

Quoting the Jewish philosopher Maimonides, Novak said, "The purpose of the commandments is not to get wealth for its own sake, but to better allow us to keep the commandments."

In their attitude to wealth, Jews are guided not only by the Bible, but by rabbinical principles following Jewish tradition, he said.

'May the Lord keep you from letting your possessions possess you'

"Poverty can only be eliminated by the proper use of wealth. If the poor are living side by side with the rich, it exasperates them, but does not offer a solution.

"It is a misuse of wealth for a rich person to think he or she is better than others and to keep at a distance," Novak said.

"I don't share the idea that the elimination of wealth will do away with poverty. I'm committed to the capitalist system with proper controls, not to the socialistic experiments which devastated half the world."

Marshall said he deplores the growing gap between rich and poor. "Wealth is not an end in itself. It depends on how it is used and what it does to us. It can harden our hearts."

One way some Christian churches are attacking poverty, he said, is through a task force on corporate responsibility.

The audience of about 100 discussed the presentations and viewed a short video of random street interviews about people's reaction to Jews.

In summing up the evening, Rabbi Roy Tanenbaum of Beth Tzedec Synagogue said, "May the Lord keep you from letting your possessions possess you."

Rev. Karen Hamilton of St. James-Bond United Church was the moderator.

The evening was sponsored by the Young Maccabees, a club for newsboys set up in the 1930s by the late Alan Coatsworth; the Christian-Jewish Dialogue of Toronto; the Canadian Council of Christians and Jews; and the interfaith committee of Holy Blossom Temple.

Ten members of the 150 original members of the Young Maccabees were present.

Students complete Hamachon program

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Hamachon, the Toronto Institute for Jewish Leaders, is a new youth program that recently graduated its first group of students.

Ryan Hass, shaliach for Canadian Young Judaea, said the idea behind Hamachon was to give youth representatives from various Jewish organizations ideas on how to run Jewish programs.

"Every month, 15 Jewish leaders from such organizations as Habonim Dror, Young Judaea, B'nai Brith Youth Organization and Hashomer Hatzair came together for three hours and received skills [training] in Jewish programming.

"One session, for example, was on religious pluralism. We brought in three rabbis who debated the issue, and then we gave the students program ideas, which they in turn, brought back to their organizations."

Other sessions included Israeli culture; Jewish festivals; Jewish identity, values and Shabbat; Zionism; the Holocaust; and Jewish history.

Hass was involved in Jewish youth movements when he was growing up in England, and he received a degree in informal education, a course offered in Israel.

In preparation for the institute, he obtained a grant from UJA Federation and then approached youth organizations, which each sent two representatives.

At the graduation, students were given a certificate and a letter to prospective employers, which can be used as a job reference.

Hass said he and his assistants, Michael Soberman, Yehuda Marle and Shula Ofir, have received "a lot of positive feedback. We would like to see it run annually."

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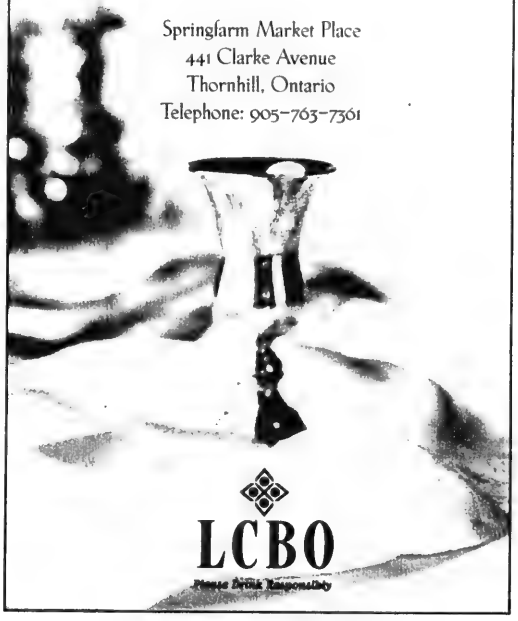

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LODGE CELEBRATES ITS 50TH ANNIVERSARY

Leonard Mayzel Ontario Lodge of B'nai Brith Canada celebrated its 50th anniversary recently at a gala dinner at the Inn on the Park. From left are outgoing president Eric Cohen, Toronto councillor Norm Gardner, Attorney General Charles Harnick, Toronto Mayor Mel Lastman, incoming lodge president Schura Vorona. [Barry Roden Photography]

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Winnipeg consultant takes part in Mideast conference on water

By MYRON LOVE
Prairie Correspondent

WINNIPEG — Terry Lewycky, a Winnipeg-based communications consultant, recently found himself one of the players in the Middle East peace process.

Lewycky, who operates InfoPak Communications with his brother Dennis in Ottawa, was invited to Athens by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) to represent InfoPak as an observer at the International Strategy Development Workshop of the Multilateral Working Group on Water Resources.

"I had recently returned from India and Singapore," he says, "but I couldn't resist being part of the peace process."

CIDA turned to the Lewyckys because of their previous experience in the region. About two years ago, Terry had helped the Egyptian government set up a multimedia water conservation awareness campaign, and Dennis has done some work with the Palestinians.

The workshop participants in Athens consisted of delegates from Israel, the Palestinian Authority, Jordan, Oman, Morocco and Tunisia as well as observers from Japan, Russia, Norway and the United States. The session was led by representatives of the Global Bureau of the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID).

"The objective of the workshop was to develop a regional public awareness program strategy, and plans for a national program in each country," Lewycky says.

He notes that the level of awareness of water conservation varies from country to country in the region. While Morocco is quite advanced, and Israel has produced a CD-Rom to be used in the school system, the Palestinians are still far behind.

The USAID people came with a preconceived agenda – to get agreement on developing a short term regional video, Lewycky reports.

Other delegates rejected USAID agenda

All the other delegates unanimously rejected the USAID agenda of a longer term regional strategy.

Despite the fact no specific program was adopted, Lewycky concludes in his report for CIDA that "there was a general feeling by all in attendance that the workshop had succeeded in achieving its objectives."

The forum, he notes, created an opportunity for open dialogue on the issues of national water conservation awareness strategies and on the the benefits of a regional approach. A framework for the strategy evolved between the delegates without being formally written including a need to continue regional information sharing workshops with a continuity of players and direction and the need to coordinate with and involve other agencies.

Lewycky suggests that Canada can play an effective role – with minimum investment – in providing strategic assistance in specific national water conservation awareness campaigns. He recommends that the priority areas should be Tunisia, Oman, Jordan and the Palestinian Authority with specific programming in the Palestinian areas to encourage community participation and communication skill development. InfoPak has been invited to share its media expertise with the Jordanians, he reports.

All of the participants got along very well, he says. "Because of the nature of the issue – the scarcity of water and the need for conservation – there was a strong sense of the need for a regional strategy that goes beyond political matters," he says. "The three Israeli delegates were extremely astute. They knew what to talk about and what subjects to avoid."

"The next priority is a second workshop," Lewycky says. "This is the only phase of the peace process which is currently still active."

From coast to coast

CJC should expand role, says new Pacific region chair

By PETER CAULFIELD
Special to The CJN

VANCOUVER — Zena Simces, the new chair of Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC), Pacific region, says Congress needs to think big.

"Congress needs to go beyond its traditional range of activities," said Simces. "It's a changing world and we need to expand our role in the Jewish community. For example, we should become an advocate on social issues, such as women's issues and health and social services."

Simces, who formally succeeded Dr. Michael Elterman at Congress' recent triennial meeting in Vancouver, said the organization has traditionally concentrated its energies on three objectives: defending the rights and safety of Jews in Canada, representing the Jewish community to government and acting as an advocate for the Jewish community.

Simces told *The Canadian Jewish News* that during her three-year term, she wants to make some changes in the way Pacific region operates. For example, she plans to strengthen the role played in Congress by other Jewish organizations.

"Congress has a unique structure," she said. "The executive is composed of representatives from every major Jewish organization in the Lower Mainland. In the future, I would like to solicit their opinions more actively and see them become more involved in the executive's decision making."

Simces said Congress also needs to spruce up its communications activities. "CJC has to do a better job educating the community. A case in point is anti-Semitism. We need to tell our people that, although the face of anti-Semitism has been changing, it is definitely not a thing of the past. Just look at the Internet. In my opinion – and I'm speaking for myself here – there needs to be more discussion on how to deal with hate propaganda on the Internet."

Simces said she will encourage more joint initiatives with other cultural groups in British Columbia on issues of common concern, because "there's strength in numbers."

Also near the top of Simces' wish list is more Holocaust education in British Columbia public schools. "We want to see education about the Holocaust become a permanent part of the provincial curriculum."

Simces has been active in Jewish community affairs since her childhood in Winnipeg's North End, where she belonged, she said, to "the usual Jewish youth groups."

Later, after she had moved to Fredericton, N.B., she began to take an interest in the case of Malcolm Ross, a New Brunswick public school teacher who had been suspended for teaching Holocaust denial in the class room.

"I became involved with the Atlantic Jewish Council, a Jewish umbrella organization in the Maritimes. We played an active role educating the Jewish and non-Jewish communities, including the New Brunswick government, about the issues involved in the case." (After a battle in the courts and in the media that went on for several years, Ross was eventually removed from the classroom.)

In 1991, Simces moved to Vancouver. After stints as director of policy and communication for the Office of the British Columbia Public Trustee and as an independent social policy consultant, she became director of marketing and communication for the United Way of the Lower Mainland in September 1997.

Simces said she began to take an interest in Congress activities after she settled in Vancouver. "The Malcolm Ross case first got me interested in anti-Semitism and human rights. When I moved to the Coast, I decided to follow up my interest in those issues, and I became involved in Congress. I'm glad I have the opportunity to make a contribution."

Jokester dentist needed no laughing gas

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

OTTAWA — Though he denies he told jokes in order to save on laughing gas, retired dentist Dr. Lionel Metrick has gained a reputation as a storyteller and genealogist.

Metrick, a great-grandson of Berel Pullan, a founder of the Ottawa Jewish community, gave a recent talk to the Ottawa Jewish Historical Society about the people who made the capital's Jewish community colorful and influential.

His talk covered the history of the Metrick, Pullan, Sachs, Florence, Maser, Cóplan, Gluck and Edelstein families.

"I work evenings and I'm reasonable," was Metrick's opening gambit when asked to speak to groups. He admits to reworking that famous bit of Jewish folklore: "Are you a dentist or just a doctor?"

He told the audience that his late wife Sarah gave him this advice: "If you can't be loyal, be silent." This, he says, makes discussing his relatives painful

For his bar mizvah, Metrick, now 80, said Elya Pullan sent him a Rolex wrist watch inscribed: "May you always have a good time."

His great aunt, Toba Sachs, an early entrepreneur, bought a trainload of prunes in 1911 and canned them. With the profit, she put her two sons, Max and Tom in the secondary materials (junk) business.

"Toba visited my mother every day and spoke in Yiddish so I would pick up the language. And now I speak Yiddish like a Litvak who has had speech therapy."

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David Sultan, Israel's ambassador to Canada (right) presents Deputy Prime Minister Herb Gray with a citation, as Norman Lieff, chair of State of Israel Bonds, looks on.

Bonds gala celebrates Israel's 50th

By DIANE KOVEN
Ottawa Correspondent

OTTAWA — Over 200 people recently attended a gala tribute dinner sponsored by State of Israel Bonds in honor of Israel's 50th anniversary.

This year's honoree was Herb Gray, deputy prime minister of Canada, a well-known supporter of Israel and of Canada-Israel relations.

MC Rabbi Reuven Bulka told the audience that Gray's Hebrew name is Zvi, and that the land of Israel has been referred to as eretz zvi.

He added that Gray "may be by others a deputy. By us he is, and will always be, a premier person."

Barbara Farber, president of the Jewish Community Council of Ottawa/Vaad Ha'ir, spoke of the respect and affection Gray and his wife Sharon have earned in Ottawa. "Our community of Ottawa has been enhanced by your presence and Sharon's presence."

Speaking of Gray's political life in Windsor and in Ottawa, Shaughnessy Cohen, MP, told the audience that "one of the reasons Windsor is booming is because of Herb Gray...we are pleased to be able to share him with you. Herb is a great symbol of the friendship between our countries, between Canada and Israel."

David Sultan, ambassador of Israel to Canada, spoke warmly of Gray as a friend of Israel. He told the audience that he has met with Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy and they "have agreed, among other things, to announce shortly that we are embarking on a joint project to mark the 50th anniversary of the State of Israel."

One of the highlights of the evening was a tongue-in-cheek video presentation of Gray's life, which mixed humor with serious messages of congratulation from parliamentary colleagues, including Prime Minister Jean Chrétien.

Following the video, Gray spoke with warmth and affection of the welcome he has felt in the Jewish community. "I appreciate the friendship the Ottawa Jewish community has given to me and to my wife and children.

"We look forward, with the support of the Almighty, to many years of celebration – l'dor v'dor – to the generations yet to come."

Norman Lieff, chair, State of Israel Bonds, presented Gray with a book summarizing Israel's 50 years of statehood.

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From coast to coast

Shalom Village expansion unveiled

By MOURA WOLPERT
CJN Correspondent

HAMILTON — The dedication on Mother's Day of the new addition to Shalom Village was a joyful occasion.

Guest numbered about 150, said administrator Pat Morden. Board members, staff, volunteers, residents, relatives and friends mingled, enjoying refreshments and entertainment by harpist, Elyssa Michalsky.

Residents proudly showed their new apartments to the visitors, who were impressed with the spaciousness, large bathrooms and ample storage space.

The addition, designed by architect Joseph Singer, who also designed the adjoining nursing home, consists of 11 apartments, three in the front of the building, eight at the back, bringing the total to 51.

But there are already 70 names on the waiting list, said former administrator Sheila Burman, who headed the $1.2-million fundraising campaign.

President Carl Loewith welcomed guests, and Allen Gould introduced the guests of honor, major donors Lewis and Ruth Sherman, who cut the ribbon in the lobby of the building named in their honor.

Originally from Boston, the couple, who last fall celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary, settled in Hamilton 45 years ago when Lewis, now retired, became a partner in the Allan Candy Company. They have four sons and one daughter, and nine grandchildren.

Bringing greetings from the government, Hamilton West MPP, Lillian Ross referred to the government's recently announced allocation of $67 million to long-term care and promised continuing support. Alderman Marvin Caplan, on behalf of Mayor Bob Morrow, noted that Shalom Village had received a small grant of $12,000 from the region towards development costs.

"One thing people don't realize," said Caplan, "is that Shalom Village is *the* example for the greater community," a model for other groups planning similar residences.

The Hamilton community alone raised virtually all of the money, not only meeting the target, but exceeding it, Morden later said.

Singer has also designed a new synagogue for Shalom Village; it will accommodate up to about 100 people and is expected to be ready in time for the High Holy Days.

Another new addition to Shalom Village, Loewith announced, is a van for the use of residents, a gift from Allen and Millie Gould.

Shul holds its last-ever service

By MOURA WOLPERT
CJN Correspondent

HAMILTON — Ohav Zedek Synagogue, the last of Hamilton's five downtown synagogues, held its final services on the second day of Passover.

The building at the corner of Hess and Peter streets, in what was once the heart of Hamilton's Jewish district, will be put up for sale. The Aron Kodesh, some of the pews, the chandeliers and other furnishings will be transferred to the new chapel being built at Shalom Village, where the remaining members plan to carry on.

The late Rabbi Stanley Weber, who served the congregation through the 1970s and early '80s, told *The CJN* in a 1980 interview, that the story of the Hess Street Shul "is the story of all neighborhoods and their old-fashioned shuls. People move away to the affluent suburbs and the kids who had their bar mitzvahs here wouldn't set foot in this place now."

The congregation was founded in 1907 or 1908 by Russian immigrants. One of its founders, Rabbi Samuel Levine, was the spiritual leader until his death in 1953.

The present building was put up in 1927 but by the 1950s the congregation began to dwindle until a sudden influx of Orthodox Hungarian Jews, who had fled their homeland following the 1956 Soviet invasion, bolstered the membership.

However, as the new members prospered, they too left for the suburbs.

A handful of members kept the congregation going and yeshivah students home for the weekend or holidays would do the *leyening*. Lubavitcher Rabbi Avraham Roston of Toronto frequently helped out.

A photograph of Ohav Zedek is contained in *Historic Synagogues Of The World*, by Neil Folberg and Yom Tov Assis (Aperture Foundation of New York).

The reader at the final service was 16-year old Moshe Greenbaum; Cantor David Bercovici, former cantor of Beth Jacob Synagogue, did Mussaf; Prof. Sam Ajzenstat led Shacharit. Chuck Matchen, whose father Harry was president of Ohav Zedek for about 40 years, spoke about the congregation's history.

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From coast to coast

Theodor Herzl had Sephardi ancestors

By ELIAS LEVY
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — The secret of the extraordinary success of Zionism is perhaps that it remains unfinished, but also that its principal architect was an intellectual as far removed from Judaism as was possible in his time, the Austrian journalist, Theodor Herzl.

An assimilated Jew educated outside of the talmudic tradition, imbued with Germanic culture, an esteemed dramatist of Viennese scenes, Herzl had been sent to Paris as the correspondent for the most prestigious newspaper of the Austro-Hungarian Empire, the *Neue Freie Press*.

The sensational Dreyfus case, which he covered for the paper, affected him deeply. The outpouring of hate that followed the condemnation of Dreyfus unexpectedly awakened Herzl's awareness of his Jewish identity.

A little-known fact about Herzl's genealogical origins is that he was descended from Sephardi ancestors – Marranos who originally came from Spain.

Herzl is the Germanization of the Sephardi name of Loeb, without which one of his ancestors could not have obtained his civil marriage licence.

Theodor Herzl's grandfather, Simon Loeb-Herzl, attended the Sephardi synagogue in Semlin, a small town in the eastern region of what later became Yugoslavia. He prayed alongside Rabbi Yehuda Alkalaï, a noted personality of Sephardi Judaism, who wrote about the establishment of a Jewish state in Judea 50 years before the advent of political Zionism. Few people took seriously the rabbi's eccentric ideas, but Simon Loeb-Herzl believed in them.

In his novel, *Altneuland* (*Old-Newland*), Herzl sends a Spanish Jew named Alladino to raise funds in the Jewish communities of the Diaspora to be used to buy land in Palestine. Several Herzl experts have identified the character with Rabbi Alkalaï, whose works Simon often recited when he came to Budapest to rock little Theodor on his knees. Did Herzl get his first inspiration subtly and unconsciously from the Sephardi tradition, despite his being a culturally assimilated Jew?

Theodor Herzl

The principal biographers of Theodor Herzl who make reference to his Sephardi origins include historian Joseph Frenkel in *Theodor Herzl, a Biography*; Ernst Pawel in his *Theodor Herzl and the labyrinth of exile*; and André Chouraqui in *Un Visionnaire nommé Herzl, la résurrection d'Israël*.

At 8 Kornhausgasse St. in Basel, Switzerland, is a unique Jewish museum founded 25 years ago when Swiss archeologists discovered Jewish graves dating back to the 13th century. One entire section uses unedited photographs and authenticated historical documents to record the close historic links that this city, which has a Jewish community of about 2,500, has had for several decades with the leaders of the world Zionist movement.

In one of the archive photos dating from the beginning of the 20th century, one can see Theodor Herzl as a child giving his hand to a jovial, thoughtful-looking septuagenarian of imposing stature. It was his grandfather Simon Loeb-Herzl. The description accompanying the photo briefly recalls the Sephardi origins of Loeb-Herzl.

Another famous photo in this section of the museum is the one where Herzl is leaning against the banister of the balcony of his room in the Hotel Drei Konige, in Basel.

Translation by Carolan Halpern.

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Hip fractures devastating to seniors' health

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Hip fractures in the elderly are as devastating to health as the worst case of cancer, a rheumatologist told an overflow meeting on osteoporosis at Bathurst Jewish Centre (BJC).

Dr. Jerry Tenenbaum said, however, if young people get enough calcium in their diet and exercise sufficiently, they can avoid fractures later in life.

Two relatively new drugs, said Tenenbaum, Didronel and Fosonex, can help most seniors with osteoporosis and reduce their fractures by 40 to 50 percent. They are life-long treatments and eight out of 10 patients can take them successfully. They are not to be prescribed to pre-menopausal women.

He recommended five milligrams of Fosonex daily as the treatment of choice for osteoporosis in seniors.

In the question period, he said Didronel, which is taken for 14 days in a 90-day cycle, is covered under the government's drug plan but Fosonex is not, and may cost $700 a year.

Tenenbaum, of Mount Sinai Hospital (MSH), spoke at the second of the Health Living series sponsored by MSH, BJC and Jewish Women's Federation. Television host Micki Moore was moderator.

"The advice I want to give you to hand on to your daughters and granddaughters is for them to put bones in the bone bank like they put RRSPs [in the bank]" he said.

Recent studies have shown that 1,000 to 1,500 milligrams of calcium a day can be taken safely, with 400 to 800 units of Vitamin D to help its absorption.

Those with a low level of bone mass are six to eight times more likely to develop fractures. Up to 20 percent of women and 34 percent of men who fracture a hip die in less than one year, Tenenbaum said.

Men are 10 years behind women in developing osteoporosis "but they get it eventually."

Most of the several hundred women present indicated that they have already had a bone density test.

Their questions showed that many are already on the drugs he mentioned and he advised them to take Didronel and calcium separately. Tenenbaum said he recommends a bone density test for patients who have one of several high risk factors in their history.

There are 21,000 fractures annually in Canada related to osteoporosis and they cost health services a lot of money, he said.

Loss of ovarian function after menopause is an important cause of osteoporosis in women, said Tenenbaum.

Nutritionist Fran Berkoff recommended adding vinegar when making chicken soup in order to leach calcium out of the chicken bones without changing the taste of the soup.

To get the equivalent of 300 milligrams of calcium in a cup of milk requires 1½ ounces of cheese, seven sardines, four ounces of canned salmon or four cups of broccoli, she said.

The last in the series is at Leah Posluns Theatre on June 2. The topic is Healthy Mind and Body.

Two-tiered health system said frightening seniors

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A two-tier health system is emerging in Ontario, and that, along with the prospect of privatization of some health services after April 1, 1999, is frightening seniors, says a former New Democratic Party (NDP) cabinet minister.

While some people are getting an income tax cut, others are suffering from the results of "a health care driven by dollars and determined by the bottom line," Elaine Ziemba told a meeting of the Cranbrooke Friendship Club.

Alleging that the Tory government of Mike Harris has bungled the situation through poor planning, Ziemba said delivering health care at home may be just as costly as keeping patients in hospital.

Half of the recently set up 43 Community Care Access Councils have run up deficits in the first six months because patients are being sent home earlier, she said.

Seniors who own their own homes will likely pay a part of the home care costs if their illnesses are not serious enough to merit a doctor's prescription for home care. These would have been covered had they stayed in hospitals. They must also pay for medication at home which would have been free in the hospital.

This is a serious situation, considering that only 34 percent of working people have a private plan that picks up these costs, Ziemba said.

"The NDP is literally the conscience of the country," said David Abramowitz, president of United Jewish People's Order (UJPO), which sponsors the Cranbrooke Friendship Club.

"I think there is a crisis in health care and we are at a turning point," said Ziemba, cabinet minister responsible for senior issues from 1990 to 1995 in the Bob Rae government.

An increase in property taxes and user fees is putting the cost of income tax cuts for the wealthy on the shoulders of lower income seniors.

The government's planning for home care went awry because "they had no sense of how many people were being discharged," she said.

A 45-year-old friend of Ziemba who suffered a heart attack had to wait two days in an emergency area because of a shortage of hospital beds, and his family could not visit him. She learned that some older people were waiting even longer in emergency areas.

The present government's politics have led to hospitals being in an "unstable condition," facing a shortage of nurses and having laid off 8,000 workers in 1996 and 11,500 in 1997.

The government's strategy appears to be that a family member will take over at home to relieve the system of costs, she said, "but that caregiver gets tired, ends up getting ill and maybe loses a job."

She urged members to tell the government they are unhappy with cuts to health services.

Mount Sinai sets funding goals

TORONTO — Mount Sinai Hospital recently announced a major fundraising initiative – the largest in the history of Canadian healthcare – $100 million by the year 2000.

The hospital's the Best Medicine fundraising campaign, more than halfway to its goal already, is headed by Lawrence S. Bloomberg, president and CEO of First Marathon Inc.

The campaign is focused on raising funds for five key areas: enhanced patient care facilities involving construction or renovation ($12 million); state-of-the-art diagnostic and medical equipment ($25 million); information age technology to ensure Mount Sinai Hospital can accommodate the information explosion of patient records, digital imaging and information exchange ($8 million); frontier research – enhancing the Samuel Lunenfeld Research Institute's reputation as one of the world's most advanced biomedical research centres ($36 million); and support for the institute's mandate to provide vision, leadership and integration of research into medicine ($19 million).

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Journey overseas helps enrich students' heritage

The following are excerpts from the personal stories written by six Canadian students at the Rothberg School for Overseas Students at the Hebrew University who travelled to Ukraine last Pesach to participate in the Hillel/JDC Pesach Project in the Former Soviet Union. Their trips were sponsored by the United Jewish Appeal (UJA) and funded by the May and Samuel Rudin Family Foundation.

The students joined more than 500 local Hillel activists who led Passover celebrations in over 200 Jewish communities behind the former iron curtain.

* * *

Rena Dascal

As the plane touched down, I felt my stomach turn. I had just arrived in a foreign country to embark upon an unknown journey. What this journey would entail was yet to unfold, but I knew that I would learn, grow, and enrich my Jewish heritage.

After months of physical and emotional preparation, we finally joined our Ukrainian counterparts, local Hillel student activists, for the opening ceremonies at a lodge in Kiev. Our first three days were spent in training and learning about leading our own seders…

I visited many different communities and was able to learn something unique from each one. I was able to understand how fortunate I have been to have the chance to practise Judaism as I choose.

I was also given many insights and was able to grow as a person and as a Jew through constant interaction with three most amazing and inspiring Ukrainian students. I learned about how they grew up both as Jews and as citizens of the FSU.

I now look forward to my own seders back in North America. I will never forget the faces I saw here and I will never forget the joy we brought into their lives…

Rena Dascal is a student at Concordia University.

Maya Haasz

One 95 year-old woman living in Rivne made a particular impact on me. A woman who, by my age, had seen more atrocities in this world than I will ever see in a lifetime. She laughed and danced and warmed the hearts of all those sitting around her. Yet when she sang, the tears rolled down her face as she remembered the eight friends she used to sing with. Though her life was spared, the damage done to her joyous and strong heart was irreversible…

The community leader in Lutsk brought our group to a memorial situated on the grounds of a sugar plant. It was here that the majority of a vibrant Jewish community was shot to death in a ravine. Thousands of victims, and only one survivor to tell the story. How many of these ravines go unmarked because no living trace has been left? How many potential brilliant poets, scientists, engineers and artists lie under the memorial stone?

Our mission, however, went beyond learning about our roots. Throughout our travels we also had the opportunity to teach others about theirs. At a seder in Lutsk, 30 women gathered around me and one by one, they repeated the blessing over the candles, word for word – words which many of them hadn't pronounced for decades, if ever.

The attendance at this seder was extraordinary, with 90 people sitting around long tables. This is not uncommon to a synagogue gathering in Montreal. Only here the number consisted of a majority of the Lutsk Jewish population, a community that once had 30 synagogues of which no trace remains. But the desire to learn more about, and identify with, Judaism and Israel was powerful and touching. One man approached me and eagerly questioned me about Israel. He then proudly assured me that he would be moving there. He wasn't sure when or how, but he would go…

Maya Haasz graduated from Dawson College last year.

Ira Markus

My entire family draws its roots from this region in eastern Europe, although this trip was far-removed from a "coming home" for the holidays. Seeing so many grandparents like my own and being spoken to in Yiddish made whole rooms of new people seem familiar and made me feel less like a missionary than a helpful kid…My eyes were opened to a whole different 20th-century history when I led a seder.

The seder seemed familiar to the participants. I recall more than one gratifying smile as we sang the four questions.

The most fulfilling part of the seder was learning the essence of the holiday from Jewish people who had not celebrated a seder in years. Whether they said so in broken English, Russian or Yiddish, with a smile, a song or a dance, every individual I communicated with had that same look. They were celebrating the Exodus again, the freedom of the Jewish people, with us.

Ira Markus is a student at the University of Toronto.

Ilana Reitzes

The songs are still playing in my head, the horahs still rushing around and around like the circle of life, and the voice of Samuel still rings in my ears.

I'll never forget our last seder in the city of Cherkassy. I've never seen a seder so full of excitement and love for Judaism and for the spirit of the Jewish people. For years, the Jewish people of Ukraine were silenced by the horrors of the Holocaust and by the Communist regime. Now, the Jews of Cherkassy (with their brethren across the country) are reclaiming their voice. Their Jewish pride rings loudly through their songs. In fact, in that last seder, Peter, the leader of the community, called a sing-off competition. Each table louder than the other sang with their hearts the songs of their youth, songs of the spirit of the Jewish people. Young and old, singing strongly and proudly together. A few years ago, this could never have been imagined – the Jewish voice of generations coming together.

Memory is an important part of reclaiming the Jewish voice. So many elderly men and women were touched by our prayers and our songs, remembering those same words that came from their parents. One beautiful man, Samuel, did not remember much from his youth, but he did remember the songs. He would take my hand, put it on his shoulder and dance with me to old Yiddish songs…He would sing about Jerusalem and about the Jewish people with such excitement and joy, like none I've ever seen or heard.

He taught me that the Jewish voice within a person can never die out. That despite 70 years of Communism and the Holocaust, an 86-year-old man can still sing and dance to Jerusalem like he did as a child.

The education of youth is the final part of reclaiming the Jewish voice. Seeing the youth of the Cherkassy community help lead the seders, I realized the most amazing thing: I have seen the four sons of the Hagaddah…

In the Ukraine it is now the age of the fourth child. She now has the opportunity to reclaim her identity and return it to her parents and grandparents. This is the fourth generation of rejuvenation, joy and hope. For what could have been a lost people is now a people with a voice. They see themselves as part of a greater story told to them by their children.

Ilana Reitzes is a student at McGill University.

Sharrona Pearl

I never pictured the Jews who stayed in the Former Soviet Union. I never knew about Babushka Chaya, an 85 year-old woman who stands four feet tall and dances to Yiddish songs she is once again allowed to sing.

I never dreamed of Bella and

On Campus

Ukraine Jews experiencing renewal of community life

[Cont'd. from page 32]

Jenya, board members of the Vinnitza Jewish council, lay workers who pour in hours of rebuilding that which they only heard about from their grandparents. Together, they and their board are fighting to develop a framework to bequeath to their children.

I never imagined Tanya, Artyom, Yan and tens of other students learning about Judaism for the first time. They are going to Hillel, working for the Jewish present and future, having fun and making friends – just like me. I never thought about *life* here, or the addition of new and potentially vibrant Jewish communities to klal Yisrael…

Much of the Jewish community here is starting fresh, built with outside assistance and an internal hunger. The renaissance taking place is faded by the memories of the elderly, the skills of the parents and the energy of the youth. It is also being built upon the foundation of repression and oppression.

I visited homes in Zmerinka that were heated by coal, virtual junk heaps in which ailing elderly inhabitants could only clap and smile while tears ran down their faces as we sang and danced.

In one such house, a disposable menorah with candles set in eight slots stood proudly on the table next to an open package of crackers and medicines. The 86 year-old man dressed in a ragged shirt and rumpled pants breathed through a hole in his throat and wheezed and indecipherable "speciba" – thank you. He remembered all the details of his Jewish childhood and was overjoyed to hear the songs of his youth. He lives alone in his tiny shack and depends on three hot meals a day from Chesed, a Jewish community organization sponsored by the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee.

He is at the top of the community list to receive aid as it becomes available. There are no government social services, no safety nets in Ukraine. Whatever the Jewish community provides is what he gets.

Chesed not only provides food, but also companionship – people. In one day, we visited the homes of eight elderly people, most of whom could not leave their small apartments. When they saw our smiles and heard our songs, their faces lit up and their small lonely worlds expanded. They all clapped and hummed, clutching the box of matzah we brought as a gift. Some cried, reminded of their daily struggle. Then they laughed, cheered by our exuberant and off-key singing, cheered by the flashes of their history that we were singing. Some threw away their years, their cares, their burdens and danced with us. They danced away their isolation and poverty and fear.

They danced away their fear, their isolation

Together, we danced for the future. They all hugged us. They all thanked us. They will be thinking of us for months to come and we will think of them. Such a simple thing to give – some time, some affection. Yet it means so much and makes such a difference.

One such visit changed lives forever – not only the lives of those we visited, but ours as well. An old man answered the door in an apron, while cooking food for his bedridden wife. We sang for them, smiling and dancing.

Then Shalom, one of my travelling partners, asked the man if he wanted to put on tfillin. It would be his first time in 75 years. The man's eyes widened, reddened, then filled with hope. His hands trembled as he casually shrugged his consent not trusting himself enough to talk. His wife looked gently on, waiting to share in another of the many moments upon which their lives together were built. The man held out a shaking arm as Shalom began the ancient ritual that has been passed from generation to generation. But here it was passed from grandson to grandfather.

The man repeated the blessing with a shaky voice, gaining more confidence as the words struck a long-buried chord. As he covered his eyes to recite the Shema, he recalled the same action from his childhood, reawakening a memory that would have been lost to him. As we left, he and his wife thanked us for remembering them. I would like to thank them for simply remembering.

Sharrona Pearl is a student at York University.

Stacey Wintre

Today we arrived in a small Ukrainian community outside of Kiev, and my noble mission is not so clear… The Jewish communities I visited, Bogoslav, Kanef, Korson, Gordishia and Kegarlic, are rich with education. Sunday schools are available for both children and adults. They have community centres and Jewish cemeteries, and they take great pride in being Jewish. There are Jewish libraries where prayers are conducted, and although there is no synagogue per se, alternate houses of worship are utilized. Services take place in homes, community centres and schools. A Reform rabbi from Kiev visits there as often as possible. There is the option of an Orthodox influence, also based out of Kiev.

Adolescents celebrate bar and bat mitzvahs, people engage in Torah study every Shabbat with parshat hashavuah classes. Holidays are celebrated – everything from Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur to Purim, Shavuot, Simchat Torah and Israel Independence Day.

The communities feed off each other, and because numbers are small, they often congregate together… They have leadership, ritual, prayer and custom. Most of all, they have belief and faith. There is a great deal of learning to be done here. I am not sure I am the only teacher.

Stacey Wintre is a student at York University.

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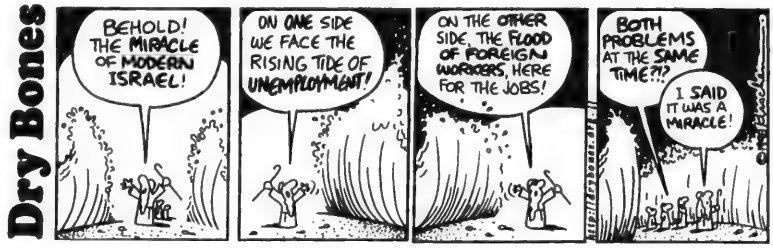
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Dear Sarah,

I am writing this letter to express my appreciation to you and The Canadian Jewish News, and to tell you just how successful my advertising program in the CJN has been.

When I first started Capital Ideas, my advertising objective was not necessarily to generate new business, but to let the community know the new company's name, describe the products I offer, and to inform them of my new address and phone number.

I intended to accomplish this with a consistent program of relatively small space ads over a period of no more than one year. Two years later, the program has proven to be an overwhelming success.

Many advertising programs work underneath the surface and it is often difficult to quantify the results. In my case, I can directly attribute a substantial number of new clients who said that they found me in The Canadian Jewish News. More importantly, the income I have earned directly from these clients has exceeded my cost of advertising by a significant margin.

In addition, I now enjoy a certain amount of recognition because the ads run with my picture. People often remark that they have seen me before – or that I look just like my picture in The CJN. I believe this also enhances my business and establishes credibility in the eyes of the community.

In short, I am extremely pleased with the results and I intend to continue my Canadian Jewish News advertising program for the foreseeable future.

Thanks again,

Ken Stern

יידיש ווינקל

רעדאגירט פון ש. ליפשיץ

שבועות, יום־טוב פון פרילינג און באַנייאונג

פון מאַניע ליפשיץ ע"ה

דער אורשפּרינג פון יידישע יום־טובים איז פאַרבאָרגן אין דער ווייטער אַלטערטימלעכקייט פון דער יידישער געשיכטע. צום אָנהויב זיינען זיי, אין מערסטן טייל, געווען נאַטור יום־טובים. אַ סך פון די יום־טובים זיינען באַווירקט געוואָרן פון מנהגים פון פאַרשיידענע שבטים און פעלקער, מיט וועלכע יידן זיינען געקומען אין באַרירונג — מנהגים טיילווייז איבערגענומען און אַריינגעפלאָכטן אין זייער אייגענעם לעבנס־שטייגער.

די נאַטור יום־טובים, וועלכע זיינען געווען אַ רעזולטאַט פון אַ מער פּרימיטיוון אופן פון עקאָנאָמישן לעבן, האָבן אין די שפּעטערע צייטן, ווען די געזעלשאַפט איז געוואָרן מער אַנטוויקלט און די מענטשלעכע צווישן־באַציאונגען מער קאָמפּליצירט, אויך באַקומען אַנדערע אויסטייטשונגען, ווי עטיש־רעליגיעזע, געשיכטלעכע, א.אַ.וו. עס זיינען אָבער נישט פאַרשוואונדן די שפּורן פון דער נאָענטער באַציאונג פון מענטש און נאַטור, און זייער דאַנקבאַרקייט צו גאָט און צו דער ערד, וואָס באַשפּיזט אַלע לעבעדיקע באַשעפענישן.

שבועות האָט גאַנץ באַשטימט אויפגעהאַלטן דעם אַגריקולטורעלן כאַראַקטער פון דער צייט, ווען יידן האָבן זיך שוין געהאַט באַזעצט אין כּנען און זיינען פון וואַנדערנדיקע פּאַסטוכער געוואָרן ערד־אַרבעטער.

שבועות מיינט וואָכן. עס פאַלט אויס זיבן וואָכן נאָך פּסח, דעם זעקסטן טאָג פון יידישן חודש סיון, אָדער צווישן מאַי און יוני פון אַלגעמיינעם קאַלענדאַר. דאָס איז די שענסטע צייט פון יאָר — פרילינג, ווען די גאַנצע נאַטור פּוצט זיך אויס אין פרישן גרינס און יונגע בלומען.

די זיבן וואָכן האָט מען געציילט פון אָנהויב פּסח ביז שבועות, פון דער צייט ווען מען האָט געבראַכט אין בית המקדש דעם עומר — אַ מאָס פון די ערשטע אָפּגעשניטענע גערשטן, ווי אַ קרבן צו גאָט — ביז דאָס איינזאַמלען דעם געשניטענעם ווייץ. פון די ערשטע ווייץ האָט מען געבאַקן צוויי ברויט און עס אויך געבראַכט אין בית המקדש אַלס דאַנקבאַרקייט פאַר דער גערעטעניש. דער יום־טוב הייסט אויך חג הקציר און אויך חג הבכּוּרים, דער יום־טוב פון שניט און פון די ערשטע זאַנגען, וואָס ווערן געגעבן ווי אַן אָפּפער.

שבועות איז פריער געווען באַטראַכט צווישן די קלענערע יום־טובים. שפּעטער — מען ווייסט נישט גענוי אין וועלכן פּעריאָד, (מען איז זיך משער, אַז דאָס איז געווען אין דער צייט פון צווייטן בית המקדש, ווייל אין די אַלטע יידישע ספרים איז נישט דערמאָנט מתן תורה אין דער צייט) — איז צוגעקומען די אויסטייטשונג פון זמן מתן תורה, דאָס באַקומען די צען געבאָטן ביים באַרג סיני. צוליב דער וויכטיקער ראָל, וואָס די תורה האָט געשפּילט אין דעם גייסטיקן און פיזישן קיום פון יידישן פאָלק אין גלות, האָט שבועות באַקומען אַ סך אַ טיפערע באַדייטונג. עס איז פאַרוואַנדלט געוואָרן אין אַ יום־טוב, וואָס איז נישט אַזוי פאַרבונדן מיט אַגריקולטור, ווי מיט גייסטיקע אוצרות, וואָס דאָס יידישע פאָלק פאַרמאָגט.

שבועות איז אויך פאַרבונדן מיט שיינע מנהגים. דאָס הויז ווערט אויסגעפּוצט מיט גרינס און בלומען, אַזוי אויך די שול, וואו יידן דאַוונען. דעם ערשטן טאָג ווערט געלייענט „אַקדמות", אַ לויב־געזאַנג צו דער שיינקייט פון דער נאַטור און גאָט'ס באַשאַף.

אויך ווערט געלייענט דאָס שיינע בוך רות. עס דערציילט זיך דאָרט, ווי די יידישע פרוי נעמי, אַן אלמנה, האָט פאַרלוירן אירע צוויי זין, וועלכע זיינען געווען פאַרהיראַט צו טעכטער פון לאַנד מואב, וואו זיי האָבן געוואוינט. נעמי גייט צוריק קיין יהודה. זי בעט אירע שנירן ניט נאָכגיין איר אין איר טרויער אין אַ פרעמד לאַנד. איינע בלייבט אין מואב, אָבער די צווייטע, רות, וויל ניט פאַרלאָזן איר שוויגער. „דיין גאָט וועט זיין מיין גאָט און דיין לאַנד וועט אויך זיין מיין לאַנד", זאָגט זי. עס איז די צייט פון ערשטן שניט פון די גערשטן. רות העלפט איינזאַמלען דאָס גערעטעניש אויפן פעלד פון רייכן גיט־באַזיצער בּוֹעַז, וועלכער פאַרליבט זיך אין רות און זיי האָבן חתונה. עס ווערט דערציילט, אַז פון זייערע קינדס־קינדער איז אַרויסגעקומען דוד המלך.

עס איז אַ שיינער און פריילעכער יום־טוב. עס איז פרילינג, די שענסטע צייט פון יאָר, ווען די גאַנצע נאַטור וואַכט אויף און מיט איר די האָפענונגען פאַר אַ שיין און פרידלעך לעבן.

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Cabinet considers revised U.S. pullback proposal

By HERB KEINON AND JERUSALEM POST STAFF
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — The security cabinet convened late last Sunday night to consider a revised U.S. proposal aimed at breaking the deadlock over the scope of an IDF redeployment in the West Bank.

A senior diplomatic source said the proposal, which was one of several presented during Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's recent visit to Washington, calls for the second pullback to comprise 11 percent of the West Bank and to be implemented within three months.

An additional four percent is to be turned over to the Palestinian Authority (PA) no later than the beginning of the final-status talks, which, according to the Oslo accords, are to commence by next May.

Both redeployments would hinge on what Israel terms "reciprocity" in implementing of the accords under this proposal. The Palestinians would come to the final-status talks controlling 42 percent of the West Bank.

Netanyahu delayed his departure for an official trip to China by six hours to meet for a third time with the security cabinet.

The flurry of activity came as some cabinet ministers complained they are being kept out of the loop on the negotiations over redeployment and as Netanyahu insisted that the peace process is in "dire straits."

With this terminology, the prime minister continued to back down somewhat from comments he made last week, when he said that the peace had "collapsed" two years ago after a wave of suicide bombings.

At a meeting with some 25 U.S. legislators here on a visit to mark the country's jubilee, Netanyahu said: "I said here in the hotel [last week] that the peace process was in dire straits in the first two years of Oslo. I repeat that statement."

Indeed, said Netanyahu, the picture the world has had of a thriving peace process over the years has been misleading.

"We had a peace process that began in Madrid, in rapid phases of deterioration by the end of 1995," Netanyahu told the congressmen.

"With the exception of the Jordanian-Israeli success, it came to a complete standstill with the wave of terror in the spring of 1996," he said.

Netanyahu told the delegation that talks with Lebanon had already "dwindled" by 1993, that the multilateral talks had faltered in late 1995, that the talks with Syria ended in 1996, and that final-status talks with the Palestinians were postponed that year due to the wave of terror.

The delegation leaders included Newt Gingrich, Richard Gephardt and Benjamin Gilman, who spoke of Israel in glowing terms and greeted Netanyahu warmly.

Labor party head Ehud Barak said the timing of Netanyahu's remarks regarding the state of the peace process is not coincidental, but rather an "attempt to create an alibi for his failure by casting the blame on previous governments."

During a discussion on the peace process in the cabinet, Netanyahu said that before the government was established, there was no reality of peace but rather one of repeated acts of terrorism.

"There was a problematic agreement, which was not even honored by the Palestinian side. The cabinet agreed to accept the agreement and remains obligated to continuing the peace process, on condition that the other side fulfils its commitments," he said.

Regarding the extent of the redeployment, the prime minister said that Israel has not reached an agreement with the United States on this matter.

"Israel can carry out the redeployment, on condition that its security interests are not affected," he said.

Upon returning to Gaza from Cairo, PA Chairman Yasser Arafat said the United States had not set a deadline for Israeli agreement to the Clinton administration's bridging proposals for a redeployment.

Arafat also called on Washington to blame Israel for the breakdown of the peace process.

"I didn't fix a date, but I am insisting that the American administration [announce] its initiative and what happened to this initiative," he said.

With files from Steve Rodan and Mohammed Najib.

AS CLEAN AS A WHISTLE

A member of a Patton tank crew cleans the barrel of his tank at the end of a day of exercises at an IDF base in the Jordan Valley. [Israel photo]

Third Way seeks unity gov't.

By MICHAL YUDELMAN
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — The Third Way said it would try to meet with President Ezer Weizman, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Labor Party leaders in an effort to form a national unity government to rescue the stalled peace process.

Labor chair Ehud Barak, however, said that a unity government is not on his party's agenda.

"This bad government must be replaced," he told reporters in Tel Aviv. "We now have a government that is not thinking about the security of its citizens but of its own survival and the survival of the man at its head."

He called on Netanyahu to cancel his trip to China and to travel instead to Washington to finalize an agreement on the second redeployment.

Third Way leaders, who met to discuss Netanyahu's controversial statements on the state of the peace process, demanded the prime minister resist right-wing pressures and implement the second pullback.

However, party leaders were divided in their response to Netanyahu's statements. While MKs Alex Lubotsky and Yehuda Harel are demanding the party take steps to pressure Netanyahu to implement the second pullback and advance the peace process, Internal Security Minister Avigdor Kahalani argues this is not the time to spark a coalition crisis.

"I admit I'm confused, I don't know where Netanyahu is heading," Lubotsky said. "The government is held in a vise by the radical right wing and I'm not sure it's going in the direction it has declared it will go in its guidelines, to implement the peace process."

Third Way and Labor MKs are said to be discussing a deal in which Labor would give Netanyahu a parliamentary safety net and not support any no-confidence motion brought by the Right to challenge a second pullback.

The Third Way, for its part, would publicly warn Netanyahu that if the redeployment isn't carried out by the end of July, it will quit the coalition and join Labor in an attempt to topple the government.

Kahalani denied the existence of any deal between his party and Labor.

Kahalani said "we must not create a crisis now or break up the government, as this would only weaken our position in the negotiations with the Palestinians. It would be irresponsible to put a gun to Netanyahu's temple at this stage."

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Israel & the Jewish World

Canadian, Israeli jurists discuss common legal issues

By EDGAR ASHER
CJN *Israel Correspondent*

TEL AVIV — Canadian and Israeli jurists met at Tel Aviv University earlier this month for a three-day International Canada-Israel Law Conference.

The conference, entitled Litigating The Value Of A Nation, was co-sponsored by the Canada-Israel Legal Cooperation Programme, a consortium of Canadian law schools including McGill University, University of Toronto, University of Alberta and Tel Aviv University Law School. The conference was also held in association with InterAmicus – Israel Association for Canadian Studies.

The co-chairs of the conference were Prof. Irwin Cotler of McGill University and Dr. Asher Maoz, head of the Tel Aviv University Institute of Criminal Law.

Its theme reflected the fact that this year sees the historic convergence of the 50th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the State of Israel and the Israel Supreme Court.

In his opening remarks, Cotler pointed out that this year was also the 50th anniversary of the Genocide Convention, "the Magna Carta of human-kind.

"In 1948 the human rights convention and the new state of Israel were to be a light unto the nations. They were at one in 1948. Fifty years later we find ourselves at a critical juncture. A Dickensian moment of 'the best of times and the worst of times.' We see in Israel increasing fissures, an adversarial culture.

"We hear a lot of the Americanization of Israel, where Canada appears as an afterthought. There is in fact a strong connection between the legal cultures of Canada and Israel: a legal and cultural symmetry which inspired the establishment of the Canada Israel Legal Cooperation Programme in 1992.

"The program exchanges views on fundamental freedoms and their limits, gender and minority rights, social and economic rights and the nature and legitimacy of judicial review in evolving constitutional democracy. It is a unique legal cultural connection."

Cotler pointed out the constitutional and legal-historical similarities between the two countries. "Both Canada and Israel are parliamentary democracies. Both have written most of the parliamentary constitution in the absence of an entrenched Bill of Rights. Both are exploring the possibility of judicial review in an evolving constitutional democracy. Both are mixed jurisdictions enjoying a civil and common law heritage. Both eschew in constitutional and cultural terms the absolute separation of church and state and therefore there is a particular relevance for Canada, as Israel evolves the notion of the meaning of Jewish and democratic state.

"Both are concerned with group rights, as well as individual rights. Both are multicultural democracies...grappling with the role and rights of not only linguistic and cultural minorities, but national minorities, the francophile national minority in Canada and the Arab national minority in Israel.

Legal Cooperation Programme
of Criminal Law
International Canada-Israel Law Conference
Litigating The Values of A Natio
Tel-Aviv University May 10-12, 1998

Pictured (from left) are former chief justice Haim Cohn, prof. Irwin Cotler of McGill University, prof. Aharon Brak, president of the supreme court of Israel, Justice Rosalie Abella, Ontario Court of Appeal, and Dr. Asher Maoz, head of the Criminal Law School, Tel Aviv University. [Isranet photo]

"In Canada and Israel," Cotler went on, "we are not only able to experience the human rights revolution, we can fashion the revolution. The relationship between Canada and Israel in the terms of legal cultures is unique and distinctive. There is no other place where you can find such parallels."

Prof. Aharon Barak, president of the Supreme Court of Israel, said, "We judges of the Supreme Court are faced with the conflict [between] free speech and maintaining public order. Freedom of religion conflicts with freedom from religion. Our legal system obliges us to solve these conflicts. We cannot abstain from giving judgements, but our legal system does not provide us with the needed tools to answer the questions. In many cases, we are told that the solution lies in a balance between conflicting values.

"A supreme court judge cannot do whatever he or she wishes," said Barak. "Absolute discretion for judges as well as any other bureaucrats," he emphasized, "is the beginning of the end of democracy."

Barak's sentiments were echoed separately by Canadian Supreme Court justices Ian Binnie and Frank Iacobucci as well as by Ontario Appellate Justice Rosalie Abella.

Commenting on the importance of the protection of human rights, Abella told the gathering, "It is a magnificent coincidence that the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and Israel were born in the same year. Both were products of the Holocaust and represent the triumph of hope over history. Both screamed 'never again' in their birth announcements, and both demanded the chance to grow with dignity and respect. They both knew that they were viewed by some with hostile suspicion, and by others with embarrassed resignation. They both knew that the world which endorsed them, feared them."

Abella, in agreement with several speakers, was critical of the poor international record in the advancement of human rights. "The arteries that pump justice into the hearts of our nation," she said, "are growing sclerotic, clogged by a diet rich in intolerance. People see what they are looking for. One person can look into a Venetian canal and see garbage, another can see rainbows. It is what their education and experience can train them to see. A judge is a function of her times."

In addition to the three Canada-Israel legal conferences, the program has been involved in several other initiatives involving legal jurists and scholars from Canada, Israel, the United States and Germany.

The conference in Tel Aviv was attended by jurists, scholars and legal practitioners, including judges from the supreme court of both Israel and Canada; as well as by constitutional law experts from the United States. It explored such diverse themes as equality rights, social and economic rights, and the politicization of the judiciary.

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The Canadian Jewish news

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Jerusalem Day celebrated

[Cont'd. from pg. 1]

Palestinian state be founded in our land... This city cannot be shared."

Palestinian negotiator Saeb Erekat called a U.S. congressional delegation, which included House Speaker Newt Gingrich, House Minority Leader Richard Gephardt and Pennsylvania Governor Tom Ridge, a "major provocation."

Gingrich, speaking at a luncheon for the delegation hosted by Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert, said, "I want to [respond] to those who complained about our presence and said it was somehow a provocation for us to be here on Jerusalem Day.

"True peace will come when everyone understands that you can be for Jerusalem Day without being against anyone; you can be for living together without being opposed to anyone; and that you can seek security for everybody without threatening anyone."

The Week in Israel

May 18

• Israeli troops wounded several members of Hezbollah during an overnight operation north of the security zone in south Lebanon. A commando unit and attack helicopters took part in the operation.

May 19

• Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu criticized a proposed European Union (EU) move to end trade privileges for products exported to Europe from settlements in the West Bank, Gaza, the Golan and east Jerusalem. Netanyahu said the move would end any attempt by the EU to play a role in the peace process.

May 20

• Netanyahu backed away from a plan to create a committee to examine draft exemptions for haredi yeshivah students after haredi members of his coalition threatened to bring down the government. Meanwhile, the High Court of Justice convened to hear a petition asking that a limit be set on the number of military deferrals granted to yeshivah students.

May 21

• Netanyahu told his cabinet that he had asked the United States for $1 billion in assistance to help cover the costs of a further redeployment in the West Bank.

May 22

• The latest Dahaf opinion poll showed if an election were held today, Netanyahu would win 42 percent of the vote; Ehud Barak, 31 percent; and Roni Milo, 15 percent.

50 Years Ago

WASHINGTON, *May 14* **—** The United States government tonight recognized the new Jewish state of Israel as the de facto authority in Palestine. Presidential press secretary Charles Ross announced that the president had approved the following statement at 6:11 p.m.:

"This government has been informed that a Jewish state has been proclaimed in Palestine, and recognition has been requested by the Provisional Government thereof.

"The United States recognizes the Provisional Government as the de facto authority in the new state of Israel."

With files from JTA

U.S. changes tactics

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

Public pressure has given way to quiet diplomacy as the United States works to revive the moribund Olso peace process

Mideast Analysis

Until recently, Washington had publicly pushed Israel to embrace its plan for a further 13 percent withdrawal from the West Bank in exchange for Palestinian measures to quell terrorism. But of late, the United States has lowered its rhetoric without "watering down" its proposals.

In the face of steadfast resistance from Benjamin Netanyahu, and the support his hardline views have elicited in the U.S. Congress, the Clinton administration has switched tactics in a bid to convince Israel to cooperate.

Instead of trying to browbeat Israel, the United States has adopted a softer tone, jettisoning for now all talk of ultimatums and deadlines.

The current period of strained relations between Washington and Jerusalem began with the abysmal failure of talks in London early in May designed to break the 14-month stalemate in Israel's negotiations with the Palestine Authority. Yasser Arafat accepted the U.S. proposals, but Netanyahu, claiming that a 13 percent redeployment would compromise Israel's security, offered nine to 11 percent.

The tension escalated when the United States gave Israel several days to accept an invitation to attend a summit in Washington to launch final status talks. The invitation, which was conditional on Israel's acceptance of the American plan, was rejected by Netanyahu but accepted by Arafat.

This created the dual impression that the United States and the Palestinians essentially concurred on the basics and that Israel was the recalcitrant party.

Alarmed by this growing perception, Netanyahu agreed to meet U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright and her aide, Dennis Ross, for additional discussions. No breakthroughs were achieved, leaving Albright and President Bill Clinton increasingly frustrated and the faltering peace process in a dangerous limbo.

Netanyahu, however, used his time in the United States to make the case that Israel alone had the right to determine its security requirements, and that American "diktats" were counterproductive and would be rebuffed.

Netanyahu was politely received by major Jewish organizations, although a survey indicated that 80 percent of American Jews supported Washington's initiative. He was also given a warm bipartisan reception on Capitol Hill, which created a rift between the executive and legislative branches of government on Mideast policy. Senate Majority leader Trent Lott and House of Representatives Speaker Newt Gingrich – who recently accused the White House of trying to blackmail Israel – espoused Netanyahu's views.

No one was surprised by the anti-Clinton tilt. On May 6, 220 of 435 members of the House of Representatives signed a letter backing Netanyahu. And earlier, on March 26, 81 of 100 senators warned Clinton that the size and scope of further redeployments should be decided by Israel.

Chastened by Netanyahu's public relations successes, the U.S. government backed away from an open confrontation with Israel, reiterating it had no intention of imposing a settlement. On instructions from Albright, the U.S. ambassador to Israel, Edward Walker, noted that policy disagreements would not "affect our fundamental commitment to Israel." Previously, Albright had promised not to issue ultimatums or threats. Hammering home this theme last week, U.S. Vice-President Al Gore pointedly observed: "Our special relationship with Israel is unshakable. It does not depend on the peace process..."

Even so, the United States remains committed to its still-unannounced peace proposals, which Albright has described as "balanced, flexible, practical and reasonable" and in line with Netanyahu's insistence on "reciprocity."

It's a point Clinton recently conveyed to King Hussein of Jordan and President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt, both of whom have immense stakes in a successful outcome of talks between Israel and the Palestine Authority.

Syria said deploying upgraded Scud missiles

By DOUGLAS DAVIS
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

LONDON — Syria has positioned upgraded Scud missiles to hit key Israeli targets, according to an Israeli military intelligence source.

Syria is targeting Israel's nuclear facility at Dimona, all of Israel's airfields and most of the major cities, the source told the London-based newsletter *Foreign Report*.

The Scud-C missiles have been modified with the aid of Russian experts to make them far more accurate, and they are now also capable of carrying high-explosive chemical cluster bombs, the source said.

Once the Scuds are launched, it will take just three minutes before they reach their targets and, according to the source, it will be virtually impossible for Israel to stop them.

The intelligence source's assessment contrasts with the Israeli military intelligence agency's annual report. This report, recently presented to the government, insisted that "in Syria the level of preparations for war is low."

Crew of the Air Canada flight after its landing at Ben-Gurion Airport.

From Montreal to Tel Aviv

[Cont'd. from page 1]

Jean-Jacques Bourgeault, senior executive vice-president of Air Canada, who came on the inaugural flight, responded to a speech of welcome from the Canadian ambassador to Israel, David Berger.

"We arrived in Israel three years ago as a partner in economic growth. We arrived today with a new service and a renewed partnership based on economic growth, mutual respect and a lasting friendship that exists between Canada and Israel," Bourgeault said.

With this new twice-weekly direct service from Montreal, Air Canada will fly at least one flight per day to Israel from Canada. The remaining five flights depart from Toronto.

"We intend to build on our present services to Israel," Bourgeault said in an interview afterward. "Now Canadian and Israeli businesspeople can count on our daily service and our Star Alliance connections. [Star Alliance is an affiliation of airline companies around the world, of which Air Canada is a member.]

"We are hoping that down the road, not only will trade and commerce continue to flourish between our two countries, but also that the peace process will permit us to start building on that service and eventually make Tel Aviv the hub of our operations in the Middle East.

"We could start becoming a much bigger player in the Middle East using Tel Aviv as the base."

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We would like to thank all candidates for their interest, however, only those being considered for an interview will be contacted.

Argentina blames Iran for bombings

By SERGIO KIERNAN
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

Charges expected to affect diplomacy, trade between two countries

BUENOS AIRES — Argentina is reducing its diplomatic ties to Iran to a bare minimum, charging Tehran with complicity in the deadly bombings of two Jewish sites here.

The charges have created a war of words between the two countries that will likely affect diplomacy and trade.

And it may also finally result in convictions of at least some of those behind the March 17, 1992, bombing of the Israeli Embassy in Buenos Aires and the July 18, 1994, bombing of the city's main Jewish community centre, known as AMIA.

The two still-unsolved attacks killed 115 people and left hundreds of others wounded.

Last week, saying there was an Iranian connection behind the attacks, Argentina recalled all but one of its diplomats from Tehran. It also told the Iranian government to do the same with its diplomats in Buenos Aires. Iran countered by saying it would cut its economic ties with Argentina.

Reactions to the latest developments provoked mixed reactions within Argentina's 300,000-strong Jewish community.

The lawyer for the Jewish umbrella organization DAIA, Luis Dobniewski, said he was optimistic that Argentina would finally confirm that Iranian officials had a hand in the bombings.

Others, however, were not so optimistic. According to Laura Ginsberg, a member of the Memoria Activa group that represents the relatives of the bombings' victims, "Jews ought to be cautious."

"Blaming it all on Iran is very convenient to the [Argentine] government," she said. "President Carlos Menem badly wants to close the case and not investigate the local connection – the local police and officials that took part in it."

"Blaming Iran," she added, will enable the government to avoid the "investigation that really bothers them: the activities of right-wing police squads."

Indeed, the investigation into the AMIA bombing has often targeted members of the Buenos Aires police.

A former police commissioner in charge of the grand auto theft division of the Buenos Aires provincial police was arrested in 1996 along with 10 other police officers on charges that they had sold terrorists the van used in the AMIA attack. They were all subsequently released.

Jewish leaders here and abroad have long cited incompetence, corruption and anti-Semitism among police and government officials as causes of Argentina's inability to solve either bombing.

For their part, Argentinian investigators have long claimed that there was an Iranian connection, and the government has previously downgraded its diplomatic relations with Iran.

Argentina only had a vague basis for its accusations, but now the Foreign Ministry is speaking of "new, conclusive evidence" indicating that Tehran was behind the bombings.

Early in April, the Argentine official in charge of the investigation of the AMIA bombing, Judge Juan Jose Galeano, went to Germany to interrogate a former Iranian official described as "an Iranian dissident."

Galeano never disclosed his findings, but a source close to him said there was "a new sense of excitement" after the interrogation.

According to the source, the judge is gathering information to issue an international arrest warrant against a former Iranian diplomat, Moshen Rabbani.

Expelled from Argentina in December, Rabbani was the cultural affairs secretary in the Iranian Embassy.

Last week, Galeano took a decisive step based on the information he gathered in Germany.

On May 14, he ordered the arrest of Imaiam Koshrow, an Iranian national who has been living in Argentina for several years. The next day, police teams arrested seven other Iranians living in the country.

A source close to the judge said in an interview that all eight Iranians were "connected to the Iranian Embassy here" and worked for the embassy or its cultural centres "on an irregular basis."

At least one of the Iranians was arrested while police raided the premises of the South Beef Eximport Co., where an undisclosed number of passports bearing forged Argentine visas were seized, the source said.

After Argentina recalled its diplomats and carried out the arrests, Tehran announced it would impose economic sanctions against Argentina if "the unfounded harassment of our diplomats and nationals does not cease at once."

Last weekend, the Iranian chargé d'affaires in Buenos Aires, Abdoirajim Sadatifar, insisted that Iran had "nothing to do with the bombings" and blamed Argentina for "giving in to international pressure."

The official Iranian news agency, IRNA, referred to the "interference of the Israeli Embassy in Buenos Aires" in a threat to cut off relations with Argentina.

A newspaper in Tehran quoted the Foreign Ministry's director-general of American affairs, Mohammad Reza Bakhtiari: "It seems that the Argentine judicial system is under the influence of Zionist elements trying to blame their domestic problems on Iran."

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Summer Fashion

Color your nails exotic, bold

By RACHEL ALKALLAY
Special to The CJN

Lilac. Storm. Electric blue. Cherries in the Snow. Heart. Raven Red. Sparkling Mint Sorbet. Provocative nail polish, provocatively named. Nail Fetish, one cosmetic company calls its line of alluring nail colors.

Gone are the days when spring meant pale pastels of ivory, delicate pink and barest blush shades. When frosts were wild and daring and only for the young and bold. When summer meant only bright reds and bright pinks – matching fingernails and toes. And autumn and winter were the seasons of rusts and browns and dull reds, always in matte and cream colors.

Today nails and nail polish are in – in a big way. Blues, purples and variations of yellow and gold are today's hottest colors promoted by today's top faces.

Cindy Crawford and Halle Berry pose for Revlon's line of purple and blue nail polish with matching lip colors. How about Two-Timer Stars (blue)? Or New Year's Blues? Bamboo Yellow for a hot summer's day?

Avon has created a line of luminous nail colors with heavenly names: Moon, Venus. Shades of other worlds.

Pacific Palisades has the exquisite Christie Turlington as its spokeswoman. And those shades – Violet Storm and other hotly named nail colors – are anything but calming.

With so many wild wonderful hues to choose from, match the outfit to the nail polish. Bring out the canary-colored jacket to go with the Banana Yellow nail polish by Maybelline. Go Blueberry. Or Apple, a lively green also by Maybelline.

Go boisterous and bright with L'Oreal's Orangeade, an unsubtly orange nail polish. Or glow with Day-Glo, a lime-yellow blend as outrageous as its name. Make it dark with Lights Out (black). Or go earthy with Grassroots (green), Key Lime (green) or Lemon Twist (yellow).

And change quickly. The latest in nail technology allows you to paint your nails and go out right away instead of waiting around for an hour for them to dry. Revlon has Top Speed, gold-capped bottles with shades of Girly (pink), Moss (green), Juicy (melon) and Smoke (grey). Maybelline goes Express with its line of quick-drying polishes.

Go to the other extreme. White and pale polishes have not been this big since the 1960s and Mary Quant. Remember white lipstick and long white nails? Well, the lip color still has a way to go before women use it en masse, but French White by Cutex has arrived, as have Clear Ice and White Lace, palest whites in pearly, liquid shades. And Pearl White.

Strike the mood, from black to white to sparkling blue with crystal flecks. Shimmer with flecks of silver in lime polish, gold polish and multi-prismed silver polish.

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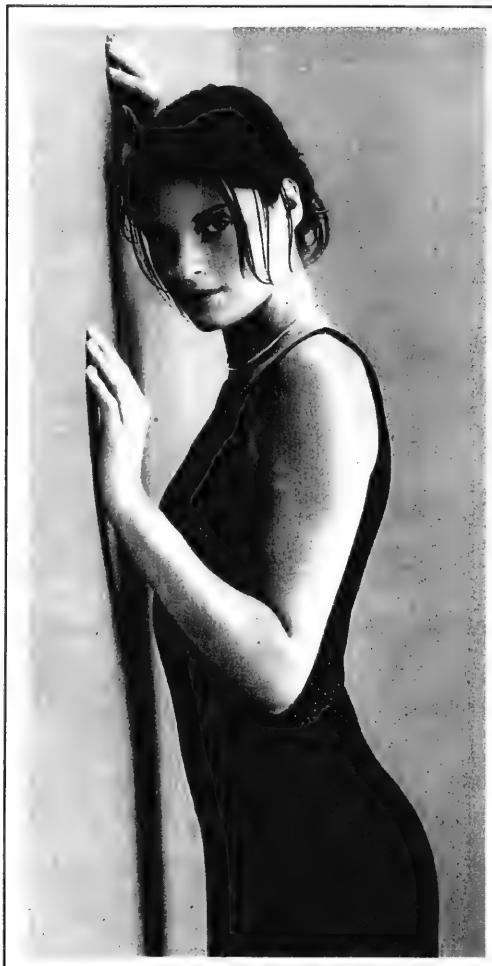
Summer Fashion



OLSEN COLLECTION

French Women Know, representing the Olsen Collection, recently presented a Fashion Play that demonstrated the art of maximizing one's wardrobe and highlighting the new looks

Marquis carries a wide range of styles and sizes.

Fine footwear, that's shoe biz

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to the CJN

Comfortable or fashionable – that was the choice women used to have to make when buying shoes.

But not these days. The shoe industry has come a long way in recent years, offering women a choice of footwear that is both comfortable and fashionable, according to Howard Share, owner of Marquis Shoes (484-0104).

"We specialize in providing quality, well-fitting shoes with fashion," Share said recently. "Our motto is fashion with comfort and fit."

The 11-year-old store located at 3237 Yonge St,. just north of Lawrence Avenue, specializes in women's fine footwear – both casual and formal – in a wide range of widths from AA to D, he said.

He carries many of the international lines known for casual comfort. Two of his most popular are Ecco, the Danish-based line manufactured in Europe, and Naot, the well-known Israeli sandal and clog company, he said.

He also has a large selection of Stuart's and Mr. Seymour which are produced in Spain by Stuart Weitzman, as well as a variety of fashionable Italian designs which include Nickels, Sesto Meucci, Van Eli and Rangoni.

Share lauded the quality, styling and craftsmanship of the Italian designers. "The ones I'm dealing with use the best quality materials."

Marquis also stocks high quality domestic shoes and boots, including La Vallée, and Thomas Wallace which come in combination fittings – AA toes and AAAA heels, for example. There is also a wide selection of the popular Sorel boots.

Share stressed the importance of wearing comfortable shoes. "I have a simple philosophy. Clothing covers your body. Your shoes carry your body. They are the foundation for everything else. Ill-fitting clothing will not hurt you. Ill-fitting shoes can damage you for life."

This summer, Share noted, the shoes styles "are like hemlines. Anything goes." High-heel shoes with pointy toes as well as the clunkier round and square-toed shoes with heavier heels are all in style.

He said he is finding basic colors like bones, beiges, earth tones, and navy, are very much in demand this spring. White is not as popular as it used to be, he said, because the season for white is too short.

Share started in the shoe business as a part-timer some 30 years ago. He established Marquis Shoes after identifying a specific market niche that needed to be filled, he said. "There was a definite need in the AA business. I've gone to wider widths due to the demand."

He said Marquis carries a wide range of sizes: medium or B widths are available in sizes 4½ to 11; AA widths are available in 7½ to 11; and C and D widths are available in sizes 6½ to 10.

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Summer Fashion

Beauty Shop

By Carol Wise

Sizzling shimmer – says summer in the city. Romance is in the air, you can just feel it. Metallic frosts caress the shoulders, hips and cheeks. Makeup becomes your favorite jewelry.

Skin Protection is essential. I'm sure you know that excessive sun exposure is known to be the chief cause of premature aging of skin, causing wrinkling, sagging and discoloration, but did you know that UVA rays can go through windows and clothing on sunny and cloudy days? UVA penetrates deeply causing damage of collagen and elastin without necessarily leaving a tan or a sunburn. UVB rays are the ones that turn your skin red, so take heed and never leave home without your sunblock in place.

"Hair this season is all about wash and wear" says, Daniel Fiorio of Salon Daniel. "Loads of shine and the softest textures play in the summer breeze. We are using many relaxing processes to straighten or control curls and for heaven's sake, don't cut your hair in layers as the fall season is bringing straighter, one-length styles." says the designer.

Redken unveils two new products to help create extra shine and texture – Undone and Water Wax. One is barely there, and one is obviously there – your choice.

Carol's tips:

• Skin care: It's a great season for fabulous new sun protection products, self-tanners, body moisturizers and yes, quite possibly, the answer to cellulite. For maximum benefit, remember to exfoliate before applying self-tanning products.

Cliniques Face-Zone Sun Block SPF 30 is a broad spectrum sunscreen that protects against the damage you see and the damage you don't. Try their Dark Self-Tanning Lotion. It will deliver a glorious deep tan in as little as three hours. Dior Bronze includes five new products. Its new formula is enriched with UVA and UVB sunscreens to give you a dazzling golden tan with genuine protection.

Estee Lauder's Go Bronz tinted face self-tanner works in two ways, immediately and in about one hour. Your sunless tan develops and looks so real you'd think you had been at the beach all afternoon.

Lauder has also launched a collection of self-action sunless supertan products that even includes an upside down spray for those hard to reach places. It promises a streak-free tan so natural only you will know it's fake. Their advanced suncare collection is Paba-free and gentle enough for the most sensitive skin.

Flash Bronzer Instant Dry Self Tanning Spritz from Lancome provides radiant and uniform color that dries quickly and you can dress immediately after application. This amber colored water spray delivers a streakless, sun-kissed tan within 45 minutes.

Discover Hudra-Refelts Du Corps from Christian Dior. Its magical formula contains instant light-reflecting properties. This smooth body moisturizer enhances skin with a pearly shimmer.

• Legs only – Dior pampers us with two new products, Svelte Perfect, a micro-gel that helps refine appear-

[Cont'd. on page 42]

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Summer Fashion

Finding a perfect, sunless tan

[Cont'd. from page 41]

ance by reducing cellulite and tensing the skin. Jambe Svelte offers relief from aches often caused by hot summer days or during plane travel.

• Vichy has made an incredible breakthrough in the fight against "orange peel skin" – a lipo-refining gel that triggers the fat-storage reduction process. According to a very strict test protocol, it appears that after eight days skin will be smoother and firmer, and after 28 days a loss of centimetres is significant. The name is Glucoblock — don't miss it. Also from Vichy is Normanderm, a line of six unforgettable products for men and women of all ages that suffer from circumscribed elevations of the skin – in short, pimples.

Get a quick fix for pores with Elizabeth Arden's Visible Difference Pore Fix C, the first pore cleansing strip to clean and treat with Vitamin C. This wonder strip not only cleans the skin but treats it with antioxidant vitamin C to help prevent future breakouts.

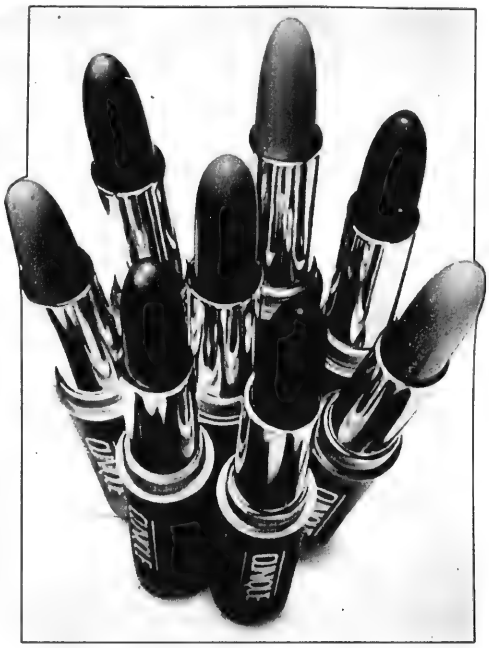
Elizabeth Arden's Ceramide Lift Firming Body Lotion is an all-in-one anti-aging formula that contains Ceramide Retinyl Complex, which synergistically helps the production of collagen and elastin. Instantly, skin is soft as silk and over time, body skin becomes stronger, firmer and age spots are visibly improved. If your skin is dry and tight-feeling then Arden's new Visible Difference Perpetual Moisturizer has your name on it. It goes beyond traditional moisturizers with its technological superiority – to actually program even severely dry skin to continuously create and retain its own moisture throughout the day.

Biotherm introduces Biokids – two fabulous products for the fragile epidermis of children's skin. A sun block with an SPF 35 and an After Sun Calming Lotion.

• Sweet Cheeks this summer will be adorned with a liquid pinky, pearl blush from Estee Lauder's Sweet Nothings collection. For a little extra sparkle, try Christian Dior's Touche Duo Symbole in three fabulous colors – gold, bronze and copper. These three treasures will sizzle on hot summer nights. And for the innocent, try Elizabeth Arden's newest blush shade that suits all skin tones – its name – Innocent.

• Eyes washed with the softest pastel shades dance unabandoned, skirting the rays of the summer sun. Clinique launches smudgesicles, eight gorgeous shades that are waterproof, crease-resistant and oil-free – great for travel. Dior reinvents eyeliner – DuoLiner, two lines, two colors – a contour shade and an accent. Together they are spectacular.

• Elizabeth Arden dazzles our lips with Lip Talkers – chic, water-proof jumbo lip pencils that work as a liner and lipstick in one. Colors are bursting with fun. Chanel's Makeup Studio suggests lips awash with the new and deliciously decadent color and brilliance of Extra Gloss/High Gloss lip gloss with its intense color, coverage and shine – simply exquisite. Brush on alone or top up any lip shade.



Estee Lauder's Sweet Nothings' melody provides us with a sugary spectrum of color that goes from super-light to a rich, rosy taupe. Try Petal; It's so pretty. Also look at the Think Pink series of lipsticks and nail paints. The colors are beautiful!

• Lauder has simply out done itself with its new Golden Angel Compacts, from January's angel of joy, to December's angel of responsibility, each of the 12 charming compacts features a guardian angel. Crafted in a matte golden finish, each piece reflects the angel's distinct traits and is enhanced with a crystal birthstone clasp.

Don't miss fun and excitement with Lancome's Body Art Transfer Kit, including a set of four designs and colors.

• Smell what? Smell This! is a line of fragrances that is organized in categories like Tecno-Pop, Bohemian Funk, Retro-fume and Scooby Snacks. If the aroma of Clean Wet Laundry, Cake Batter or Leather Jacket appeal to you, then don't miss the fun at Holt Renfrew. Evoke old memories or create new ones for just $12. Also at Holt's, is the incredible new scent Frangipane – a truly intoxicating floral scent that will remind you of a summer garden.

Daring, exhilarating and exciting best describe Extreme Polo Sport, an interesting duality of coolness and warmth. Treat your special guy, he'll love it and so will you.

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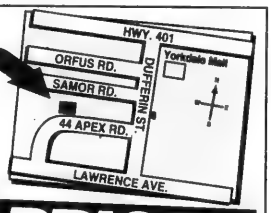

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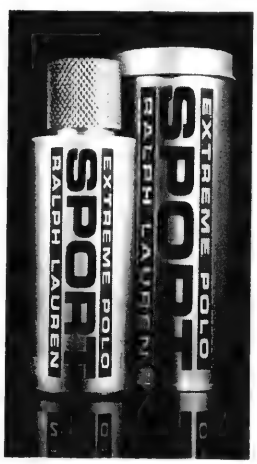

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Summer Fashion

Book reveals swimwear's history of fashion

By ELAINE COHEN
Business and Supplements Coordinator

Under the influence of North American designers such as Norma Kamali and Rose Marie Reid, the swimsuit has undergone a staggering transformation since the '40s.

Hems and inseams have been added, and the fibre and tweed have been rewoven into some of the most revealing and innovative garments history has known.

In Making Waves: Swimsuits and the Undressing of America (Raincoast Books, 1989), authors Lena Lencek and Gideon Bosker chronicle the evolution of the bathing suit. Swimwear has served as a marker for serious movements in fashion.

The first recorded case of bathing costumes originated in Greece, when public bathing was practised by "women of beauty and fine form." Streetwear togas were worn.

By 1850, bathing costumes consisted of the most fantastic assemblies. Ladies would improvise. Some would wear bloomers buckled nattily about the waist; others would wrap themselves in bright Turkish dressing gowns. Still others would wear old pantaloons and worn out jackets.

The bathing machine that took the bather out into the water was replaced by an awkward, bulky costume. Known as the Victorian bathing dress, the outfit included accessories such as parasols, gloves, and scarves.

By the late 19th century, customary bathing dress consisted of a pair of drawers and a skirt reaching to about three inches above the ankles. It was secured at the waist by a fabric belt. The drawers were plain or styled with lace and tightly banded at the ankle.

Classic Victorian look

Well into the 1890s, women wore corsets under their bathing dresses, even when they ventured into the water. According to Lencek and Bosker, the prototypes of "modern" swim trunks left much to be desired. The first Jantzen suits weighed nine pounds when wet and had a tendency to fall down.

Fortunately for women, bathing designers dispensed with corsets at the turn of the century.

By the end of World War I, bathing suits were decidedly keeping pace with fashion. Swimwear was rigged with sashes and teamed up with silk stockings, laced slippers and a hat. Even attempting the dog paddle must have posed problems!

The 1920s were restless, lawless years and the swelling tide of permissiveness made it possible for the maillot to make progress. By the end of the decade, Jantzen, Catalina and Cole became the recognized names in the new swimwear trend. According to Lencek and Bosker, the bathing suit came of age in 1930.

By 1939, two new latex fabrics were introduced and the bosom was molded by a brassiere constructed to provide good uplift.

The Jantzen look combined recreation, fashion and comfort and helped to change the traditional swimwear look.

Even a bathing cap can be a fashion statement.

By the end of the decade, the basic design of the female bathing suit included the maillot, the sheath, the two-piece and the dressmaker.

In 1943, rubber went to war and Cole's Margit Fellegi conceived a fabric made from parachute silk. It delivered the same snug fit as rubberized textiles.

The skimpy bikini bathing suit, which exposed the upper thigh, navel and back, first made waves in 1946. It was referred to as the "atome," a name that relates to Bikini, a remote southern reef in the Pacific which served as the base for atomic bomb tests after World War II.

In the '50s, Canadian designer Rose Marie Reid created swimsuits that molded a woman's figure. She also used water resistant fabric. From the '60s to the '90s, designers began to specialize in swimwear that served individual needs.

Today, everything from the maillot to the bikini prevails. Specialty shops carry bathing attire for pregnant, petite and plus-size swimmers.

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Misconceptions about elderly addressed with insight

Temple Sinai presents Dance Like a Butterfly

By CINDY WAXER
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — *Dance Like A Butterfly* examines people's misconceptions about the elderly with sensitivity, insight and humor.

Presented by the Temple Sinai Sisterhood and written by Montreal native Aviva Ravel, the play is scheduled to be performed Thursday, May 28. It stars Lisa Hurd as Tillie, a vibrant 85-year-old woman who has been placed in a geriatric ward of a hospital.

Confined to a wheelchair, Tillie's mind wanders to a past filled with joyous memories and heart-wrenching tragedies in order to come to terms with her present situation.

"[Tillie] is a very feisty old lady who really has not come to grips with the fact that she is 85-years-old and...she still wants to retain her independence," says Hurd.

Hurd was trained for the professional stage at the City Literary Institute and the Central School of Speech and Drama in London, England, and has received numerous awards for both acting and directing including the Theatre Canada Award for Best Performance by an Actress in a Leading Role and the Newfoundland and Labrador Drama Festival Award for Best Director.

Having performed in theatres in Ontario, British Columbia, Nova Scotia, England and Ireland, Hurd has also worked in film and on television, and boasts a long list of CBC Radio Drama credits.

But professional expertise alone could not properly prepare Hurd for playing the challenging role of Tillie. Instead, she focused upon her experiences as a caregiver to both her ailing mother and mother-in-law.

"[My mother] was this lady who was not going to give up and was not going to be a burden on us – she was just wonderful. And my mother-in-law...was a highly intelligent woman who could argue you under the table about history and politics and loved life. The combination of these two ladies inspired me," says Hurd.

Valuable lessons

Hurd also drew from her personal experiences as a child refugee. As a native of Austria, Hurd was forced to flee the country with her parents only six months prior to the start of the war. After arriving in England, she learned that dozens of her relatives had perished in the concentration camps.

Yet despite her firsthand knowledge of the feelings associated with alienation and a loss of independence, the appeal of *Dance Like A Butterfly* is not confined to those who have persevered under dire circumstances. Instead, the play contains valuable lessons for people of all backgrounds, experiences and ages.

"We all tend to forget and to lump old people into one category. We don't remember that every old person has been a young person and their life has been made up of so many rich experiences," says Hurd.

Tickets, $10, are available from Jean Glazer (416) 441-2297, Marilyn Jacobs (416) 488-5494 or Dolores Abramson (905) 881-0080.

ZIONCE MEMORIAL FUND

A $6,000 donation to the Toronto Cantorial Trust Fund from the friends and family of the late Moishe Zionce has established the Moishe Zionce Memorial Fund, which will award scholarships to cantorial students and offer programs that foster Jewish music. From left are Cantor Eliezer Kirshblum; Cantor Ephraim Sapir; Faye Zionce; Rabbi Chezi Zionce, Robin Zionce-Garber; and Cantor Paul Kowarsky.

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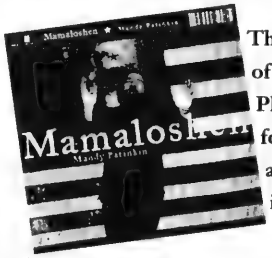

There is a booklet of the words in Phonetic Yiddish for each song – and a translation in English.

1. Belz
2. Hey, Tsigelekh
3. Rabbi Elimeylekh
4. Raisins and Almonds
5. Papirosin
6. Ten Kopeks
7. Maria (Westside Story)
8. Yome, Yome
9. Paper is White
10. Song of the Titanic
11. Motl the Operator
12. Under Your White Stars
13. American Tune
14. Take Me Out to the Ball Game
15. Der Alter Tzigayner
16. Oyfn Pripetshik

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Commerce Gate (505 Hwy 7 Second Cup)	11:15AM 2:30PM	5/6/7:00PM 10:00PM
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Travel, Arts & Business

Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

SONG COMMEMORATES GHETTO UPRISING

Toronto Jewish Folk Choir: Gemini award-winning actress **Vivian Reis** is the narrator in the **Toronto Jewish Folk Choir's** performance of **Max Helfman's** choral tone poem, *Di Naye Hagodeh* (*The New Saga*), set to **Itzik Feffer's** poem on the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising. June 7, 2:30 p.m. at Walter Hall (Museum subway stop).

Reis also introduces songs of work and peace marking Israel's 50th anniversary, including a tribute to **Paul Robeson** sung by **Marat Maxutov**, and the medley *Khalutsim Lider* (*Pioneer Songs*), arranged by **Zlamen Mlotek**. Tickets (adults $16) available at the door or by calling 489-7681.

* * *

News from Hollywood: Former Torontonian **Larry Guterman**, now a Hollywood director, has been hired by Imagine Entertainment to direct *Curious George*, a feature film based on the title character from the popular series of children's books by the same name. Shooting, which involves both live action and computer digital animation, is scheduled to start in August.

Produced by Universal Studios, the film is slated for release in the fall of next year. One of Imagine's principals is famed director **Ron Howard**.

Guterman, who launched his career several years ago with the memorable student film *Headless!*, has just completed work as one of three directors on the feature film *Ants* for the Dreamworks Studio. Part of his job involved directing **Woody Allen**, **Sylvester Stallone**, **Gene Hackman**, **Sharon Stone** and other celebrities whose voices grace the soundtrack of the animated film.

* * *

Arts Briefs

• ArrayMusic presents the final concert of the **Young Composers' Workshop**, featuring music by **Jerome Blais**, **Vincent Collard**, **ctmartin** and **Jordan Nobles**. The Music Gallery, 179 Richmond St. W., May 31, 3 p.m. $10. 532-3019.

• Faces & Facets of Israel, a photography exhibit by **Beverley Abramson**, opens June 1, 7 to 9:30 p.m. at Holy Blossom Temple. Runs to June 30. 789-3291.

• The 14th annual Sick Kids Telethon airs on CFTO-TV from 7 p.m. on May 30 to 7 p.m. on May 31. Call 1-900-630-7750 to give an automatic donation of $50, recorded on the donor's bill.

• Stage Centre Productions has announced its upcoming season, running September 1998 to May 1999. The company will stage five plays: *Private Lives*, *The Grapes of Wrath*, *The Government Inspector*, *Three Sisters* and *The Fantasticks*. Subscriptions: Adult $64, Seniors $52, Students $40 (single tickets: $16, $13, $10). 299-5557.

• The Canadian Stage Theatre on Berkeley Street is mounting a production of **Moises Kaufman's** off-Broadway hit play *Gross Indecency: The Three Trials of Oscar Wilde* starting June 8 (previews); opening night is June 25.

Co-producers are **Leonard Soloway** and **Jeffrey Latimer**. **Paul Miller** heads an all-Canadian cast.

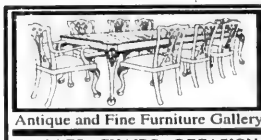
* * *

In the Spotlight: Edgardo Mortara was a 6-year-old boy living with his large Jewish family in a town in northern Italy when the family's Catholic maid covertly baptised him. In 1858, that was all that was required for the Catholic authorities to intervene, claiming the child was now Catholic and could not be raised in a Jewish family. With the full blessings of a cardinal and archbishop, the local priest used legal means to send a squad of police to the Mortara residence to forcibly and permanently separate the frightened child from his family.

Last year, author **David Kertzer** published an account of this little-known episode in Jewish-Catholic relations. As *The Kidnapping of Edgardo Mortara* (Knopf, 1997) relates, Edgardo's parents did not give up their fight for his return, not even when they learned that their son had become the personal protégé of the Pope and was being groomed for the priesthood.

Despite interventions by **Moses Montefiore** and numerous statesmen, the church refused to return the boy to his family, asserting that the family should bow to the church's stronger claim on his immortal soul. Ultimately, Edgardo became a priest, and when his parents finally gained access to him, he wanted to have little to do with them or with his Jewish background. His anti-Jewish tirades were a common theme of his lectures from the pulpit, and he remained antagonistic to the Jews until his death in 1940.

Kertzer tells this sad and shocking story well and, having found many primary documents, with an unexpected level of detail.



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Zimriya set for June 2

The 1998 Zimriya (choral festival) will take place at 8 p.m. on June 2 at Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue.

This free event, organized by Jewish Music Toronto, is an opportunity for the whole community to participate in celebration of Jewish music, either as listeners or performers.

Choirs slated to appear include the Zemer Chorale, the Holy Blossom Singers, Lachan, Ne'imot Singers, Beth Tikvah Choir, Temple Sinai Choir and the the Toronto Jewish Folk Choir.

"This is a special year for us," said organizer Charles Heller referring to Israel's 50th anniversary. "This watershed year in Jewish history has affected the way we respond to Jewish music of the past and the way Jewish music is written today.

Celebration of Jewish music

"Such a concert would have been inconceivable 100 years ago," he said. "If the great Jewish composers of the past – Rossi, Mendelssohn, Offenbach, Mahler – would be here for our Zimriya they would be filled with awe and wonder. Who knows what they might have composed as a result!"

Heller will also conduct the combined choirs in music by Israeli composers.

* * *

• The Toronto Senior Strings, conducted by Victor Feldbrill, presents its final concert this season at 2 p.m. on June 4 at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church.

Highlights of this concert are the Bach double concerto and John Reeves' *In Memoriam Primo Levi*.

The Bach segment features soloists Jascha Milkie and Mikhail Bratt.

In Memoriam Primo Levi brings together Canada, Italy and the Jewish community in a moving composition sung by the mezzo-soprano voice of Sandra Boyes. Reeves was a friend of Levi's for 25 years and wrote this song after his death to honor his memory.

In Memoriam embodies two texts, the first a poem by Levi, *Shema*, and the second a poem by Reeves, *This Was a Man*.

Tickets, $10, are available at the door. For more information, call 769-5071.

* * *

• The Opera Glamour Gala takes place 6:15 p.m. June 4 at the Wellington, 424 Wellington St. W. between Spadina and Bathurst.

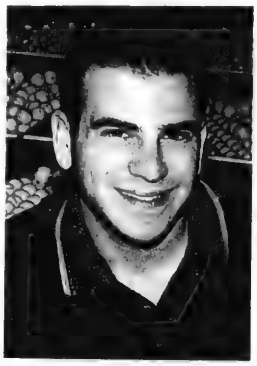
The concert is a benefit for the International Resource Centre's Encounters with Employers program.

It features performances by Metropolitan Opera baritone Louis Quilico, pianist Christina Petrowska, soprano Millicent Scarlett and pianist Laura Friesen

Tickets are $100, receipts are available. For more information call 362-1422

Golf balls sell like hotcakes

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter



Jeffrey Shuster

TORONTO — When Jeffrey Shuster got into the used golf ball business four years ago, he was a casual golfer at best. Over the course of time he's developed a greater appreciation for the sport, but now he's barely got time to get in a round.

His business, Good As New Golf Balls, is keeping him so busy hopping from store to store that he hasn't had time to hit the links yet this season. With this year's early spring, Good As New has been selling used golf balls about as fast as they can be placed on the shelves, er, make that in the bins.

"I can't believe it," the 25-year-old entrepreneur said recently. "We've been doing on Saturdays in April the kind of business we did on Saturdays in July and August last year…The warehouse is almost empty."

Since last summer, Good As New has added a third store in Oak Ridges, north of Toronto, to go with the original outlet on Doncaster in Thornhill and the company's second store at Dundas and Dixie in Mississauga. Whatever the location, people have been snapping up the gently used golf balls at a frantic pace.

Shuster is forecasting that the Thornhill store alone will sell approximately 800,000 balls this year and that overall, the three outlets will move more than one million balls. At an average price of 98 cents a ball, that's about $1 million in gross sales.

Each store stocks about 20,000 to 30,000 balls at any one time, but the most popular items by far are the most expensive, particularly the top of the line balls such as Titleists, Shuster said. Precept Extra Spin have been very hot. At prices half their retail cost, bargain-hunting golfers are snapping up the balls.

Instead of paying $36 or even $50 for a dozen new balls, those same balls can be found at Good As New for $18 to $25, he said.

Unlike other stores selling used golf balls, Good As New packages premium balls in clear plastic containers, allowing consumers to walk into the store, find their balls of choice, plunk down their money and be on the way to the course in only five minutes, he said.

"We cater to the higher end, educated golfer who doesn't want to look through a bin," Shuster said.

Prices have not gone up in four years, Shuster pointed out. Titleist DT, HVC and HP2 sell for $15.79 a dozen, while other popular brands like Pinnacle, Ultra, Top-Flite are similarly discounted. There's even a bargain bin, titled "fishbait," for more frugal golfers or for those who may want to have a disposable ball in their bag when they shoot over a water hazard.

Balls packaged by Good As New are almost indistinguishable from new balls, he said. Many that are brought to the 2,500-square-foot Doncaster warehouse/store are prewashed by the divers who find them. Those that aren't are washed, sorted and put out on display.

Since opening the business in 1995, Shuster has exceeded his expectations. In year one, the Doncaster store sold about 200,000 balls and "each year since then, this store has almost doubled."

Last year, the Mississauga outlet sold about 100,000 balls, even though it didn't open until sometime in May, fairly late in the season.

In his initial year of operation, Shuster advertised only once, in the *Toronto Star* golf supplement. Since then, he's spent little on promotion. "Our best advertising is our customers. We lose very few," he said.

Though he loses few customers, Shuster can be happy they lose plenty of balls. According to statistics cited by Shuster, the average golfer loses two balls during a round of golf. When you consider that golf is North America's most popular participatory sport and that more and more rounds are being played each year, there are hundreds of millions of balls waiting to be found, Shuster said.

Meanwhile, Shuster has been branching out, adding golf tchatchkes like soft spikes, gloves, wood covers and other equipment to his inventory. This year, he's added a line of golf clothing called UDAMON Golf Gear and he offers club regripping and a custom-built club service.

Firm finds film locations

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Do you think the house in the made-for-TV movie you're watching looks like the house around the corner? Chances are, it is.

Your neighbors may have signed on with Film Locations and All-Star Accommodations Inc.

Shelley Blechman, owner of the 3-year-old company, provides locations for the film industry, as well as accommodations for those involved with the film, such as the director, the producer and their assistants.

The idea for such a business was conceived, says Blechman, after her parents' home was used to shoot a shampoo commercial.

"I realized that it was difficult for the film industry to locate upscale homes. I began asking my family and friends to use their homes as film sites, and the whole business snowballed."

Her agency runs much like a casting agency, she says. "Clients call and sign up their homes. I maintain a portfolio, and when film people like what they see, I set up an appointment for them to see the home in person. If it is what they're looking for, it's a match.

"Some houses are film-friendly. We usually look for big, bright rooms to work in – furniture is secondary. It is also necessary to find homes that fit the script. For example, the film crew may need a house with a bay window in the kitchen. We pull out the portfolio of homes and give them a choice of about 12 homes that fit their description."

Clients can be assured their homes will be taken care of, says Blechman, because she only deals with reputable production companies.

Clients get an allowance for having their homes used, and if they have to move out while filming is in process, they are given money for their alternate accommodation.

Her agency's homes have been used for television shows such as *Traders*, *Ghostwriters* and *PSI Factor*, the *Blues Brothers 2000* movie and many commercials for companies including The Bay and a line of Sabrina toys.

Blechman says when it comes to accommodating the cast and crew of movies, "everything is very personal. Some people want midtown condos, others want secluded homes with pools. I provided the Rolling Stones and their families with locations when they were here, – they paid about $60,000 a month for their accommodation. Tom Cruise and Nicole Kidman stayed in one of my homes and Bette Midler also stayed in one of my midtown locations."

Clients who rent out their homes, she says, can take the opportunity to travel or live in another of their properties.

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Travel, Arts & Business

Virginia peninsula a must see for Civil War buffs

By JOSIE NEWMAN-PROVOST
Special to The CJN

If you are driving south along Interstate 95, you should take a detour near Richmond, Va., and follow Interstate 64 south-east to the new Peninsula Campaign Trail.

Many historic and modern attractions await you on the "trail," which opened in June 1997. A compilation of 36 sites that marked the history of the Peninsula Campaign of the American Civil War, they are all close to Route 64 and its offshoot, Route 664.

Named after a battle that took place on the peninsula jutting out into Chesapeake Bay, the campaign was a plan of attack for Union forces against the Confederate army. The end result, though, was the victory of the Confederate army of 13,000 men over a force of 121,500 Union soldiers.

It takes a couple of days to tour all the sites stretching from Richmond to Fort Munroe at the tip of the peninsula. Some of the more interesting sites are Endview Plantation, believed to have been the site of Union headquarters during the Civil War; Lee Hall, headquarters for the Confederate forces of John Magruder; and Fort Monroe, a Union fort for 15 years. Built in 1819, it is the largest stone fortification ever built in the United States.

We started our tour at a medium-sized town called Newport News. In a strategic location 97 kilometres south-east of Richmond and 20 minutes from Virginia Beach on Chesapeake Bay, Newport News is being touted as a future tourist mecca. Its main industries are now shipping, shipbuilding and the United States Navy, but its potential is enormous.

The town is home to a number of world-class museums, biking and hiking trails, a burgeoning beach, many parks, and several good restaurants and motels. The Civil War sites include the Battle of Dam No. 1 in Newport News Park, the Mariners' Museum and the War Memorial Museum of Virginia.

The Battle of Dam No. 1 in April 1862 was Union general George McClellan's only attempt, albeit unsuccessful, to break through Confederate defences along the Warwick River, which runs through Newport News. More than eight kilometres of earthwork fortifications built by Confederate major-general John Magruder in the woods near the river are still mostly intact.

They are so carefully concealed behind trees and hills that it's not hard to understand why the Union army was stymied in its attempt. Strolling through the area makes for a beautiful walk on a sunny afternoon. There are signs along the way explaining the battle, as well as a mural depicting the battle scene. The site in Newport News Park is located next to a wildlife sanctuary.

The Mariners' Museum is one of the largest international maritime museums in the world. Its buildings boast more than 35,000 maritime items, including ship models, maritime paintings and navigational instruments. One of its most popular exhibits is the Clash of Armor, an exhibit that tells the story of the Civil War battle between the *USS Monitor* and the *CSS Virginia*.

The Crabtree Miniature Collection of Ships is also housed here, the only one of its kind in the world. It was built by August Crabtree, a craftsman from Seattle who spent 28 years toiling over the miniature ships with dental tools.

Lee Hall, the Italian-style mansion where John Magruder and another Confederate general, Joseph Johnson, planned their defence for the Battle of Dam No. 1, is on the outskirts of Newport News.

It is a charming cotton-era plantation home, one of the last on the peninsula, and the place from which the first Confederate hot air balloon was sent up to spy on the Union Army from the earthworks on the front lawn. Built around 1850 by Richard Decauter Lee, Lee Hall was a tobacco plantation until 1861, when it became Confederate headquarters. Under renovations for the past several months, Lee Hall will reopen this spring as a museum and will be available for tours in the summer.

A couple of miles up the road at Endview Plantation, a modest white frame house built between 1720 and 1760, archeologists have recently unearthed what they believe was the secret site of the campaign headquarters of the Union Army. Most of the "evidence" came from the root cellar, including a Civil War soldier's hat-pin and a pinky ring, said Tracy Northcott, the archeologist in charge of the dig. The house is also pictured in the background of a black-and-white photograph of McClellan and his soldiers.

"The implication of having two headquarters down the road from one another are incredible, when you think of the Union forces operating in secret right under the noses of the Confederates," said Suzanne Pearson, media relations and promotions manager for the Newport News Tourism Development Office.

Another 15 minutes south-east of Newport News lies Fort Munroe, a picturesque spot at the tip of the peninsula across the water from its Civil War companion, Fort Wool. The view is tremendous, especially on a clear, sunny day. It takes about 40 minutes to walk around the ramparts of the whole fort.

You can see the moat surrounding Fort Munroe, the barracks of Navy families and the families themselves at play or the servicemen performing drills. Walking through the former barracks and headquarters operations under the fort is equally interesting. There is also a wonderful museum and gift shop.

The Peninsula Campaign Trail is worth a separate trip if you're a history buff; even if you're not, it's still worth the detour.

Cannons used in the Battle of Dam No.1 in April 1862. [Josie Newman-Provost photo]

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Approx. 7 yrs. old, 4 bdrm., 4 baths, fam. rm., fin. lower lvl., 42'x115', Superior fin. Jay Bleiweis* 266-1987

AVENUE RD. & ST. CLAIR
4 plex, great condition, huge lot. Russell Pearsall* 488-2875

1ST AD! YONGE/FINCH AREA! $668K
Spacious custom blt., 4+1 bdrms., 6 baths, ma. fam.+lau.+2 pce! Sep. in-law ste! 41'x132'! Sandon Schwartzben** 488-2875

ST. GERMAIN – REDUCED!
Excellent opportunity to purchase below market! 4 bdrm., 5 baths, newer home. Call Rickey Fitzerman* 226-1987

1372 AVENUE ROAD
3 storey, 3 bdrm., freehold townhouse, approx. 2350 sq. ft. J. Gofman*/L. Cooper* 488-2875

UPPER VILLAGE OPPORTUNITY – $449K
3 bdrm., 2 stry., great lot! Cheryl Sniderman* 488-2875

MT. PLEASANT/EGLINTON – $359K
Det, 2 stry., 3 bdrm., 2 bath, hrdwd flrs., Calif. shutters.25'x100' priv. south yard. Jay Bleiweis* 226-1987

HEATH ST. SUBWAY – $319K REDUCED
3 stry., 4 bdrm., 4 bath, pr. dr. & yard. Gary Mitchell** 488-2875

YORK DOWNS W./BATHURST! NOW $318K!
Reduced for immediate sale! 3+1 bdrm., 4 bath, mn. fam.+lau.+2 pce! In-law ste! Call Sandon Schwartzben** 226-1987

1ST AD! MARLEE/EGLINTON! $168,800!
Excellent for 1st buyers! Well mainteined 2+1 bdrm., reno bath, 25'x120' lot. Sandon Schwartzben** 226-1987

BAYVIEW PROPERTIES

OLD COLONY ROAD
3+2 bdrm. bungalow, indoor pool w/spa. Lot 100'x296'. Julie Gofman* 488-2875

BRIDLEPATH/LAWRENCE – JUST $1,199K
Gorgeous reno'd home, 109'x113' ft., 4 bdrm., 6 bath. Falthe Bongard-Sversky** 488-2875

EDWARDS GARDENS! $588,888K
Spectacular 90'x146' irreg. lot w/updated 4+2 bdrm., fab. in-law ste./office! Sandon Schwartzben** 226-1987

BAYVIEW N. 16TH – REDUCED TO SELL!
Approx. 4400 sq. ft., 5 wr., hdwd. flrs., marlee rl intel nan's quarters. Vendors say sell! Ruth Trachter* 226-1987

NEW LISTING – FREEHOLD TOWNHOUSE
Newly completed T.H. quality finishing. Hdwd. flrs. om mn. fin. lower w/gar. access. Anna Pollock* 226-1987

BAYVIEW/CUMMER AREA! NOW $298K!
Vendor says sell! Fab. 100'x76' treed corner lot! Develop/build new! Sandon Schwartzben** 226-1987

NORTH PROPERTIES

1ST AD! 291 UPPER HIGHLAND CRES.
Totally reno'd 4 bdrm. w/pool. Julie Gofman* 488-2875

EXCL. NEW LIST! BAYVIEW/STEELES – $639K
Build or renovate bung. on 121'x150' lot on fab. street. Sharon Bobkin*/Janie Lerner* 226-1987

NEW PRICE – BEST VALUE!
Spec. 5 bdrm. designer's own home. Gourmet kit., quality finishing. Anna Polock* 226-1987

130 LISA CRESCENT NEAR BATHURST
4 bdrm., 4 bath, 2 kit. near synagogue. Julie Gofman* 226-1987

NORTH YORK BEAUTY!
Wonderful 3 bdrm. bungalow. Marv. maintained. Bsmt. apt. potential - walk to schools, TTC, shuls etc. Rickey Fitzerman* 226-1987

#18 ON QUIET CRES. – ATKINSON & CLARK
3 bdrm. det., new kit. & ceramic floors, new brdlm., 2 car gar., CAC, 4 appls. Priced to sell $278K. Hedda Zaionz* 226-1987

ATKINSON & CENTRE – $259K
Det. 3 bdrm., main fam. rm. w/fireplace, 2 car gar., 4 pc. master ensuite, 4 appls. & more! Hedda Zaionz* 226-1987

ATTN: 1ST TIME BUYERS – ATKINSON & CENTRE – $209,900
3 bdrm., huge kit. w/walk-out, 4 appls., CAC. Close to schools, park & shuls! Hedda Zaionz* 226-1987

CONDOMINIUM PROPERTIES

QUALITY CONDO – $335K
Central south view, 2+ bdrms., 8'x10' terrace. Susan Slater* 488-2875

AVENUE RD./ST. CLAIR CONDO – JUST REDUCED!
Excl. 16 suite bldg., 2 bdrm. Faithe Bongard-Sversky** 488-2875

18 CLARK AVE. W. – TOWNHOUSE #146
3 storey, 3 bdrm. Immaculate $$ upgrades. J. Gofman* 488-2875

COVINGTON/BATHURST – $200K
New 2 bdrm., East view, eat-in kit. Upgraded lux. Lillian Cooper* 488-2875

BATHURST/CENTRE – PRICED TO SELL
2 bdrm.+sol.+2wrs.+2 parking - gorgeous white kit., huge ensuite, laundry rm. w/shelving, CVAC. Hedda Zaionz* 226-1987

FOREST HILL CO-OWN APT.
1 bdrm., den, balcony, south facing. Russell Pearsall* 488-2875

OUT OF TOWN PROPERTIES

• RARE LAKEFRONT PROPERTY •
Inground pool, steps to shul! M. Olan* 226-1987

MUSKOKA COMMUNITY BUILDING LOT
On McKay Lake. Asking $39,900. Robert Samery** 488-2875

**Associate Broker *Sales Representative

LARNELL
REAL ESTATE LIMITED
Sheldon Laiwint
Broker
782-0888

• **WILMINGTON TRIPLEX** - $298,000. Lg. 2x3 bdrm., 1x1 bdrm., ensuite wshrms., balcs., dble. gar., lg. lot, won't last!
• **BATHURST MANOR** - Bungalow, $259,000. Pretty 3 bdrm., fin. bsmt. with sep. entr., C/A close to all. SOLD

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CALL TANYA AT (416) 391-1836
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CJN Classifieds Really Work!

BATHURST-LAWRENCE PROPERTIES

Estate sale - 3 bdrm. bung., master ensuite, fin. bsmnt., cent. air, 54' frtg.

Lovely 7 rm. split, 50' frtg., eat-in kit., liv./din. comb. with w/out to patio. Sep. entry to fin. bsmnt., wet bar

RUTH RYBAK
RYBAK REALTY LTD.
(416) 787-7151

5 HOUSES FOR SALE

HARVEY KALLES
REAL ESTATE LIMITED REALTOR

REDUCED ! NOW $289,000
Townhouse - Bayview/York Mills. Spacious 3 bdrm., eat-in kitchen, new broadloom, A/C. Call Carol Lou Spiegel*

GLENGROVE - $469,900 WOW!!!
Multi-level, 4+1 bdrm., oversized kitchen & dining room. W/out to landscaped yard. Walking distance to synagogue & schools. Carole Lazer*

NEW LISTING! "COUNTRY FRENCH"
Forest Hill - characte SOLD m. Beautiful garden. Toby Farb*

BEAUTIFUL PROPERTY – 85'x135' LOT
Restored Mansion! High ceilings. Income producing! Rare opportunity! Gorgeous garden! Call Toby Farb*

COUNTRY LIVING IN THE CITY
$1,595K - 80'x 270' lot. Majestic view of skyline/CN Tower. Ravine and table land. Elise Kalles** & Toby Farb*

NEW LISTING! BATHURST/LAWRENCE
Facing a park on a premium lot, this reno'd 3 bdrm. with private lower will sell fast! $324,000. Call Brenda Abramson**

BAYVIEW VILLAGE – QUIET CRESCENT
A lovely 3 bdrm. + den + rec. room with updates. Very spacious and close to amenities! Call Brenda Abramson*

* Sales Representative ** Associate Broker

A percentage of all our sales will be donated to supporting the homeless through "PROJECT WARMTH"

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SEIDMAN
REAL ESTATE LIMITED REALTOR
633-7373

BLUE FOREST AREA
Cust. built 2 storey, 4 bdrms., 4 bths., den, library, huge liv. & din., kit. w/walk-out to balc., open oak staircase, completely fin. lower lvl. w/walk-out to patio & ravine lot. A must see! Don't miss!

• • •

SHEPPARD ALLEN RD.
3+ brdms., 2 bths., sep. liv. & din. rm., w/walk-out to yard, kit. w/appls., rec. rm., fireplace, 50'x150' lot, steps to all.

• • •

WILSON BATHURST TRI-PLEX
2-3 bdrm. + 1-1 bdrm., balcs., garages, good income, A-1 location.

• • •

SHEPPARD WILSON HEIGHTS
3 bdrm. bung., 2 kits., 2 bths., 73' ft. frontage, ideal for handyman or builder.

• • •

A. & D. SEIDMAN 633-7373

WILMINGTON/GARTHDALE
Want to be a landlord. Make money & live in your own home. Buy this nice triplex 2-3 bedroom, 1-1 bedroom, 2 car garage & parking.

SHEPPARD/WILMINGTON
Lovely side split 3 bedroom, 3 baths, huge fam. room w/out to garden, rec. rm. & wet bar, appliances, 2 car garage, steps to shopping & synagogue.

SALLY ROSEN, Sale Rep.
(905) 884-4425
CENTURY 21 SMITH LTD. BROKER

BATHURST/WILSON
Great Armour Heights location. Hardwood under broadloom. Fin. basmt., newer roof, furnace, A/C. $299,900.
VIVIENNE OSEN
905-764-7111
CENTURY 21 HERITAGE GROUP LTD.

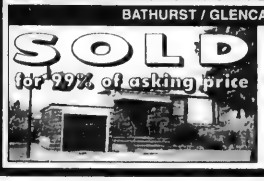
REAL ESTATE Section

5 HOUSES FOR SALE

"WE OPEN DOORS FOR YOU"

DAVID EICHORN REALTY LIMITED 787-1712

BATHURST / GLENCAIRN



Immaculate 3 bedroom bungalow on gorgeous 45 x 140 ft. lot. Hardwood floors, finished basement. Terrific value! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

SOLD

BATHURST / PRUE

Prestigious location! Spacious 5 + 1 bdrm. sidesplit, family room, hardwood floors, gorgeous 50 x 125 ft. lot, close to park, quiet street, only $529,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / GLEN PARK — NEW LISTING!
40 x 132 ft. building lot in prime area, surrounded by luxury homes. ACT NOW! Only $259,000. Call David Eichorn at (416) 787-1712.

• • •

BATHURST / YORK DOWNS — SPACIOUS FAMILY HOME!
4 bdrms., library, family room, open concept, fam. size kitchen, only $359,000. ACT NOW! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

It is with great pleasure that we welcome

CAROL TEICHMAN

to our dynamic sales staff. We invite Carol's friends and clients to continue benefitting from her expertise & professionalism.

BATHURST / LAWRENCE — EXCLUSIVE
3 bdrm. bung. on 50 ft. lot, east side of Bathurst, sep. entry to in-law suite, only $339,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

BATHURST / LAWRENCE — SPACIOUS 3 BDRM. BUNGALOW!
On gorgeous 55 x 132 ft. lot, gleaming hardwood floors, thermopane windows, sep. entry to in-law suite. Asking $289,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / LAWRENCE — REDUCED TO SELL!
Lots of home — low price! 4 bdrms., main floor family room, library, modern eat-in kit., sep. entry to in-law suite — shows well! Only $369,000. Call Michael Klugman **NOW** at (416) 787-1712.

• • •

BATHURST / GLENCAIRN — SHOWS A 10++
Builder's own custom-built exec. home, loaded w / upgrades, Marlee roof, marble entry, fireplaces, approx. 3,000 sq. ft. + beautifully fin. bsmt., only $589,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

CLANTON PARK AREA
Renovated + decorated, stunning 3 bedroom on 70 x 115 ft. lot (irr.), gleaming hardwood floors, thermopane windows, newer furnace and A/C, only $269,000! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

BATHURST / LAWRENCE — SPACIOUS EXECUTIVE HOME
Exciting value in a Central North York location! App. 3,000 sq. ft., 3-years-new, custom-built. Shows to perfection — gleaming hardwood floors, main floor laundry, family room, library. Only $499,000! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

25 HOUSES WANTED TO RENT

Shomer Shabbat family needs 3-4 bdrm. house. 416-635-7031

30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE

MARSHALL R.E. LTD.

BATHURST/STEELES PRIMROSE II
Large corner suite, 2 bdrms, 2 baths, balcony, wood flrs., mirrored walls, upgraded kit., parking, locker. $249,000.
Marshall Cohen, Broker
(416) 961-3300

CRYSTAL TOWERS - $179,999
Beautiful 2 bedrooms, 2 baths penthouse! Spectacular unobstracted view! Balcony! Brand new luxury building with 24 hrs. security.
BORIS GUERDJIKOV*
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RE/MAX WEST REALTY INC.

ANTIBES/TORRESDALE
1, 2, 3 bdrms., condos, townhomes wanted..
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G. BARON, Rltr.

Bath/Steeles-Townsgate,2 bdr, 2bth, huge cor $249K 736-8007

Skymark - 1560 sq. ft., open concept, 1 bdr., + den, 2 bth., 2 pkg., locker, liv./din. Lots of extras, lge. lndry./storage rm. ensuite, extraordinary view. By appointment only 8:30am-9:30pm. 491-9950, Brokers protected.

35 CONDOMINIUM FOR RENT

3000 Bathurst
Lge. 1 bdrm. + den, wood flrs., Shabbat elevator, pkg. July 1. $1200 incl. utilities.
Marshall Cohen, 520-0079

Primrose - 2 bdr., 2 bth., sol., 1 pkg., 3 appl. From June 15. $1300/mo. 905-881-8527, Mike

40 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE/ RENT

Bath./Centre - 2 bdrm., 2 bth. sun rm., upgrades, 5 appl., rec. facilities, cable, 1,250 sq. ft. No agents. $1,275/mo. or $164,900 to buy. Call 905-763-1992.

60 SHARED ACCOMMODATION

Apt.,Bath./Steeles,n/smkr,furn, Kosher, $450/mo. 665-9967.

Bath./Sheppard - Furn. room in apt., private bth,. Kosher, pkg., female. No Sat. calls. 638-9240.

Yonge/St. Clair - Female to share 2 bdrm. house, 5 appl., hrdwd flrs., l/p, 5 min. to subway. Rent $800 + hydro. Phone Carol at 781-3574 ext. 362 or evenings at 932-9429.

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

BATHURST WILSON

NEWLY DECORATED SPACIOUS 1, 2 & 3 BDRMS.

- Large balconies
- Central air conditioning and heating
- Hardwood Floors
- Sunken living rooms
- Surveillance cameras and card access system
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- Close to conveniences and TTC
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CONVENIENT NORTH YORK LOCATION

125 Neptune Dr.
(416) 787-7171

BATHURST-SHEPPARD
Very lg. 1, 2, 3 Bedrms., ample closets, some 1½ baths & 2 balc., roof, laundry, ravine setting, pool, ind. pkg., 6 apts. per flr. From $850.
960-3238 - Bus.
631-9377 or 631-0388 - Super

Bath./Lawrence - 3 bdrm. in 6 plex, 2 bths., pkg, lndry. $1,075. 905-886-5515 or 416-783-0179.

Bath./Wilson - 3 bdrm. apt. in triplex, clean, no pets. 633-7994

Duff./Steeles, bach. bsmt. apt. sep.entr.$480/mo.665-8586 eve

78 FURNISHED APARTMENTS FOR RENT

Bath./Shepp., bright bsmt. apt., modern, n/smkr, pkg., sep. entr., near TTC, business person preferred. 416-638-4070.

81 APARTMENT TO SUBLET

Bath./Eglinton - furn. 1 bdrm., balc., excellent bldg., convenient to all. June 15 - Sept. 15 (may be extended). 781-8449.

84 ROOM WANTED

Need unfurn. room, sun, kit., bath, 1st or 2nd flr. in Toronto. Woman pensioner, quiet, non-smoker. Write: B.A. 170 Kent St. #206, London, Ont. N6A 1L4

105 COTTAGE FOR SALE

Belle Ewart - lakefront, 4 bdrm, 2 bdr., reno, winterized. $359K. 905-771-1189 or 705-456-6643.

LAKE SIMCOE
Lake front, 45 min. from T.O. $289,900. Winterized, 3 bedroom, large deck, shallow beach, beautiful lot, 60'x335'.
ESTHER AXELROD
Royal LePage R.E. Serv. Ltd.
416-221-5515

110 COTTAGE FOR RENT

Belle Ewart, 2 cottages on lge lot, nr. water. 416-636-0733.

Lake Simcoe, lakefront estate, Beaverton area,lux. 4 bed. Sandy beach. Sunsets. Tennis. Seas./mo, 226-0009, 749-6600.

135 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT

ANBER MOVERS
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SPECIALIST IN:
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NEW YORK ↔ FLORIDA
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1-800-561-MOVE

160 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR RENT

Apt. in Netanya, 5 min. walk from beach, short or long term lease. For info, 972-9-954-6440

200 OFFICE SPACE

MEDICAL DENTAL PROFESSIONAL
SPACE AVAILABLE FOR LEASE. Parking included. Eglinton Ave. W. location.
Inquiries:
Mr. Karp (905) 886-8404
Fax (905) 709-2256

230 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

Established bread distribution route for sale. Alex, 722-1565.

230 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

ADD FAMILY INCOME
& build a business from your home, simple & easy concept, no risk. Call Susan at 416-410-1715 905-826-9949

240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Business To Business Lead Generation. Telesales business requires assertive, well spoken individual to generate & qualify business to business sales lead by telephone. Excellent command of the English language & computer skills req'd. No selling involved.Hourly wage. 2 dys/wk. 9am-5pm. Please call & leave message at (416) 635-6325.

P/T job opportunity for energetic, hard working music or education student. **Are you musically gifted? Play by ear, sing,** like to interact with kids & their moms, have transportation & excellent social skills? Send résumé to CJN Box # 7044.

240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

P/T English teacher required for Orthodox Secondary School, September 1998. Please fax résumé to 416-787-0453.

Downtown Reform Outreach Service looking for a lay cantor for High Holy Days. Fee negotiable based on experience. Call Shelley at 416-469-4287 (eves).

City of Vaughan *The City Above Toronto*

DISPATCHER — PART-TIME

Primary responsibilities are providing base radio control functions, answering and recording incoming telephone calls, providing customers information, emergency assistance, creating, updating and closing of work order requests. This person will provide services primarily for the City of Vaughan's Public Works Department which is comprised of Roads, Wastewater and Water, Waste Management, Transit and Parks Division.

Applicants must have excellent Customer Service capabilities; be able to handle emergency situations, keep accurate records and have good computer skills. A secondary school graduate with a minimum of two years general office experience preferably in a Customer Service role. Working knowledge of a base radio control unit would be an asset.

This position would require the successful applicant to be available to work a scheduled rotating shift, Monday to Friday, 4:30 p.m. to 12:00 a.m., Saturday, Sunday and Statutory Holidays, 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Shifts will include some daytime hours Monday to Friday as required.

Please forward your resume, quoting file #98-079, by June 8, 1998, to: City of Vaughan, Human Resources Department, 2141 Major Mackenzie Drive, Vaughan, Ontario, L6A 1T1 or via facsimile to (905) 832-8575.

Large Conservative Congregation in Midwest seeks Hazzan Sheni to read Torah, conduct daily minyan, do some teaching in religious school as well as lead shacharit services on High Holy Days and some services during the year. Excellent salary for qualified individual. Please send résumé with references and photograph to CJN Box # 7046.

Sun. morning Hebrew school in West Toronto requires exp. teacher for Sept. for a small multi-age class. Excellent remuneration for the qualified candidate. Call Arlene at 766-8261.

245 EMPLOYMENT WANTED

English, Hebrew, Russian speaking lady seeks F/T job. Call 416-512-9233.

247 DAY CARE

Bathurst & Centre - Thornhill. Loving & safe environment for your baby. Lots of personal attention with E.C.E. teacher. Over 15 years experience. 3 openings beginning July. Refs. & receipts. Call 905-764-6936.

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

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250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

NOW!!!
Experienced live-in Filipino Caregivers available from Israel.
ACT FAST!
ELLA'S DOMESTICS
Nannies, Housekeepers, Companions Live-in or Live-out
(416) 221-5114

Cleaning lady available, very honest, experienced with refs. Call Janet, 416-638-8313.

Cleaning with pride at afford. prices.Res./Comm. **FREE** Est. Insured, Bonded. **905-507-9654**

Do you require a nanny? Exp. Philipino nanny willing to work in Canada. New Agency. Please call 416-752-0817.

Exp. fun loving & caring nanny or cleaning lady seeks P/T work in the eve. or wkends. 604-3278

Exper. cleaning lady seeks job, homes, good refs. 289-4392.

Frustrated by trying to find a suitable nanny? Let us help you. We have dependable, caring nannies who are thoroughly qualified, personally interviewed & pre-screened. All refs. are checked. Some are CPR trained. Low finders fee.
Wee Care Placement Agency
416-789-3070

Hardwrkng & reliable cleaning lady avail. 6 dys/wk. 242-2313.

Harvscott Domestic Services
"Five stars above the rest"
Avail new born nurses, cleaning ladies, nannies, housekeepers, party helpers. Exper. with refs. 771-6543.

High quality house cleaning. Call Dora, 736-1179.

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

Lady avail. to live-in w/senior as companion. Refs. 265-4940.

Look no Further! Live-in or live-out housekeepers, nannies, cleaners *avail. immed!* **V & M Agency.** Call 416-297-9034.

Loving & energetic. A baby-sitter, caregiver, housekeeper, caring for elderly, exp., refs. 733-3915, or 905-624-0808.

Mature woman would like to take care of an elderly person, live-out. References. 250-6618.

Nannies, housekeepers, companions for elderly, cleaning ladies, live-in or out. Sponsorship from overseas. No fee for the Sponsor. **Excellent Placement Agency. 222-4912.**

Nannies, live-in/out, full/part-time, in-home elderly care, FT, PT, RN's, nurses aides, cleaning. Bonded,refs. **416-630-0674** or **416-224-9907. #1 Domestic.**

Polish cleaning lady, housekeeper available. Experienced Tel: (905) 542-7253.

255 DOMESTIC HELP WANTED

Jewish Cooking - Exp. Wanted for 2 adults. Call 416-920-7184.

Live-in caregiver req'd for elderly lady. Must be caring & gentle. Pleasant environment. 416-781-0882.

260 BUSINESS PERSONALS

Bringing People Together, a confidential & comfortable way to meet, photos. 905-731-5204.

Jewish Singles Registry, over 1590 members. Website, www.total.net/~jsreg. 483-4151

265 PEOPLE SEARCH

Attention Males & Females between the ages of 18-65, needed to participate in Market Research Focus Group Discussion. 2 hours. $40 if selected. Please call 967-1596 ext. 600.

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

• CJN Boxes for Personal Companions Wanted ads are valid for 30 (thirty) days only (from 1st publication date). Replies must be received within this time frame in order to be forwarded to the correct CJN Box #.

JDF, 32 with 1 child would like to meet a man, 30-42 for a relationship that may lead to marriage. I am attractive, slim, positive enjoy the outdoors, movies, music & biking. Write and send a recent picture if you would like to meet me. CJN Box # 7049.

JMW, Hungarian, 70's, financially independent, excellent physical shape, English speaking too, seeks female partner in same condition, 65-70. Letters & picture to CJN Box # 7048.

Ladies & Gentlemen!? Mr. Cupid Dating Services can assist you to find relationships or friends. **The month of May, ladies don't pay!** 416-782-7592

Seeking soulmate: Female 41, tall, warm, intelligent, attractive, curvaceous, with strong Jewish identity seeks communicative, healthy counter-mensch imbued with strength, integrity, accomplishments. CJN Box # 7047.

Young looking senior female widow seeks companionship, male or female. CJN Box #7045

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

Replying to a Companion ad with a CJN Box Number?

Address your mail to:

The Canadian Jewish News
1500 Don Mills Rd.
Suite 205
North York, Ontario
M3B 3K4
Box # _____

280 ANNOUNCEMENTS

MAJ - Looking for seasoned players, T.Hill/R.Hill/Willowdale to start new groups, afternoons & eves. Lynne, 905-731-6888 or Judy, 905-771-8257.

THE CANADIAN JEWISH NEWS CANNOT ACT AS AN INTERMEDIARY BETWEEN THE ADVERTISER AND ITS CUSTOMERS AND PUBLICATION BY US SHOULD NOT BE TAKEN AS AN ENDORSEMENT OF THE PRODUCT OR SERVICE OFFERED.

330 OBITUARIES

COLE, Esther - on May 7, 1998, late of 20 Laurelcrest Ave.

PRUZANSKI, Sofia - on May 9, 1998, late of 2 Ridelle Ave., #209.

ALTSHULER, Abraham - on May 10, 1998, late of 3886 Bathurst St., #205.

COLLIS, Abraham - on May 10, 1998, late of 343 Clark Ave.W., #703.

LEON, Eva - on May 10, 1998, late of 1925 Steeles Ave. E.

PRICE, Maxwell - on May 10, 1998, late of 135 Brownstone Circle.

KALPIN, Spencer - on May 11, 1998, late of 16 Grenadier Cres.

ATIN, Ethel - on May 12, 1998, late of 205 Cummer Ave.

BARNA, Zoltan - on May 12, 1998, late of 980 Broadview Ave., #402.

SIMON, Michael - on May 12, 1998, late of 6171 Bathurst St., #115.

GOLDBERG, Saul - on May 13, 1998, late of 660 Briar Hill, #808.

KARREL, Cliff - on May 13, 1998, late of 326 Major Mackenzie Dr. E., #102.

BERMAN, Linda - on May 14, 1998, late of 58 Wembley Rd.

ZISKIND, Berel (Boria) - on May 14, 1998, late of 1121 Steeles Ave. W., #404.

WALMAN, Annette - on May 14, 1998, late of 3303 Don Mills Rd., P.H. #7.

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GERSON, Prof. Frederick - Peacefully at home, surrounded by his family on **May 17, 1998** after a 2 1/2 year battle with cancer. Devoted husband to Simone, loyal son to Françoise and loving father of Daphne, Aviva & Joel. He will be missed by his cousins in Paris, and by his family in Israel. Fred died as he lived, with the utmost dignity and courage: respected and loved by those who knew him. Fred survived the Holocaust and came to a new country where he put himself through school, eventually earning a Phd. He will be remembered at the U of T, where he taught French and Jewish Studies for 32 yrs. An active Board member and former President of the Canadian Institute for Mediterranean Studies for 18 yrs, his insight and dedication to the Middle Eastern conflict and to Jewish history will be missed by his fellow colleagues. He will also be missed by his chess partner and longtime friend, Joel Freedman. We are grateful for the support and compassion offered by all his wonderful caregivers from V.O.N. & Olsten. The family especially appreciated the dedication and generosity of Michael Gitberg RN and Dr. Russell Goldman whose warmth and support carried us through each day. All those who knew Fred will remember him for his dry wit and brilliant intellect. If desired, donations may be made, in lieu of flowers: The Princess Margaret Hospital Foundation, 946-6560.
C'est dur de mourir au printemps tu sais. Mais je pars aux fleurs la paix dans l'âme.
Jacques Brel

330 OBITUARIES

BARDOFF, Ralph - on May 13, 1998.
BENAMOU, Rachel - on May 14, 1998, late of 454 Patricia Ave.
GOLDENBERG, Louis - on May 14, 1998, late of 6010 Bathurst St.
LABOVITCH, Albert (Al) - on May 14, 1998, late of 125 Strafford Rd.
SCHWARZBART, Stella - on May 15, 1998, late of 107 Alexis Blvd.
SAPORTA, Ruben - on May 17, 1998, late of 4415 Bathurst St.

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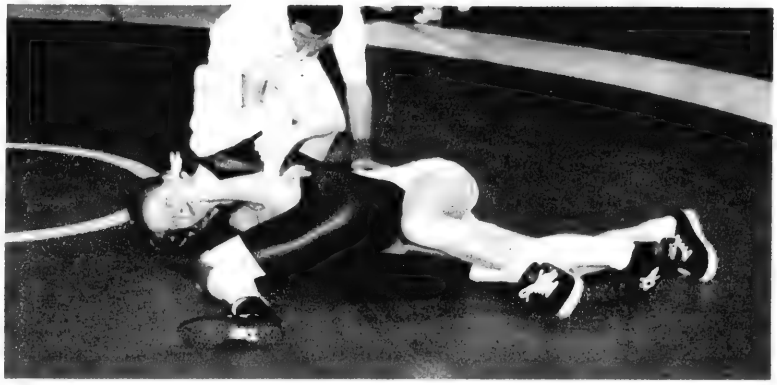
Petite athlete loves rough and tumble sports

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter



Sarah Gamliel gets the upper hand on an opponent

TORONTO — You might call Sarah Gamliel one of the new breed of women athletes. You know the type, the independently minded, know-no-barriers females who see no reason why they shouldn't compete against boys in rough and tumble, contact sports.

How else to explain why a petite Grade 12 student at McKenzie Collegiate loves the not-so-dainty world of wrestling and lacrosse. Historically the preserve of testosterone-charged young males, these sports are increasingly attracting young female athletes who not only participate in the rugged activities, but excel at them too.

Last year, wrestling against other women in the 40-kilogram freestyle class, Gamliel finished fourth in Canada at the national championships in New Brunswick with a 2-2 record.

Her wrestling schedule in 1997 was more than hectic, with matches in Ohio, New Brunswick, Guelph, London, Hamilton and points in between. At a tournament held during the Ohio State Fair, Gamliel and some female colleagues from the Metro Toronto Wrestling Association (MTWA) wrestled against young men. "We got our butts kicked, but it was fun," she said.

Nineteen ninety-eight has been a quieter year on the tournament circuit, though Gamliel trained regularly at her club and with McKenzie's school team, which includes 14 girls and a slightly larger number of boys. Her best showing was a first place finish at the Montreal Open.

In both 1997 and '98, Gamliel represented McKenzie at the North York and Tri-City Championships and was champion in the 40-kg girls' division.

As much as Gamliel does well at wrestling, it's certainly not her only sport. She loves to play soccer and she participates in lunchtime intramural sports at McKenzie. Last year, she and a girlfriend tried out for the boys' lacrosse team – and made the cut. This year, she's the only girl on the team, but she isn't bothered by that unique status.

"Me, I like the physical sports. I'm different," she said.

"My girlfriends think I'm crazy, especially with the lacrosse," she admits. She experienced a similar attitude in grades 9 and 10 when she first considered taking up wrestling after participating in more traditional female sports like softball and track.

"It looked like fun," Gamliel said. "It's something different. It was challenging.

"I started it and I loved it," she continued. "A four-minute match takes so much out of you. It's exhausting and at tournaments you might wrestle four or five matches a day."

Gamliel especially enjoys the tactical aspects of the sport. "A lot of coaches explain wrestling as a chess game. If you move, there's a countermove. You have to know how to react to what a person is doing to you."

So far, Gamliel has managed to avoid serious injury while pursuing her interest in contact sports. She's suffered no more than tricep bursitis and she "smashed up" her thumb once, but all it required was a tape job and she was able to go out and compete.

In 1997, Gamliel trained between 15 and 20 hours a week (including grappling with boys for competition) but this year, she had to cut back on her hours because of all the other sports she's involved with and because she also has a part time job as a cashier. She also volunteers at least three hours a week with two community groups.

"It's very tiring," she conceded. "I'm always running somewhere."

When she's through with high school Gamliel doesn't plan to be through with wrestling. She expects to continue her education in university and she'll be looking for a school that offers its own female wrestling team.

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A DIPLOMATIC PITCH

Israel's consul general to Toronto and western Canada, Jehudi Kinar, recently threw out the first pitch at a Toronto Blue Jays game. The pre-game show celebrated Israel's 50th birthday, and featured singer Amy Sky and a performance by the Israel at 50 dance troupe. [Zephyr Studios photo]

The Inside Back

Currency regulations create confusion and frustration

A couple from Pittsburgh who spend half their time in Israel decided to purchase an apartment in Jerusalem.

The negotiations with the vendors were nothing compared to the complicated decisions that had to be made regarding financing the apartment in such a way that when the day comes that they want to sell the property, they will be able to convert the proceeds back into dollars and take the money out of the country.

A woman from New York was involved in a lawsuit against her sister regarding their parents' estate here in Israel. Although she won the case, it will take her several years to convert her inheritance and take it abroad, because Israeli currency regulations restrict the amount she can convert and take out of the country each year.

A woman from the United States inherited an apartment in Jerusalem and had a buyer who was willing to pay in dollars, but she lost the deal when she learned that making such a sale would turn her into a criminal, as all transactions in Israel must be in local currency.

The above stories are true and involved clients of mine. For Canadians and Americans used to being able to buy and sell currency as they please, the thicket of regulations governing Israel's currency has always been a source of confusion and frustration.

The foreign currency liberalization announced before Israel's 50th Independence Day has therefore been welcomed with relief by businesspeople interested in trading in Israel or investing here. Nonetheless, even for someone who simply wishes to buy a home here, the change will make the investment more attractive.

In fact, Israel's currency has always been controlled, and from the early days of the country's existence, its leaders were afraid that if people were free to trade in currency at will, there would be a run on the lira and disastrous consequences for the economy.

The Law of Supervision of the Currency therefore forbids all transactions in foreign currency, unless a permit is granted. A general permit was issued by the government and subsequently amended several times, permitting all sorts of transactions under various different conditions.

Understanding these rules and implementing them has been next to impossible for most lay people.

The new rules reverse the principle. From now on, everything will be permitted, unless it is explicitly forbidden, instead of the other way around. This difference is not merely semantic; it means that the basic principle is a person's freedom to conduct transactions, while each restriction has to be explicitly stated.

Essentially, the Israeli shekel is now an almost fully convertible currency, and people are free to trade in it or conduct business in Israel in foreign currency.

Naturally, this comes with a price and not all have been in favor of the move. For example, opponents of the liberalization have pointed to the chaos created in Asia by currency speculators. Furthermore, they see it as a move designed to help the wealthier people who can afford to invest abroad or take expensive trips while at the same time eroding the social safety net.

Proponents argue that damage caused by currency speculation is a result of poor economics, not its cause, and that the change will enforce financial discipline on the Israeli government. Furthermore, they argue, the Israeli economy is now strong enough to take the currency swings.

This remains to be seen, but it is clearly true that governments will not be as free to use deficits to finance job creation. The debate over this issue is ideological, and if there is one thing both sides appear to agree on, it is that the move from a controlled currency to a free one is symbolic of the country's continuing move from a socialist economy to a capitalist one.

Whether one believes that the government should be able to make economic decisions without having to worry about currency speculators, or that market forces will ensure that the economy grows stronger, it is certain that the new rules will make life a lot easier for individuals on both sides of the ocean who wish to transact business and move money in and out of Israel.

Jonathan Shiff is an attorney who practises in Israel.

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Topping:
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1/2 cup dark brown sugar, packed
1 cup whole pecan halves

1 lb. medium noodles, cooked and drained
1/4 cup pareve margarine, melted
1 tsp. salt
4 eggs, beaten
1/3 cup sugar

Preheat oven to 350°F. Melt 1/4 cup margarine in 10" bundt pan. Sprinkle brown sugar at bottom and around side of pan. Press pecan halves firmly into bottom of pan. Mix other ingredients into noodles. Pour into pan and bake 1 hr. Cool and unmold. Preparation time: 20 minutes. Serves: 6.

About Life

Dear Ella,

I made a pact with myself that if I didn't meet someone decent by my birthday, I would learn how to use the Internet and join a Jewish singles group in cyberspace.

So here it is two months later and I have been chatting with a wonderful gentleman. Jeremy is a recently divorced physician who is as lonely as I am. He is warm and kind and we have shared many intimate details of our lives over the computer. We seem to be very compatible.

He has been pressuring me to meet him in person and my instincts tell me that he is everything I have ever dreamed of. I am very excited and have not had this kind of adrenaline rush in years.

I know in my heart I am ready to meet Jeremy; however, I have heard some horror stories about meeting people from the Internet and I am nervous he will turn out to be a dud, or worse, some mad man. Do you think I should meet him?

Single in Cyberspace

Dear Single in Cyberspace,

Developing relationships in cyberspace are very different from the traditional ways of meeting a mate. The anonymity of cyberspace provides a safety blanket that allows you to get close very quickly. You can feel very connected to someone in a matter of hours. Your mind takes over and you transfer your hopes and dreams into your cyber meetings. This has very good and very dangerous connotations.

The next step is to exchange pictures through e-mail. Have an idea of who you are talking to. If possible do a little detective work and try to verify some of the details he has told you.

Once you are sure you want to lose the safety blanket and take this from cyberspace to reality, you can exchange phone numbers and get a feel for Jeremy over the phone. When you are actually ready to meet him in person, make sure you do so in a public place. Do not have any private rendezvous with him until you feel comfortable that he truly is the man he has portrayed himself to be. Err on the side of caution.

Cyberspace is a wonderful new avenue for meeting people, but as with anything good, there are always some pitfalls.

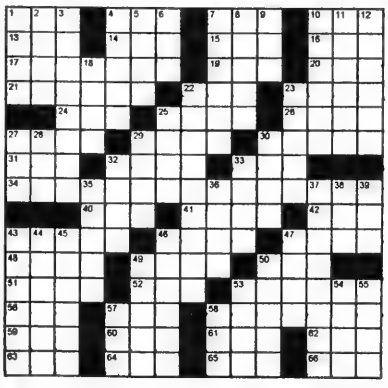
Be careful and good luck.

Readers may submit their questions to Ella at The CJN. *But Ella is not a professional counsellor. She brings to the questions posed by readers her unique brand of earthy wisdom. Her advice is not a replacement for medical, legal or any other advice. For serious problems, consult a professional.*

The Canadian Jewish news

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

The Canadian Jewish news



Across

1. Abba's wife
4. Sabin's Org'?
7. Barney Ross move
10. Tiberias to Tel-Aviv (dir.)
13. "Friend" to Montand
14. Prayer for dew
15. Alias
16. Not on Pesach?
17. Torahs
19. Israeli tax
20. Like David from Saul
21. Abbie Hoffman
22. Eve starter
23. Watch the sheep
24. Allow
25. Zeta Tau, fraternity
26. Maccabiah game?
27. Alephbet member
29. Sopher needs
30. Order
31. Shissel (Eng.)
32. Moses in the bulrushes
33. Sighs
34. Singer novel (3 wds.)
40. ___ out a living
41. Gonif's goodies
42. Sort of? (ending)
43. Angel of Death path
46. Breaks the ninth commandment
47. View
48. "Abba" to Marceau
49. Spitz milieu
50. Laughing sound
51. Sukkah decoration?
52. Copeland on the track
53. Ancient cave-dweller
56. In Addition
57. 502
58. Eichman prosecutor
59. Every
60. Mems (Eng.)
61. 'Tis, to Nelly Sachs
62. Seth's mom
63. Actor Cobb
64. K'Tonton
65. Daled: (Eng.)
66. Hebrew letter

Down

1. Effortless
2. 2,101
3. Arkia vehicle
4. Israeli city
5. Bris must
6. Capp or Jolson
7. U.S. Senator (R-NY)
8. Eilat gulf
9. Hank's Hammer?
10. Chopped liver
11. "The ___", Singer novel
12. Hebrews in the desert
18. Exposed
22. Bar Kochba event
23. Samson's strength
25. Netanyahu nickname
27. Likely
28. Slang affirmation
29. Shem (Eng.)
30. Salk's vaccine
32. Make the Matzo?
33. Minor Prophet
35. Passion
36. Joel (Heb.)
37. Soviet Jewish Community
38. Cleo killer
39. Thou possessive
43. UJA word
44. Fourth plague?
45. Urim and Thummim
46. Actress Lasser
47. Hamantaschen?
49. __ Minister, Netanyahu
50. Beth (Eng.)
53. Bigot's forte
54. Shoe maker
55. Night before (Heb.)
57. Tal hope
58. Secured the Afikoman

These puzzles are the work of Kathi Handler of Waterbury, Connecticut.

(Last week's answers are on page 46.)

Shavuot Greetings — May 31 & June 1

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This Week

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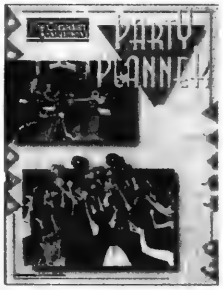

The experts advise on how to get the most out of your simchah. *Section B*

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Israel consulate may close

Effort underway to save Montreal office

By DAVID LAZARUS
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — Jewish community leaders are trying to prevent the reported closing of the Israeli Consulate here.

And their efforts are taking place amid conflicting speculation over whether any final decision had yet been made by Israel's Foreign Ministry, which is being forced by the Finance Ministry to slash its budget and close diplomatic missions overseas.

The report, which appeared in the May 27 Hebrew language daily *Ma'ariv*, named the Montreal Israeli Consulate General, which has been in operation for over 40 years, as among the overseas missions that "will be closed." Others included missions in Atlanta, Philadelphia, and Marseille, France.

But Israeli Foreign Ministry spokesperson Aviv Shiron, speaking to *The CJN* from Jerusalem last Thursday, said no final decision has been made about Montreal or any other consulate.

"What I can say is that due to budget cuts, Israel's Foreign Ministry is considering closing down some foreign missions. But there is no specific list. These are press speculations. Any reaction is premature since no decision has been made."

Shiron's denial of there being a "specific list" and comments about "press speculation,"

Continued on page 24

FLAGS MARK THE DISPUTED SPOT

A member of Ateret Cohanim, a nationalistic orthodox organization in Jerusalem crouches with his son as an armed border policeman patrols inside a temporary enclave erected in the Old City. Jerusalem mayor Ehud Olmert vowed to dismantle the 8 shacks. Israel's Antiquities Authority won a court order to stop further construction. *[RNS/Reuters photo]*

United Church reaches out to Jews

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Jewish officials are using some of the most effusive language in memory to hail a landmark United Church of Canada document on relations with Jews and Judaism.

The document is said to be a first in North America, and the most far-reaching effort by Canadian Christians at conciliation with Jews. It calls on Canada's largest Protestant denomination to completely re-examine its relations with Jews and to stop interpreting Scriptures in ways that may lead to anti-Jewish stereotyping.

Entitled *Bearing Faithful Witness: United Church-Jewish Relations Today,* the report is not an apology for the church's silence during the Holocaust, or its tense relations with Jews which existed into the 1960s. Rather, it proposes new guidelines "for the relationship [of members] with Jews and Judaism, and for the related interpretation of Scripture within the United Church of Canada."

The need for change is ripe, explain the report's authors, "because in our churches, Jesus is rarely referred to as a Jew; because there is rising anti-Judaism, anti-Semitism, white supremacy and neo-Nazism in Canada and other countries in the name of Jesus Christ; [and] because we are finally understanding that Christian denial of Jesus' Jewishness contributed to pogroms, the Holocaust, the refusal to admit refugees, and other horrors against the Jewish people."

The report concedes there "is little reaction" from the Christian community when synagogues and Jewish cemeteries are desecrated, and that Jews "could feel attacked" by Christian Scriptures "and our interpretation of them."

The document must still be debated and receive final approval from the church's general

Continued on page 24

INSIDE

Assessing Prime Minister Netanyahu after tw
Please see page 9.

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U.S. may want up to 15% withdrawal by IDF — please see page 27

The News in Brief

CANADA

Israel at the CNE

TORONTO — An Israel at 50 pavilion will be featured at this year's CNE, Aug. 21 to Sept. 7.

A highlight of the pavilion is a Jerusalem streetscape where souvenirs and boutique specialty items such as food, souvenirs, clothing and costume jewelry will be sold.

Space is being allotted to goods imported from Israel, manufactured completely in Israel or with components made in Israel and will reflect all faiths. Interested dealers can apply for a booth by calling Linden Toole, 535-4024, or faxing 535-3065.

Order of Ontario

TORONTO — Three members of the Jewish community have been awarded the Order of Ontario, the province's highest honor. A total of 21 Ontarians were invested into the order at a May 27 ceremony.

Among the inductees were philanthropist and arts patron Bluma Appel; art dealer and curator Ydessa Hendeles; and community activist Marvelle Koffler, founder of the Marvelle Koffler Breast Cancer Centre at Mount Sinai Hospital.

Doctorates Conferred

TORONTO — Rose Wolfe, former chancellor of University of Toronto, will receive an honorary doctorate from U of T on June 16.

Rabbi Gunther Plaut, rabbi emeritus of Holy Blossom Temple will receive an honorary doctorate from McMaster University June 3.

ISRAEL

Prayer Solutions Sought

JERUSALEM — The committee charged with finding compromises in the crisis over religious pluralism is considering possible solutions to the controversy regarding women praying at the Western Wall.

The Reform and Conservative movements and a group known as the Women of the Wall have reportedly agreed to a proposal under which there would be an alternative prayer plaza at the southern end of the wall.

Cabinet to Reject Proposal

JERUSALEM — Deputy Israeli Premier Moshe Katzav said the entire cabinet would reject an American proposal for Israel to make a further withdrawal from 13 percent of the West Bank to advance the peace process.

Tourism In A Slump

JERUSALEM — The tourism industry is still mired in a slump that began with a series of terrorist attacks two years ago, according to an official of the Israel Hotel Association. Israel's Central Bureau of Statistics released figures putting average hotel occupancy rates at 52.8 percent during the first four months of 1998, compared to 59.3 percent during the same period in 1997 and 67.7 percent in 1996.

Stake in Paper Bought

TEL AVIV — A Russian businessman has purchased a 25 percent stake in the daily *Ma'ariv* for $85 million. Vladimir Goussinsky, a banking and media magnate who serves as president of the Russian Jewish Congress, beat out American businessman and Jewish leader Ron Lauder in the bidding for the shares.

Updated Aliyah Figures

JERUSALEM — Karen Hayesod has updated former Soviet Union aliyah figures from January to April 1998.

January - 3,547
February - 2,944
March - 3,294
April - 3,345
Total - 13,130

WORLD

Deaf Singles To Meet

DELAWARE — The Orthodox Union's (OU) Jewish Deaf Singles Registry (JDSR), an international dating service tailored to meet the needs of the Jewish deaf and hearing impaired, is hosting a barbecue, Sunday, June 7 in Wilmington, in honor of Israel's 50th anniversary.

For information call Samuel Landau, JDSR Coordinator, Fax/TTY 908-352-7395 or e-mail [samuellandau@juno.com].

First Cantorial Concert

NEW YORK — Carnegie Hall, for the first time in its history, is dedicating an evening to a concert of chazzanut. The June 8 concert will feature 22 cantors, accompanied by a choir and orchestra.

Among the participants will be Cantor Louis Danto of Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue and Cantor Benjamin Maissner of Holy Blossom Temple, both in Toronto.

Information Shared

BUENOS AIRES — The United States and Argentina agreed to share information in an effort to combat international terrorism. The decision was announced after a meeting between Argentina's President Carlos Menem and visiting U.S. Defence Secretary William Cohen.

Argentina has been unable to find those responsible for two terrorist bombings of Jewish sites in Buenos Aires in 1992 and 1994. Recent charges by Argentine officials than Tehran was involved in the bombings has resulted in the two countries all but suspending their diplomatic contacts.

Rabbi Killed in Accident

BALTIMORE — Rabbi Aryeh Leib Kaplan, founder of a Lubavitch community in the northern Israeli city of Safed where he had once served as vice-mayor, died in a car accident May 12.

The *Baltimore Jewish Times* reported that Rabbi Kaplan's car was struck by a truck in Belarus when he was travelling to Minsk to dedicate a new Lubavitch school and mikvah. He was buried in Israel.

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Moshe Ronen becomes youngest CJC president

By MYRON LOVE
Prairie Correspondent

WINNIPEG — Moshe Ronen, a former student radical, was acclaimed as the new president of the Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) at the 25th Plenary Assembly May 24 and 25 in Winnipeg.

CJC Plenary

At 39, the Israeli-born son of Holocaust survivors has become the youngest president in Congress' 79-year history.

"As we celebrate and as we sound the horn loud on Israel's jubilee, and on the dawn of a new millennium and renewed hope, I accept with a steady hand, with confidence and humility, the torch of leadership, passed on by those who suffered, sacrificed, strove courageously and built anew," he vowed.

Ronen thanked his family for their support. He thanked his predecessor, Goldie Hershon, whom he said, "has been one of the warmest, most caring and sensitive of presidents." He praised

Moshe Ronen

Winnipeg Jewish community leaders, including plenary chair Rael Ludwig, who hosted the triennial CJC assembly for the first time.

He promised that he has lost none of his student idealism and commitment to action over the years. He further noted the demands by student delegates at the plenary that student concerns be paid more attention and that young people be better represented in Congress decision-making bodies.

"I consider it the highest privilege to stand before you today as the youngest president of the Canadian Jewish Congress," he told delegates.

"During my presidency, Congress will not fudge the issues. We will continue to speak out boldly, exposing hypocrisy and confronting others on what is just. We will continue to speak out on the Holocaust, on anti-Semitism and all forms of racism, on multiculturalism and religious pluralism, on the social safety net, on terrorism, on Israel and on Jerusalem. We will continue to promote positive and vibrant intergroup relations and provide humanitarian relief for communities in distress both at home and abroad, foster Canadian unity and strengthen Jewish communal cohesion."

Earlier, outgoing president Goldie Hershon gave her farewell speech, reviewing her three years in office and touching on all aspects of the Canadian Jewish agenda. Hershon was undoubtedly the most travelled of CJC presidents. She visited almost every region of Canada. She was the first CJC president, for example, to visit Newfoundland and the Northwest Territories.

"I extend the best of luck to my successor, Moshe Ronen," she said.

"You can count on my complete support during the course of your mandate."

During the assembly, Congress recognized a number of people with special awards. The Saul Hayes Human Rights Award was bestowed on Canadian diplomat Mark Entwistle, a former Canadian ambassador to Israel who also represented Israel in Cuba from 1993-97 while also serving as Canadian ambassador to the island country. While serving in Cuba, he became quite involved with the Cuban Jewish community (although he himself is not Jewish). In his acceptance speech, he praised Congress for the instrumental role it has played in reviving the Cuban Jewish community.

Samuel Bronfman medals were presented to Congress past president Les Scheininger of Toronto and longtime CJC worker Bernard Finestone of Montreal. Milt Harris, another former CJC president, was appointed honorary president.

The Brian A. Finestone Memorial Award was given to Robert Presser, a young CJC leader from Montreal who is currently treasurer of the Quebec region. Ron

[Cont'd. on page 23]

CJC resolved that...

WINNIPEG — Resolutions on national unity created a measure of disunity at the Canadian Jewish Congress' 25th Plenary Assembly.

It wasn't that the dissenters were opposed to Congress support for the Calgary Declaration or the other two resolutions on the subject. It was just that some delegates were quite impressed by a speech given earlier in the day by Grand Chief Phil Fontaine (see related story), national chief of the Assembly of First Nations. These delegates felt that the resolutions should be reworded to include support for the rights of Canada's Native Peoples as well.

After much debate about whether the resolutions should be "deferred" or "referred" to the new executive or "postponed," the final result was that the resolutions were passed with one minor amendment.

[Cont'd. on page 23]

MAZAL TOV
TO
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From the editor's desk

A plenary notebook

The 25th plenary of the Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) was unlike any of the triennial gatherings that had ever preceded it.

In the first place, it was held in Winnipeg. Never before had the gathering been held outside Montreal or Toronto. Because there were fewer downtown "distractions" than in the past, people tended to be more highly focussed on the plenary program itself.

And in the second place, the program departed radically from the conventional plenary format.

The program was streamlined and, I would add, simplified. There were no simultaneously running sessions. That meant, of course, that delegates and reporters could attend all the sessions without exhausting themselves by running back and forth between different rooms.

As *The CJN's* western correspondent Myron Love has reported elsewhere in this issue, the heart of the plenary program consisted of six panel discussions, each one hour in duration.

The conference room in which the discussions were held was converted into a television studio; each session was videotaped. A professional facilitator, Jim Carr, responded to panel members and engaged members of the audience.

What transpired was the "Oprah Winfreyization" of the plenary. It was a celebration of soundbite over analysis and of form over substance.

However, the form *was* the substance. The sessions did not lend themselves to in-depth analyses by either panelists or delegates. On the other hand, the themes of the panel discussions – important though each one was – were the necessarily familiar ones that recur at all such Jewish organizational plenary meetings. As a result then, there was not likely a great deal of original wisdom left to shed any new, more penetrating light on the themes.

The delegates clearly enjoyed the format. It appeared to this observer that very few were shy about speaking into the microphone as the cameras were recording. A palpable sense of enthusiasm and energy filled the air. I would even say that there was a sense of enjoyment among the delegates.

The format therefore proved to be a boost to CJC morale and thus, an overall success. In addition, the end product videotapes will be able to serve as profile-raising, marketing devices in the future.

* * *

One of the chief pleasures of attending plenary gatherings is the opportunity to meet new people.

At the Sunday luncheon I met Mrs. Vera Kare Vogel and her daughter Mara. Both live in Calgary.

Vera was born in Winnipeg and settled in Calgary some 45 years ago. She graduated from the University of Manitoba in 1944 and then travelled to Montreal where she received her degree in social work from McGill Unviersity. After McGill, she went to Wayne State University in Detroit for her master's degree.

All her life, Vera has been a champion of causes. In her youth she was the head of Avukah Habonim. As a young adult, she helped bring about the downfall of the quota system for Jews at the University of Manitoba's faculty of medicine. She was also the first executive director of Jewish Child and Family Services in Winnipeg.

Mara, married with two children, is a lawyer who now runs a small business along with her husband. She is a member of the bar of both British Columbia and Alberta.

Both mother and daughter were delightful, engaging company. It became quickly very clear that Vera had passed on her concern for the well-being of humanity to her daughter.

Mara was the NDP candidate who ran against Preston Manning in the last federal election. It took a great deal of grit (if it is not improper to use the term in this context), courage and determination on her part. In fact, so pro-Reform was the riding, that Mara could not find anyone willing to rent her office space from which to run her campaign. Mara lost the election, badly, approximately 1,300 votes to Manning's 40,000. But there could be no shame in the result for Mara. Indeed the result was virtually predetermined.

When asked whether she felt daunted and overwhelmed at the prospect of running against the Reform Party leader, Mara answered: "As Jews, we believe in causes. When they seem hopeless, do we just give up?"

The size of her heart far exceeded the size of her vote.

It is a heart Mara obviously inherited from her mother. For Vera was the NDP candidate who ran, and lost, in the same riding in 1988 against the Tory Bobbie Sparrow.

* * *

Sunday evening, delegates travelled to the Asper Jewish Community Campus of Winnipeg. It is the brand new community centre, a recently renovated, elegant building that movingly combines older structures with newer functional designs such as high vaulted ceilings, the ubiquitous use of glass and the deliberately architectured penetration of natural light throughout a large part of the complex.

At the community campus, we were treated to a musical "salute to Israel's 50th," the centre-piece of which was a zesty, exciting performance by the Sarah Sommer Chai Folk Ensemble. It is a group of more than 50 young dancers and musicians whose movements and sounds were both a visual and auditory delight.

MBD

Israel's Jubilee 50 — *from the archives*

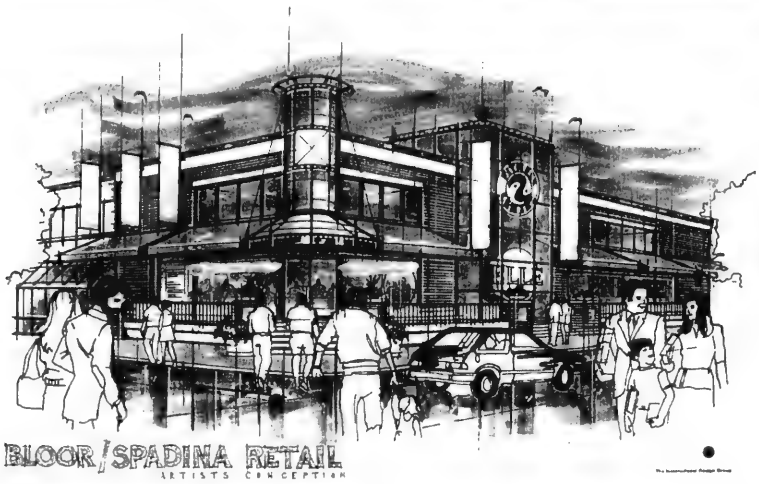
EMBARKING ON A NEW WAY OF LIFE

Immigrants from Ethiopia embark at Addis Ababa on May 25, 1991, to go home to Israel.

[Keren Hayesod – UIA Communications photo]

* * *

For the latest in *Israel at 50* news, check out the *Israel at 50* Web site: [www.feduja.org] or call the *Israel at 50* hotline 416-635-2883 ext. 706.



Artists' conception of the new Bloor JCC.

Bloor JCC planning to renovate building

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The Bloor Jewish Community Centre (JCC) is gearing up to launch a $5 million fundraising campaign that is intended to pay off the facility's debt and renovate the 45-year-old downtown building.

Dubbed the Commitment to Community Campaign, the fundraising effort will kick off in early 1999 and will coincide with the retail development of the building's Bloor Street frontage.

Subject to municipal approval, the Bloor JCC is planning to open its north facade to access from Bloor Street and create four retail spaces. Although no leases have been signed yet, the "anchor tenant" will likely be a coffee shop that will occupy the Bloor/Spadina corner while a bagel shop and a bookstore have already made inquiries about the other spaces, said Bill Emery, executive director of the Bloor JCC.

Altogether, 6,200 sq. ft of retail space will be developed. With a projected rental rate of about $40 a sq. foot, the project should generate about $248,000 a year in income for the centre, Emery said.

The goal is the creation of a virtually "brand new JCC," Emery said. Part of the renovations already on the drawing boards include:

- a new aerobics studio and multipurpose lounge in the space currently occupied by the chapel;
- a 290-seat theatre/projection room on the second floor in the space above the current auditorium;
- a "cardio theatre" featuring stationary bicycles and stairmasters on the second floor on the south side of the gym;
- relocation of the Jewish Family & Child Services (JF&CS) offices to the main floor on the Spadina side of the building.

The second floor JF&CS offices will be turned over to the Downtown Jewish Community Day School, which plans to launch its first year of operations in September with 40 students. In addition, the space will be used by the Downtown Jewish Community School, the supplemental school that convenes on Sunday morning and Wednesday evening, Emery said.

With the new day school, with the centre's longstanding athletic membership and with its supporters among culture and arts groups, "this centre is truly the heart of the Jewish community downtown," Emery said.

> *'The heart of Jewish downtown'*

Despite that optimism, questions about the campaign are sure to arise in the wake of the centre's earlier, L'Chaim campaign that raised $2.2 million of its $5 million target. In addition, a $750,000 donation the centre was relying on fell through over disagreement whether the building would be named for the donor (the Bloor JCC's position), or whether the entire facility would be named for him (the donor's position).

Despite those setbacks, the money raised in the L'Chaim campaign ($75,000 was the largest single contribution), coupled with $750,000 provided to the centre by the Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto, helped the membership acquire the centre, pay off part of the JCC's debts and make some changes to the facility. Banks are still owed $2.3 million, Emery acknowledged.

Emery believes things are different now than they were four years ago during the start of the L'Chaim campaign. Back then, the JCC (which at the time included the Bathurst Street branch) teetered on the verge of bankruptcy. Members departed in droves, leaving the Bloor JCC with only 1,945 members compared to its current total of 3,000.

Today, says Emery, members and donors can look back on four years of stability and prudent management. When the centre launched its earlier campaign, "people wanted to see a solvent JCC that was going to stay," he said.

Since then, the Bloor JCC has paid $1.5 million to the banks in principal and interest, developed a sound business plan and consistently generates $100,000 in surplus on its annual operations.

"People will support a winner," Emery predicted.

A successful $5 million campaign will pay off the $2.3 million still owed the banks, finance the $2.2 million renovations and leave the centre with a nice financial cushion. "We still need a major donor who looks at the Bloor JCC today [with] its presence at the corner of Bloor and Spadina, and sees it as an exciting opportunity," he added.

Municipal approvals are still required for the planned renovations, but Emery was confident they would be forthcoming. "We hope to have everything lined up by Rosh Hashanah, the financing, leases and approvals. We're hoping to put the shovel in the ground by late fall or early winter," he said.

MARK LASH
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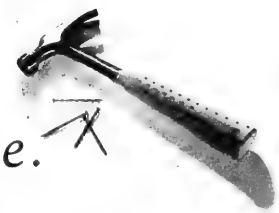

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Joyce Rifkind, chair of scholarship committee with recipients Julie Lupas and Esther Maman.

Emunah Women launches scholarships for study in Israel

By STACEY STEIN
Student Intern

TORONTO — Two graduating high school students were recently awarded with scholarships for study in Israel at the annual Emunah Women of Toronto Mother-in-Israel dinner.

The scholarships were presented in honor of Israel's 50th anniversary, and will now be awarded annually on the basis of community involvement, demonstration of leadership skills and an essay.

The recipients were Esther Maman and Julie Lupas, who are both graduating from Ulpanat Orot. Although the scholarship is intended for one student, the award was split in half because there were so many qualified candidates.

"We wanted something to encourage young girls to go to Israel," a committee member said.

The event, which took place at Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue, also featured guest speaker Rachael Turkienicz, director of Judaic studies at a local Jewish day school and the first woman to hold a rabbinic teaching position at the Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto. Turkienicz, who lectures widely across Toronto and Boston, spoke about the role of women's groups in fulfilling obligations toward Israel.

"The fact that we have obligations to Eretz Yisrael is almost self-evident," Turkienicz said. "We have many rules that talk about how we should settle the land,...how we should plant and harvest the land, and be part of the land.

"We are constantly being reminded of our connection to the land, we are constantly being reminded of our devotion."

The evening began with dinner, and included a d'var Torah, the scholarship presentations and the welcoming of new executive members.

The Mother-in-Israel campaign has been running for 25 years. It allows Emunah Women to take care of a child's physical needs by helping them financially. The dinner is a celebration of the campaign and Emunah Women's projects.

Emunah Women is an international organization, with chapters in Canada, the United States, Australia and South Africa. The organization provides services for new immigrants to Israel, helping them settle in the country. It also runs 250 projects in Israel, including several orphanages, day-care centres, women's shelters, literacy programs and family counselling.

Emunah Women is also the only designated institution that is allowed to remove children from their homes on a crisis basis.

"We are sensitive to the issues of what is happening in Israel now," said Edie Kalb, president of Emunah Women of Toronto. "We're sensitive to the needs of the newcomers who are having a real hard time."

She added that Emunah Women institutions maintain a religious environment, which she says is important in a country "that is having a real hard time now religiously."

Emanuel Foundation to honor memory of Holocaust hero

TORONTO — The memory of Eugene Winter, a Holocaust survivor who went on to aid hundreds of fellow Hungarian survivors in Canada, will be honored at a June 10 dinner by the Emanuel Foundation.

It will be the first time the foundation will hold its annual event in Canada.

The dinner, co-sponsored by the Toronto Simcha Congregation, will also honor the memories of Alan, Ethel and Larry Grossman. It will take place at the Le Parc Banquet Centre in Thornhill, beginning at 6:30 p.m.

Special guest will be Kelly Curtis, wife of actor Tony Curtis, who started the Emanuel Foundation in memory of his Hungarian-Jewish father, Emanuel Schwartz. The non-profit foundation is dedicated to perpetuating the memory of the Holocaust.

World-renowned tenor Tibor Kelen is scheduled to give a performance, and local politicians are expected to attend.

Winter, who died in 1995, was widely regarded as a hero in Canada's Hungarian Jewish community. As a member of the underground during World War II, he smuggled children out of work camps and helped liberate several towns and cities from the Nazis.

In 1956, the year Soviet troops invaded Hungary, he helped arrange the reception and settlement of some 10,000 Hungarian Jews in Toronto.

Winter was also active in numerous Jewish charities and causes.

Proceeds from the dinner will go toward completion of the Raoul Wallenberg Memorial Park in Budapest, named for the Swedish war hero credited with rescuing 100,000 Hungarian Jews during the Holocaust, as well as a documentary film on Jewish resistance during the war.

For ticket information, call 636-7775.

Greater Toronto Area

Hoops for Hope set for June 7

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The third annual Hoops for Hope three-on-three basketball tournament will be held at the Bathurst Jewish Community Centre June 7 from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

The event will benefit the Audey Stanleigh Leukemia Research Foundation, which supports new and innovative research at the Hospital for Sick Children, as well as bone marrow testing through Canadian Friends of Jay Feinberg.

Male and Female basketball players, ages 12 and over and of all skill levels, may compete. Organizers expect 500 players, and have organized media celebrity games, trophies, door prizes, and a three-point shootout.

For players 12 and up

Audey Stanleigh, a popular Thornhill resident, suffered from acute lymphoblastic leukemia. When he received a bone marrow transplant from a Windsor man who had originally been tested for New Jersey leukemia patient Jay Feinberg, Stanleigh, along with Ilan Meister, organized Hoops for Hope, originally called Play for Jay, as a way of giving thanks for his good fortune.

Meister is still the director.

Stanleigh died in August 1996, at age 21, of post-transplant complications. Hoops for Hope has been carried on by an independent group of volunteers, many of them Stanleigh's friends and supporters.

Since its beginning, Hoops for Hope has raised nearly $60,000, through registration costs, personal and corporate donations, and corporate sponsorships.

To register, or for more information, telephone 416-2708, or e-mail [hoops@wiznet.ca].

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Israeli society 'less cohensive' after 50 years: historian

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Israel at 50 is less of a cohesive society than it was in its formative years, a Hebrew University historian said last week.

"The cohesiveness of the first years is gone," observed Idith Zertal at a Beth Tzedec Congregation lecture under the auspices of the New Israel Fund.

Fragmented by religious, social, cultural and political rifts, Israel today resembles "a loose federation of communities," some of which, haredim and Israeli Arabs, are alienated from the mainsteam.

Zertal described Israel as a country where different groups try to impose their beliefs and values upon each other.

"We're in the middle of a war," Zertal added, referring to the battle for Israel's future identity. "Will Israel be a liberal, secular, democratic state, or a regressive theocracy?"

Surveying Israel as it marks five decades of statehood, Zertal said it is still very much a "state in the making," a "porous and fragile society" without internal peace, a constitution or internationally recognized borders.

Nevertheless, Israel inspires love from many of its citizens, and life there is "very rewarding," she said.

Zertal's Hebrew University colleague, political scientist Shlomo Aronson, said that Israel is gripped by a malaise – a mid-life crisis – connected to Yitzhak Rabin's assassination and the Oslo peace process.

Rabin's murder deprived the nation of a strong and sincere leader who could rally most Israelis behind his decisions.

But neither Rabin nor his successor, Shimon Peres, anticipated the problems and difficulties of the peace process, particularly Islamic fundamentalist terrorism, said Aronson, currently a guest scholar at the Library of Congress in Washington.

Furthermore, Israelis had "simplistic expectations" of peace, believing it would lead to untrammeled peace and regional economic cooperation.

These expectations, he said, were totally exaggerated and unrealistic.

Neither were Israelis prepared for Egypt's reaction to the historic rapprochement between Israel and its Arab neighbors. Egypt – the preeminent Arab power and the first Arab state to sign a peace treaty with Israel – felt challenged by Israel's growing acceptance in the area.

Aronson also suggested that the Palestinians may not be satisfied with an Israeli withdrawal from the West Bank and Gaza Strip, but may press for a bi-national state, with a new flag, which would admit Palestinian refugees displaced by the 1948 war.

Turning to another topic, he claimed that there has been an erosion of support among the Israeli intelligentsia for Israel's right to exist as a Jewish state.

The lecture series, originally intended to take place at the Smithsonian Instutution in Washington, was shifted to Toronto following harsh criticism from right-wing Zionist circles in the United States.

It will continue on June 8 at Holy Blossom Temple with a lecture by *Jerusalem Report* columnist Stuart Schoffman.

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Tour of hate

At a press conference in Damascus last week, the founder and spiritual leader of Hamas, Sheikh Ahmed Yassin, predicted that Israel would be destroyed and a Palestinian state established during the first quarter of the next century. After meeting with Syrian officials and the heads of various radical Palestinian groups, he told reporters: "The strong will not remain strong forever and the weak will not remain weak forever."

Yassin was near the end of an eight-country tour of the Middle East and the Persian Gulf. He had left his home in Gaza ostensibly to obtain special medical treatment. But it soon became apparent that one of the key purposes of his trip, if not *the* key purpose, was to keep the malevolent Middle East cauldron of tribal-religious hatred insidiously simmering. Throughout his "tour," he frequently urged his co-religionists and fellow-travellers to bring about Israel's destruction.

Some commentators and pundits, of course, will dismiss these statements as merely more of the same rhetoric, the usual bombast, familiar flourishes of "sound and fury" that, in the end, signify nothing. But they are wrong.

By dismissing the sheikh's statements, they encourage them as well as the perverse, underlying attitudes that make such public pronouncements acceptable, and that makes hatred preferable to reconciliation, killing preferable to compromise and war preferable to coexistence.

The statements must be unreservedly condemned.

It was no coincidence, that, inspired by the sheikh's religious instruction, Hezbollah killed two Israeli soldiers, Yehudah Salem and Avraham Limoy, in south Lebanon. Two other soldiers were wounded.

At what point, can we expect such dark, medieval attitudes to be scorned by the leaders of the Middle East? Indeed, at what point can we expect these attitudes to be scorned by the politicians, commentators and pundits of the West, who in loud, demonstrative manner, often deride the policies of the government of Israel?

The sheikh's malign wishful thinking is, in truth, a prescription for prolonged Palestinian frustration and suffering. Moreover, and more revealing, he misunderstands Israel's real strength.

The source of Israel's strength is not its army; the army is the result of its strength. The source of Israel's strength is its determination to live and to build and to fulfil a divine plan for a good and decent society. In contrast, the unbending devotion to Israel's destruction consigns the sheikh and his followers to perpetual weakness.

Now, Nova Scotia

We commend the Legislature of Ontario for its endorsement last week of the Calgary declaration. That the vote was not unanimous, short only by one legislator, is merely a detail for the record. It does not diminish the force of the vote.

The declaration recognizes Quebec's unique character while affirming the equality of the provinces and of all Canadians. But because the separatist premier of Quebec, Lucien Bouchard, has stated repeatedly that he will never sit at the table to negotiate an improved federalism, the declaration and its ratifications by the legislatures of the country are directed over the heads of the Parti Québécois, directly to the hearts and minds of the people of Quebec. As Premier Mike Harris stated in his remarks prior to the vote, "the declaration is a very real signal to the people of Quebec that other Canadians are ready to recognize its unique identity."

We now await Nova Scotia's endorsement of the declaration.

WISDOM OF THE AGES
"Those who have laughed and cried together are no longer strangers."
Max Nordau

Dry Bones
"SILENCE IS GOLDEN"!
SO I'VE HEARD. BUT WHAT DOES THAT MEAN EXACTLY?
I'M NOT SURE, BUT IT HAS SOMETHING TO DO WITH...
THE HISTORY OF SWISS BANKING.

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Full-time beit din could not single-handedly solve agunah problem

Your article on beit din (*CJN*, May 14) quoted from my recent talk, but clarification is required.

I was misquoted with respect to the role of a standing beit din and the agunah problem: "Colman said he sees 'no reason' why the problem faced by agunot (women denied a Jewish divorce) could not be 'eradicated' by a full-time beit din in Toronto."

From my prepared text, I stated: "The beit din and its full-time administrator should assume comprehensive responsibility not only for dispute resolution but also for the administration of the ever-increasing *gitten* that unfortunately must be granted. Perhaps, a beit din with greater persuasive authority and a wider feeder system of lawyers, would be able, in some small way, to influence those who are reluctant to grant or receive their *get*. There is no legitimate reason why any member of the Jewish community should not be able to receive the full assistance and support of all elements of Jewish society so that the agunah problem can be eradicated. Of course, this matter is beyond the scope of this presentation. I note it here as I believe that as part of the suggested reform in our own system, we may have a window of opportunity to improve the agunah situation."

"Full assistance and support of all elements of Jewish society" involves wide-ranging measures. A standing beit din could not single-handedly eradicate the agunah problem.

The *CJN* article might imply that Colman does not appreciate the efforts of the devoted rabbanim. Rabbi Mordechai Ochs, av beit din on gitten matters, willingly facilitated special arrangements to secure a recalcitrant spouse's participation in the *get* process. Vaad Harabanim chair, Rabbi Moshe Stern, has improved beit din's accessibility. Several rabbanim, without adequate public recognition, serve as *dayanim* (judges) devoting endless hours. Most of them likely agree that room for improvement yet remains. Establishing a permanent rabbinical court will help to make Jewish justice more accessible and decrease the chilul HaShem of Jews litigating against Jews in secular courts.

Yechiel (Gene C.) Colman
Toronto

Thanks Swiss for keeping him alive

Re: Dr. F. Mann's May 14 letter about Switzerland: My family is forever grateful to Switzerland for keeping me alive.

Yes, I will admit to being refused entry to Switzerland twice... but each time Swiss citizens with tears in their eyes came over to the truck that was to deport us back to France, to give us money, food and chocolate.

Please note that both times the Swiss driver waited to make sure the Vichy authorities were not around to arrest us.

On the third try, at the ripe old age of nine, with a 3-year-old in one hand, and a 6-year-old in the other, I managed to cross the Swiss border and finally we were all allowed to stay and survive.

The only money involved was to pay off my French compatriots to show us the way to the Swiss border.

Michel Socha
Toronto

Writing a book about an innovative Hebrew teacher

I am writing a biography of my father, Alexander Ziskind (Sigmund) Socol, who was a Hebrew teacher in Toronto for more than 50 years.

My father began teaching Hebrew in Toronto shortly after his arrival in 1911. By 1915, he and a friend had opened a private school on Augusta Avenue, Beys Seyfer T'khiya, The School of Revival, which was to be a modern, progressive cheder.

Unfortunately, the school didn't survive for very long. One blustery winter day a fierce wind blew the front door off its hinges, and the house quickly filled with snow. By the time they had finished shoveling all the snow from the classrooms, the aspiring young teachers realized that Jewish education would not be reborn in that flimsy structure.

In the early '20s my parents opened Socol's Hebrayishe-Yiddishe Shule at 71 Borden St., and over the course of about 25 years, hundreds of students passed through its doors.

The same ideals my father espoused in his youth remained with him throughout his teaching career, and he tried to combine traditional Jewish subjects with modern educational techniques.

In the mid-'40s my father closed our cheder and began teaching at the Brunswick Avenue Talmud Torah. In the '50s my parents moved northward to Joicey Boulevard, as my father joined the staff of Associated Hebrew Schools on Neptune Drive.

On his retirement in 1966, Associated presented him with a plaque celebrating his "teaching of two generations of children."

These are a few of my memories, but I would like to expand them through the reminiscences of my father's former pupils. Any stories, anecdotes, and impressions would be greatly appreciated.

Naomi Bell
Toronto
416-633-3416

The wonders in Israel's short history

A letter to the People of Israel.

On the 50th anniversary of the State of Israel I feel very proud and happy. What you have achieved is nothing short of a miracle. I am just an ordinary Jew, from Europe originally, and I have never experienced such wonders in any other nation's short history.

Thank God and the people of Israel.

May you have many more anniversaries in peace.

Alexander Jakab
Montreal

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures.

Prime Minister Netanyahu, after two years...

By HERB KEINON
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

Exactly two years ago, on May 29, 1996, prime ministerial hopeful Benjamin Netanyahu strode into Likud headquarters in Tel Aviv and told glum party activists not to give up hope because "it isn't over yet."

The gloom in the hall stemmed from television exit polls that predicted a thin victory for Shimon Peres. Netanyahu's appearance, alongside his truculent ally, David Levy, elicited pity.

"Admit defeat, man" was a sentiment someone must have voiced somewhere. Much of the country went to bed that night believing Peres had won, only to wake up in the morning and learn that Netanyahu had prevailed.

Those looking for a metaphor for Netanyahu's first two years in power need look no further than those topsy-turvy hours: Just when you think Netanyahu is through, he's back.

The first 24 months of the Netanyahu government have been punctuated by crisis after crisis: the Ariel Sharon appointment; the Western Wall Tunnel; the Hebron withdrawal; the Bar-On Affair; the Benny Begin resignation; Har Choma; the Dan Meridor resignation; the Khaled Meshal affair; the near putsch inside Likud; the Avigdor Lieberman resignation; the David Levy/Gesher breakaway; the tension with U.S. President Bill Clinton; and, of course, the ongoing crisis with the Palestinians over the Oslo Agreement.

After nearly each crisis, there has been talk by some, and hope among others, that any minute the curtain will fall on the prime minister. But it never does. Not only has Netanyahu remained in place, but his standing, judging by public opinion polls, is now stronger than ever.

After the bungled attempt to assassinate Meshal in September, Netanyahu was trailing Ehud Barak by 15 to 20 percentage points. Last week, a *Yediot Achronot* poll put the two neck and neck in a two-way race, with a number of other polls giving him a slight lead.

"From screw-up to screw-up," says Likud MK Meir Sheetrit, "his strength increases."

Were historians to stand in judgment of Netanyahu based on his first two years, said Bar-Ilan University lecturer Yehudit Auerbach, the conclusion would be decidedly negative.

But, she added, the Netanyahu years are very much a work still in progress.

"History judges men by results, and his immediate results are not positive," said Auerbach, who is working on a study about what she views as Netanyahu's ongoing war with the country's elite.

Among the immediate results she cites are steering the country into diplomatic isolation, an icy shoulder from the Arab world and galloping unemployment. "In every aspect, things today look bad, but much of the nation is giving him credit that we are on the way to something better," she said.

"Many people believe he can lead us to something better because, against all the odds and predictions, he has endured," Auerbach added.

Netanyahu has deliberately made the future a dominant theme in his rhetoric, says media consultant Benny Cohen, who served as media adviser to Yitzhak Rabin during 1994-95.

"The easiest way to escape from problems is to say I erred, but now will change," said Cohen. "If you notice, he always looks forward. All his speeches are full of words like, 'We will do; we will bring; we will build.'"

"If someone says, 'But wait a minute, you haven't done anything,' the reply is 'Ah, but I will.'"

Cohen is no historian, and he makes no bones about his dislike for Netanyahu. But, he says, Netanyahu is, to a large extent, achieving what he set out to do.

"There are two parameters by which one can judge how a person is doing his work: by the direction, and by the effectiveness," Cohen said. "I think Netanyahu is effective, but I think he is mistaken in the direction. If his direction was different, if he was the head of Labor and was interested in true peace, I'd say that's great."

That point of view is particularly telling, considering that much of the criticism of Netanyahu from left-wingers has been about what they say is an underlying anti-democratic political personality and a moral slipperiness.

"From my point of view, a leader is not a friend, he is an instrument of the state," Cohen said. "If I look at Netanyahu, Barak and Ronni Milo, they are instruments whose purpose, from my vantage point, is to ensure that my life will be better.

"What type of person they are, as long as they are not criminals, doesn't matter to me," Cohen added. "What I care about is that they give results."

Netanyahu – according to Cohen – has provided results for his constituents. "The man promised to stop Oslo and to renegotiate things with the Palestinians," Cohen said. "And everyone knew that renegotiation could lead to a halting of the process. In that regard, he is doing everything he set out to do.

"Understand that there is no one who wants to see him fall more than I," he continued. "But I am the last person who will say he did not understand that he embarked on a process that would lead to yelling and screaming and tension with the United States. He knows what he is doing, and he is doing it intentionally."

According to Cohen, Netanyahu has manoeuvered himself into a win-win situation. "If he is now tough with the Arabs and he is able to renegotiate Oslo at the price of some protests from the United States and the Europeans, he will say, 'See, I was right. We are able to get more in the negotiations.' But if the Arabs resume terrorism, he can also say, 'See, I was right. We can't make peace with them.'"

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu paid his first visit to China last week. In the photo on the left, he is being greeted by Chinese President Jiang Zemin in Beijing. Above, the prime minister visits China's Great Wall. During his visit, Chinese leaders expressed their concern over the stalled peace process. [RNS/Reuters]

One man who thinks Netanyahu's approach will be vindicated is prominent conservative British historian Paul Johnson, the author of *Modern Times: The World from the Twenties to the Eighties* and *A History of the Jews*.

Johnson raised eyebrows last month when, in a *Wall Street Journal* opinion piece, he placed Netanyahu in the pantheon of Israel's great leaders, alongside David Ben-Gurion and Menachem Begin.

"I think he is doing a good job, but that his public relations are not good," said Johnson in a phone interview from his home in England. "But what he actually does is right. I believe he is right in not taking any risks."

Johnson, who sprinkles his conversation with reminiscences of encounters he had with Ben-Gurion and Begin, said Netanyahu is playing it safe with the Palestinians out of the fear that if he makes one serious mistake, "Israel has had it, and you will all be dead."

Johnson rejects the opposition's claim that not moving on Oslo constitutes a greater peril to Israel, since it will lead to an explosion with the Palestinians. "I don't think there is any real risk of war, unless Israel lowers its guard in a big way," Johnson said. "I don't think the Arabs are going to try something like that again.

"There is a risk of rioting and so on, but so what?" he added. "There has always been rioting in Palestine and Israel. It is something one has to put up with."

Netanyahu, Johnson predicted, will carry on with the peace process. "It is in the true interest of the Arabs to continue, and it is in the true interest of the Israelis to continue. And it will continue, but at a pace that is safe for Israel. I think Netanyahu, who has a background as a diplomat, understands this."

Johnson pointed out that the same things being said about Netanyahu were also said about Begin. "I remember people saying this man is impossible, an extremist and so forth, but he produced the first really important stage of the peace process. He made peace with Egypt. Begin was a very great man, and Netanyahu is in that tradition," Johnson said.

"Ben-Gurion was a tough character, Begin was a tough character, and Netanyahu is a tough character – and you have to have that," Johnson said. "Israel cannot afford to take the real big risk, and Netanyahu is not going to take it. I think he is right in not taking it.

"I have no doubt that in the fullness of time, and against the perspective of history, he will be seen as the great man and great leader that he is. That is my firm belief as a historian and as an observer of what is going on," said Johnson.

In contrast to Johnson, historian Shabtai Teveth, Ben-Gurion's biographer, said Netanyahu is taking risks that can can change the parameters of Oslo or bring about an explosion.

"There is no doubt that the person who gambles for high stakes, if he wins, ensures his place in history," said Teveth, who places himself among the prime minister's detractors. "In that regard, Netanyahu resembles those before him. The stakes are very high. If he succeeds in getting out of Oslo cheaply, not dividing Jerusalem, and if there are no attacks or tragedies, then that is impressive. But that is a delicate balancing act."

"Netanyahu is gambling," Teveth added, "but I don't think that he has the knowledge or the vision that is necessary. Ben-Gurion gambled on the basis of a tremendous understanding of history and of political events. He really was a man who could see the other side of the hill, very clearly and very accurately. That is how he proved his greatness.

"I don't think Netanyahu sees the other side of the hill. He hasn't proven that he does. There is no question that he gambles for big stakes. Until now, he has not convinced me that it is a calculated risk that he is taking, just a risk," said Teveth.

Opinions

The gifts of the Jews

By Jean M. Gerber in Vancouver

It's an awesome responsibility to have – the shaping of Western civilization. In his book, *The Gifts of the Jews: How a Tribe of Desert Nomads Changed the Way Everyone Thinks and Feels*, Thomas Cahill argues that the Jews did just that, by embodying a whole new way of regarding the universe and both humankind and God's place in it.

The book is a part of a series, The Hinges of History, that will describe what and how certain ideas shaped the western world, "a narration of how we became the people that we are and why we think and feel the way we do." His first book, *How the Irish Saved Civilization*, tells the story of how classical learning and Christianity were preserved in Irish monasteries and scriptoriums, and how their ideas were brought to Europe from Ireland.

His second credits the Jews with starting "it" all. "By 'it,'" he explains, "I mean so many of the things we care about, the underlying values that make all of us, Jew and gentile, believer and atheist, tick.

"Without the Jews... not only would our sensorium, the screen through which we receive the world, be different: we would think with a different mind, interpret all our experiences differently, draw different conclusions from the things that befall us."

According to Cahill, Jews were the inventors of Western thought, strong believers that there was a special destiny both for individuals and for nations. In fact, he argues, the Jews invented the concept of an individual destiny.

Having studied at the Jewish Theological Seminary as well as Union Theological Seminary, Cahill has taken the Jewish Bible and extracted the core ideas of western thought. It was Abraham who showed that an individual life can have meaning, that people could escape from the eccentric and whimsical fate decreed by the gods and from a cyclical view of humanity's destiny that regarded life as a wheel, repeating itself over and over. For the ancients, an individual's actions could not change anything, nor, other than through ritual and sacrifice, make contact with the divine. For Abraham and his descendants, life was a journey with countless possibilities for humanity and God to interact, argue and reconcile, thus making up the stuff of a history that valued the individual and charged the group, the nation, with a particular mission.

For Cahill, the "Sinai moment" was an event that charged the Israelites, themselves hardly out of slavery, with a heavy moral agenda. The Torah asserted a sense of justice and the sacredness of all human life. The Israelites would not accept the capriciousness of gods or the power of privilege. Justice had to be done, and the people huddled around the base of this anonymous mountain were the instrument that would preach such a gospel to those around them.

Of course, like every other human, individually and collectively, they failed over and over. Starting with the golden calf, there was always the tendency to hark back to the path of seeking gods rather than God, and of promoting bloodshed rather than justice. But the fact is that the Jews knew when they were doing it wrong and had a slew of prophets to remind them. And that made all the difference.

King David, who made the personal the universal and gave words to the individual in prayer, at the same time committed terrible sins for which he was punished. (I do have one quibble here – Cahill doesn't mention the first prayer in the Bible, Hannah's prayer in the Tabernacle, a model of personal supplication.) Throughout the period of the kings, prophets took on the role of the public conscience, right up until the destruction of the First Temple.

And it was in that destruction that the next great lesson was finally learned: the crucial thing was not the Temple or the state, but the ethics of the nation. What each person does is as important as what a king does; and kings are answerable both to God and to their people. All must be accountable for their deeds.

The Jews gave the world a sense of progress towards a goal rather than a sense of hopeless fate. And that journey, whether personal or national, had to be a pursuit of justice and law, equality and ethical behavior.

Cahill is not interested in proving the historicity of the Bible's stories.

The change in human relationships and a national sense of justice are the gift the Jews gave to the West.

Read the book. It will humble and exhilarate you.

From Generation To Generation

By Rabbi Gunther Plaut in Toronto

I do not know which street in Toronto has the most automobile traffic, but I am probably not wrong if I assert that University Avenue is not only one of the busiest streets in the city, but also its most beautiful and stately boulevard. South of Queen's Park, it boasts a magnificent complex of hospitals. Among the many splendid buildings is one that stands out. Proudly displaying the name Mount Sinai Hospital, it speaks to the myriad of travellers in the city's Jewish community.

Many North American cities have Jewish hospitals, and often they belong to their city's finest institutions. This is true, in spades, for Mount Sinai Hospital in Toronto. I was a patient there on several occasions, and uncounted times I have been a visitor performing the mitzvah of bikur cholim, visiting the sick. I was there when Queen Elizabeth inaugurated its present habitat; and for several years, I taught some courses to doctors and nurses on Jewish values traditions.

And now I have had the pleasure of reading a splendid book on the hospital's history. Written by Lesley Marrus Barsky, it is tellingly entitled *From Generation To Generation.* Enlivened with a panoply of pictures, it is above all a meticulously researched and well-written tale of an institution that rose from the humblest beginning to its present worldwide renown. Surprisingly, it was a group of dedicated women who brought about its birth. Ezras Noshem (as it was then called) became the motive power for the creation of a modest downtown hospital, a converted residence that soon burst its bonds. Then came the move to a fine new structure on University Avenue and the emergence – literally speaking – of the community into the limelight of Toronto. A third building that is the locus for Mount Sinai today has become part of the Toronto hospital complex.

What impressed me particularly in the book was the author's ability to tell her story engagingly and to deal with a multitude of persons adequately, yet without making it a boring recital of faces and facts.

In a way, *From Generation To Generation* is the history of Toronto's Jewry, and longtime residents will here meet old friends and relive their own past, while newcomers will find out an essential aspect of a community they now call their own.

Barsky does not shy away from discussing the controversy that embroiled Mount Sinai in its relation to the provincial budgetary cuts and amalgamation plans. Thus the author ends her book on a reflective note: "It is certain that the long tradition of optimism and determination that once drove the rugged individuals who began Mount Sinai Hospital, will not soon be dispatched to the dustbin of history. Both within the hospital and outside in the Canadian community it serves, the irrepressible will for Mount Sinai to prosper and flourish, grounded in a single core value of uncompromising excellence, remains as substantial and durable as those sturdy Yorkville tables and chairs" in its first location.

Singin' in the (Berditchev) rain

By Shel Krakofsky in London

Needed some cheering up the other day. Took a quick stroll downtown. It was dark and raining. Went looking for Gene Kelly kicking up water and twirling around a lamppost.

No such luck. People don't spin around lampposts in the rain any more. Maybe that's what's wrong. It's not the history. It's the choreography.

If I couldn't sing and dance with Gene Kelly, I could at least go home and read about his chassidic equivalent (a stretch?), Levi-Yitzchak of Berditchev. The stories of Levi-Yitzchak, though never forgotten, have been made more popular this century through and in the writings of Martin Buber and Elie Wiesel.

Buber correctly describes chassidic tales as "a world of legendary reality." The transmitted stories cannot be authenticated with any degree of certainty, yet they accurately reflect the passionate fervor and exalted joy of the masters and their chassidic followers. With unbridled enthusiasm, they affirmed the quotidian union of the natural and the Divine.

Levi-Yitzchak said: "Whether someone really loves God can be determined by the love he bears toward human beings."

Only the outlines of the actual life of Levi-Yitzchak (1740-1809) are known. Born in Galicia, he was a talmudic prodigy who studied Chassidism with the Maggid of Mezritch, who had studied with the Baal Shem Tov. Levi-Yitzchak learned with the Maggid that a Jewish life must be lived as well as studied.

He defended his community before God, even when its members were involved with wrong-doing. Once the rabbi of Berditchev saw a man attired for Shacharit services with prayer shawl and tfillin, greasing the wheels of his wagon.

"Lord of the world," exclaimed Levi-Yitzchak. "Behold this man. Behold the devoutness of Your people. Even as they grease the wheels of a wagon, they are still mindful of Your Name!"

Even as he defended his people, he could bristle against them. When Levi-Yitzchak discovered that the young women of Berditchev worked continuously from early morning until late at night kneading the dough and baking matzah for Passover, he mourned their drudgery from the pulpit. He cried aloud, "Those who hate Israel accuse us of baking matzah with the blood of Christians. But no, we bake matzah with the blood of Jews!"

It has been said of Levi-Yitzchak that he loved God, he loved Torah but above all, he loved the people of Israel. He was a man of the people who revered the ordinary while intimately praising the Almighty, possessing the temerity to confront Him with threats and sarcasm. With Abraham, Moses and Job, for example, there were dialogues with God. Levi-Yitzchak was different. He insisted on answers and even threatened his Judge.

This rebbe was comfortable reminding God – even on Yom Kippur – that He too must ask forgiveness for the inflictions He had visited on His children. The request for pardon had to be reciprocal. Once he remained standing at his pulpit all day without uttering a sound. He had warned God, "If You refuse to answer our prayers, I shall refuse to go on saying them."

Levi-Yitzchak tried hard to be above rivalries. His faith in God and man was too genuine for him to sanction differences and intolerance. One day, the wife of a militant Mitnagid threw garbage on the head of Levi-Yitzchak. Without responding, he continued his walk to synagogue.

"Don't be angry with her Lord," he prayed. "It's not her fault. Poor woman, she wishes only to please her husband. Can You blame her for that?"

For Levi-Yitzchak, one could be a Jew with God or even against God – but not without God. Once he vented his anger and frustrations, he always came back. One Passover, he compared himself to the one who does not know how to ask. "Ah, it is not why I suffer that I wish to know, but only whether I suffer for Your sake."

Levi-Yitzchak still remains *sui generis*, someone who by his example can help us to accept each other and that which we will never understand.

Or, as my wife Dalia (who is not from Berditchev) likes to remind me, better to sing in the rain than to curse in the sun.

The Kirshner File

The legendary Morris (Two-Gun) Cohen

Morris (Two-Gun) Cohen was one of the most picaresque characters of this century. An adventurer, soldier of

By Sheldon Kirshner

fortune, arms dealer and spinner of tall tales, he was a legendary figure.

Born in 1888 in Poland, and raised in London, he was the eldest son of Orthodox Jewish parents. An incorrigible juvenile delinquent who drifted into crime, this ne'er-do- well was, in the fashion of the day, packed off to Canada as a last resort.

Wandering into a Chinese gambling den in Saskatoon to play a hand of poker, Cohen came to the defence of a Chinese man during an armed robbery. This impulsive act earned him the gratitude and friendship of the local Chinese community, as well as an enduring footnote in Chinese politics.

Sailing to China in 1922, Cohen wormed his way into the entourage of president Sun Yat-sen, the father of modern China. Cohen was appointed as his bodyguard, and in the interval between the fall of the Manchu Empire and the Japanese invasion of China, he was given a generalship in the Chinese Nationalist army.

Interned in Hong Kong by Japan during World War II, Cohen returned to Canada, where he was feted as a hero. Settling in Montreal, he was by turns an antique dealer, an arms procurer for the Irgun and a lobbyist for a Canadian airline seeking a route to China.

A shameless self-promoter, Cohen was rarely out of the limelight. Exotic and flamboyant, he was an irresistible subject for any reporter looking for a colorful story. But Cohen tended to embellish his credentials, and he incorporated these outlandish claims into his memoirs.

Twenty-eight years after his death, Daniel Levy has written what may be Cohen's definitive biography. Levy, in *Two-Gun Cohen* (St. Martin's Press), sweeps away the myths and draws a balanced and realistic picture of his subject. As Cohen emerges from the pages of this masterfully-researched book, he comes across as an endearing, though flawed, personality.

Nicknamed Fat Moisha when he was an amateur boxer, Cohen was a brawler and a pickpocket in his youth. A product of the mean streets of London's East End, which generated a bumper crop of petty criminals, Cohen fell in with a notorious shill known as Harry the Gonof. Distraught by their wayward son's predilections, the Cohens enrolled him in a reform school. Before long, he was on a ship heading to Canada. Arriving in Quebec in 1905, he proceeded to Manitoba.

Starting out as a farm laborer, Cohen was soon a circus barker in Saskatchewan. Tiring of this, he sold fake jewelry and pimped for a bawdy house. Charged with carnal knowledge of a girl under 16, he was arrested, tried and imprisoned for nearly six months. Tasting freedom once more, he turned to pickpocketing.

Cohen's downward spiral might have continued apace had he not walked into the middle of a robbery in a gambling parlor in 1909. Coming to the rescue of a Chinese patron whose diamond ring a thief had pulled off his finger, Cohen socked the miscreant on the jaw, then relieved him of his ill-gotten gains.

It was a watershed in Cohen's life. Cohen made the acquaintance of the person he had helped and he, in turn, introduced him to the Chinese Nationalist League. Some years would pass before he used this connection to his benefit. But after being demobilized from wartime service as a soldier in the Canadian army during World War I, Cohen resumed contact with the Chinese Nationalist League, and subsequently, joined Sun Yat-sen as a bodyguard.

China, in the 1920s, was convulsed by civil war, and Cohen thrived in this turmoil. After being wounded in a skirmish, he packed two pistols on his hip, and this obsession with security spawned his sobriquet, Two-Gun Cohen.

He remained in China after the death of his patron, Sun Yat-sen, in 1925, and when a Japanese expeditionary army invaded the country in 1937, he assisted in directing the war effort. Cohen also served the Nationalist cause as an arms merchant, and it was a profitable sideline.

By Levy's reckoning, Cohen was not an important force in China. He deliberately left that impression with Western foreign correspondents. In practice, Cohen was a relatively minor functionary. Whatever his position in the hierarchy, Cohen was genuinely loyal to his masters, never failing to tell listeners that China was "the only country in the world that has not... persecuted the Jews."

In 1942, Cohen's relatives in Britain read a newspaper report that he had been executed by the Japanese at the express wish of Adolf Hitler. In fact, he had been interned. Released from captivity in 1943, Cohen went back to Canada. And at a dinner in Montreal organized on his behalf by the Jewish community, Cohen was praised to the heavens by Samuel Bronfman, president of the Canadian Jewish Congress.

In Montreal, Cohen met, and married, a divorcee named Ida Judith Clark. Her brother, Gerald, would go on to be editor of the now-defunct *Montreal Star*.

Cohen had a legion of admirers in the local Chinese community, but he was never able to earn a decent living in Montreal. Levy claims that he lived off his wife's income. She owned a fancy dress shop next to the Ritz-Carlton Hotel. Eventually, they split up.

Morris (Two-Gun) Cohen

Despite his straitened circumstances, Cohen cut a debonair figure around town, and was on a first-name basis with Saul Hayes, director of the Canadian Jewish Congress. Hayes, we're told, convinced Cohen to persuade the Chinese Nationalist delegation in the United States to support the political rights of the Jews in Palestine.

Cohen returned to China in 1946, amid fierce battles pitting the Nationalists against the Communists. To his dismay, he discovered that his influence had waned.

Nevertheless, Cohen was sufficiently influential that he was able to acquire Chinese small arms for the Irgun, the Zionist Revisionist militia in Palestine. And during this period, as a self-professed "national-minded Jew," he attempted to open the Chinese market to Jewish-manufactured goods from Palestine.

Always alert to potential business opportunities, Cohen used his clout with the Chinese Nationalist leader, Chiang Kai-Shek, to acquire a route for Canadian Pacific Airways from Vancouver to Shanghai.

In 1952, Cohen moved permanently to Britain, but his attempts at being an entrepreneur failed. His memoir, published two years later, did not improve his prospects.

Until the mid-1950s, Cohen was a vociferous opponent of the Communist government in China. But bowing to reality, he made his peace with the regime and, ultimately, Cohen was accepted as a friend by both the Communists and the Nationalists.

In his final years, Cohen was often seen in the company of Western reporters and businessmen in Beijing. He was widely regarded as a name-dropper and luftmentsch, but appearances could be deceiving.

He landed work as a consultant for Rolls-Royce. And, at the request of Israel's foreign minister, Golda Meir, he did what he could to foster friendly Chinese ties with Israel. Cohen, however, did not live long enough to see the fruit of his labor. More than two decades would elapse before Israel and China established official diplomatic relations in January 1992.

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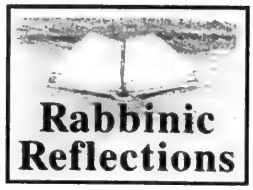

Power of the mitzvah

By
RABBI AVRAHAM E. PLOTKIN

There is an insightful midrash recorded in the Talmud (Shabbat 88, A) which tells us that when the Israelites gave precedence to "we will do" over "we will understand," 600,000 ministering angels came and placed two crowns upon each man of Israel, one as a reward for "we will do" and the other as a reward for "we will understand."

Apparently, the Jews were rewarded not only for agreeing to observe and understand the Torah, but also for the order and precedence in which they accepted it: First, committing themselves to observance, and then to understanding.

Although the logical order should have been understanding the reason for the commandments and then observing, our ancestors chose first to observe. Why should they choose such an extreme irrational approach?

I believe that this action-oriented approach of our ancestors came from their keen understanding of religion and God and not primitive extremism. They knew that it was impossible to comprehend a set of rules and commandments about to be given by an infinite and transcendent God. They realized that the only way to apprehend this infinite God was by actually observing his commandments. Observance, they felt, was the vehicle to approaching God. Accepting God on his terms, as demonstrated by our actions, was the only way to touch the Divine. Of course, they were prepared to understand whatever was humanly possible as they said "and we will understand." But, only after their commitment to "we will observe."

Thus, giving precedence to action over logic was not a weakness on our ancestors' behalf. It was a result of their understanding of God and the limitations of the human mind. This is why the angels rewarded the Jews for giving their precedence to "we will do."

In recent years, we too have seen the benefits of this approach. Over the last few decades, we have witnessed a major revolution in the Jewish community, especially amongst the youth. Thousands have returned to the traditional observances accepted by our ancestors at Mount Sinai. This renaissance, by the way, rejects all the "doom and gloom" forecasters who point to the rising trends of intermarriage and assimilation, and who predict a gradual demise of the Jewish people. These young people have brought feelings of renewal and hope to the entire Jewish community and are the living proof that Judaism will survive.

In a recent survey conducted by one of the major Israeli newspapers, it was pointed out that the first contact for most was not a seminar or Torah class, but rather the observance of a mitzvah either through an experience at the Kotel or an encounter with a mitzvah tank (putting on the tfillin or lighting Shabbat candles). Clearly the first experience that ignited the Jewish soul within them was an action-oriented mitzvah. Of course, this experience was followed by the necessary Torah study to fill the minds of these young people with the knowledge needed. Yet, the pattern has statistically been the first fulfilment of a mitzvah, and only afterwards Torah study.

Apparently, the power of the mitzvah has not changed over the thousands of years and our ancestors' choice of "we will do and then understand," is truly the secret of Jewish survival.

Rabbi Plotkin is the rabbi and director for Chabad Lubavitch of Markham.

The world of Jewish software

By MARK MIETKIEWICZ

There are limits to the Internet. There, I said it.

Although the Internet holds an incredible wealth of Jewish information and allows worldwide dialogue that was previously impossible, there are many computing tasks you just can't do on the Web. You need software. But Jewish software is so specialized, you are probably not going to find it at your local high-tech megastore. And unless you live near a very good Judaica store, you could be out of luck.

Still, thanks to the Internet, anyone anywhere can track down that perfect piece of software with just a few taps of the keyboard. And the on-line selection is amazing: everything from full-featured bilingual bi-directional word processors **[http://www.kabsoft.com/wp.htm]** to searchable Torah, Talmud and Jewish encyclopedias on CD-ROM **[http://www.jewishsource.com/software/index.html]** to a Hebrew tutorial program that includes on-screen finger spelling for the deaf **[http://www.radix.net/~dor_l_dor/jewish_deaf.html]**.

And best of all, there's a lot of free stuff out there.

Over the next weeks, I'll take you to the most interesting commercial and free Jewish software sites. We'll take a look at the incredible work being done by both large and small Jewish software developers and I'll give you some tips for buying on line.

First a few disclaimers. I could never possibly test all the software I will mention in these columns; that alone could be a full-time occupation. Although I hope to point you in the direction of some of the best software out there, please do not interpret a mention of software as a recommendation. Also, please excuse me if I do not mention your favorite program or software site.

A few more important points:

• Do your research. The Jewish Computing Review is a wonderful resource which has already investigated Talmud and Bible software, Hebrew and archeology programs and phone and calendar applications **[http://www.jcn18.com/scripts/jcn18/paper/Index.asp?ColumnID=61]**. These articles are very informative. Unfortunately, no new ones have appeared lately.

• Shop around for the best deal. One of the great things about the Internet is that you can save money right at your keyboard if you shop around. The Artscroll Stone Chumash CD-ROM lists for $139 (US). At Sapphire Software **[http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/Ruben_at_Sapphire_Software/sapphire.htm]**, it goes for $95 (US). Over at Torah Educational Software **[http://www.jewishsoftware.com/]**, it's on special for $59.00. For more on-line catalogues, see also The Source for Everything Jewish **[http://www.jewishsource.com/software/softwr02.html]** and the ComStar company **[http://www.gy.com/www/he.htm]**.

• Read the fine print. Make sure the software is compatible with your computer. Many companies will not accept returned software unless it is defective. Don't get stuck with something your computer can't handle.

• Be cautious about giving your credit card information on line. Many sites will provide you with an encrypted order form for extra security. Or simply fax or phone your order in.

• Be safe. Most of the sites which we'll visit seem respectable. However, prudent Internet surfers know that downloaded software should be tested with a reliable anti-virus program.

• Be honest. Shareware developers rely on your good will. Many software companies allow you to download their programs to try them out. If you like it and use it, pay for it.

Do you have a favorite Jewish program? Have you bought Jewish software on line? What was it like for you? I'd like to hear about your experience; so write me at the address below.

Next week, we'll continue our on-line shopping spree.

* * *

Mark Mietkiewicz is a television producer in Toronto with an interest in the Internet. He can be reached at [mdm@inforamp.net].

Jewish Life

Celebrating Shavuot

By RACHAEL TURKIENICZ

The holiday of Shavuot involves the celebration of Israel's receiving the Torah. One could ask whether we are merely commemorating a past event or whether there is a significance to the holiday that surpasses history.

The midrash states that when Israel accepted the Torah with the words "we will do and we will understand," the angels became active. According to this midrash, an angel came down for each Israelite and tied two crowns upon their heads. Each person bears these crowns for as long as they continue to fulfil the Torah. It seems that the midrash speaks of a reward that the angels bestow on Israel. Perhaps it signifies Israel's elevated status from commoner to royalty. However, read in light of another midrash the crowns upon our heads gain tremendous significance.

A second midrash describes Moses observing God as the Torah is being written. This midrash states that Moses sees God tying the crowns onto the letters within the Torah. The letters within a scroll of Torah are written with crowns upon them and it is these crowns that Moses observes. Moses asks God why the crowns are being applied and God responds that in the future, a man will emerge who will interpret myriads of laws from each and every letter.

Moses asks to see this man and immediately finds himself in the back of Rabbi Akivah's academy. There is an argument taking place and Moses cannot follow the particulars of the dispute. He becomes disoriented until he hears a student ask Rabbi Akivah where this law originates. When Rabbi Akivah responds that it is the law given to Moses at Sinai, Moses is comforted.

This midrash speaks of Torah and its interpretation. God tells Moses that the written Torah is contained within the letters of the scroll, but so are the interpretations. The nuances, philosophies and interpretations are embodied within the crowns that God is tying to each letter.

The interpretations that Moses hears in the academy are upsetting to him until he hears that even these interpretations originate within the text. Each interpretation finds its place in a common source and is always traceable back to the text.

The parallel between the two midrashim allows the second to enrich the first. All Israelites bear the crowns upon their heads. Each Jewish person becomes a letter of the Torah. Our individual understandings and interpretations are embodied within our crowns; yet all that is granted is potential. A letter is meaningless unless it can combine with others to make a word. Words are limited unless they can combine with others to make a sentence.

When we join together in our study and our enactment of Torah, we form the words of the scroll itself. Yet it is only potential, for we must always ask. Have we formed a word or are we forming gibberish? The process can only take place if we open dialogues and share our crowns.

On Shavuot we not only celebrate the historical event of receiving the Torah, but we must realize that we ourselves can become a living Torah.

Guest Voices

A question of two rights

By SIMON ROSENBLUM

Last year was the 100th anniversary of the Zionist movement. A few years ago, the celebrated Zionist statesman Abba Eban was speaking in Toronto and he referred to the two great moments in Zionist history. The first was obviously the signing of Israel's Declaration of Independence. The second, he said, was the 1993 Washington signing by Yitzhak Rabin and Yasser Arafat of the Israel-Palestinian Declaration of Principles.

Such a viewpoint was very much in accord with the fundamentals of Zionism. The great Chaim Weizmann, for example, said the problem of Palestine was that it was not a question of right and wrong; it was a question of two rights, of two nationalisms, those of the Arabs and those of the Jews. Such questions, he argued, could only be resolved by untidy compromises, not by rigid formulas.

Indeed, modern mainstream Zionism from David Ben-Gurion to Rabin and Shimon Peres followed a basic premise – that the security of Israel would only be assured through a wise combination of self-defence, diplomacy and efforts to seek accommodation with Israel's neighbors, i.e., the partition of the land.

To quote Abba Eban again: "In my successful plea for Israel's United Nations admission on May 5, 1949, I said that 'at every stage of Israel's relations with the Arab world, we have found equality of status to be the essential condition of partnership.' In these conditions, [Prime Minister Benjamin] Netanyahu's constant assertion of hostility to Palestinian statehood sets him apart from a growing Israeli consensus and constitutes a major obstacle to regional peace."

Moving on to the 1980s, we saw the emergence of a majority of Israeli generals and senior intelligence officers who, for a variety of reasons, understood that peace based on major territorial compromise is Israel's best security option. Their reasoning incorporated an appreciation of an unfolding moderation in important parts of the Arab world with the understanding that in an era of missiles, the security threat to Israel was changing, and finally a strong feeling that Israel should not be permanent occupiers.

Today about two-thirds of Israelis – with varying degrees of enthusiasm – acknowledge (in public opinion surveys) that if there is to be a meaningful peace, approximately 90 percent of the West Bank will have to be returned to the Palestinians, and that Palestinians living in Arab east Jerusalem will have to have some form of identity with the emerging Palestinian state. Israelis, understandably, will only pursue such a generous peace if they believe the other side is serious.

Arafat is, to be sure, a difficult peace partner, and Israel needs to make sure the Palestinian Authority follows through on its security responsibilities. Netanyahu is right to stress reciprocity; he is wrong to make it a smokescreen to hide behind.

Last fall, a *Ma'ariv* editorial talked of the three no's of the Netanyahu government: no to a Palestinian state, no to a retreat on settlements and no to any compromise on Jerusalem. The result, they concluded, is simply no chance for the peace process.

Netanyahu fiercely clings to the position that at best, the Palestinians will recover 50 percent of the West Bank and that whatever this Palestinian entity would be called, it would be broken up by Israeli settlements throughout.

Again we quote *Ma'ariv*, a centrist Israeli newspaper, in an editorial saying that the final status plans of the Netanyahu government are a "sandwich which no one can swallow and would make Bosnia look like a Garden of Eden."

Currently the efforts of the Netanyahu government to put off the next stage of Israeli redeployment from the West Bank well into the latter part of this year and to minimize its scope have been roundly criticized as evasive tactics. Little good can come of this.

Israel's chance for a secure peace is being sabotaged and could be lost for a generation. That is not the Zionism of Ben-Gurion and Rabin.

Another Zionist veteran, David Kimche, who was a former director of the Israeli Foreign Ministry, has recently argued in this vein and provides an appropriate conclusion to this piece: "Peace can be fashioned in a manner that will uphold our security, but security without peace is nonexistent. The circumstances today are such that enable us to reach that goal. If our government fails to exploit these circumstances, it will bring tragedy to our people. In generations to come, our children and grandchildren will bemoan the fact that because of a bad government, Israel missed the chance of obtaining one of its most important goals, peace with our neighbors and security. We must not allow that to happen."

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11 a.m.-1 p.m.

11:00-11:30 - Presentation by Lori Palatnik:
"Soul and the Afterlife - Where Do We Go From Here?"
11:30-1:00 - Book signing and refreshments

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25 teenagers receive Bronfman Youth Fellowships

TORONTO — Shoshanna Lockshin, daughter of Prof. Martin and Ruth Lockshin, is among 25 teenagers in the United States and Canada named to receive 1998 Bronfman Youth Fellowships under a program designed to develop future community leaders committed to the concept of Jewish unity.

Shoshanna Lockshin

This summer, Lockshin will spend five weeks in Israel with the Youth Fellowships program launched 12 years ago by Edgar Bronfman, chair of the Seagram Company Ltd. and president of the World Jewish Congress.

The 26 fellows – chosen from over 350 applicants – were selected on the basis of character, intellectual interests, special talents and leadership qualities. Merit, not financial need, is the standard of selection for this fully funded fellowship award.

Lockshin, a Grade 11 student at Ulpanat Orot high school was among her school's delegation to the Model UN run by Yeshiva University, where she received a special mention for her political contribution. Active in the Grade 11 production of *Free to Be... You and Me*, she also competed in the national level of Chidon HaTanach (Bible Contest) in Ottawa.

Head of the Bnei Akiva chapter at Kehillat Shaarei Torah and counsellor for grades 7 and 8 at Congregation B'nai Torah, Lockshin is also active in YACHAD, an organization for developmentally delayed young adults. In addition, she has won awards for outstanding service at Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care and at the Hospital for Sick Children where she volunteers.

The 26 Bronfman Fellows for 1998 consist of 14 girls and 12 boys. The group will fly to Israel on July 7, following an orientation seminar in New York City, and will return to the United States on Aug. 12.

They will spend five weeks in Israel in a program of intensive study, travel and dialogue with members of the educational staff of the Bronfman Fellowship program, as well as with prominent political and literary figures, representing a broad spectrum of views on key political, social and religious issues facing world Jewry.

This year, for the first time, The Samuel Bronfman Foundation has created a parallel group of young Israeli high school students, called Amitei Bronfman. This was done in cooperation with Mifgashim, a program of Charles Bronfman's CRB Foundation which for the past four years has been creating joint educational programming for Israeli and Diaspora youth.

The Israeli fellows, who, like their American counterparts were chosen after a rigorous selection process and represent a cross section of contemporary Israel society, will have their own educational programming as well as a week-long encounter with the American fellows.

Aliyah of Russian Jews expected to increase

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Aliyah of Russian Jews to Israel has decreased recently because of the political situation in Israel but in the long run it will increase again.

This is the view of Vitally Pruss, director of the Aish HaTorah program in Minsk, capital of Belarus.

"Some Jews are hopeful that their earnings will be good in a stable economy [in Russia], but it is an illusion," he said. "Anti-Semitism is pretty strong and may fall down on Jewish heads at any time.

"Today the [Russian] government allows us to operate but nobody knows what will happen tomorrow."

Pruss, who heads up a college in Minsk, is one of an Aish Hatorah team that oversees a program of awakening Jewish roots in 65,000 people in the former Soviet Union and in Israel. He said there are still 1.5 million Jews in the former Soviet Union.

On a brief visit to Toronto with Rabbi Shalom Schwartz, formerly of Toronto, Aish Hatorah director in Jerusalem, Pruss said the program's objective is "saving Jewish souls."

Born in Minsk 23 years ago, Pruss said he knew nothing about his Jewish background until he made contact with Aish Hatorah about five years ago.

Though Minsk had 150,000 Jews pre-war and more than 100 synagogues, it now has only three synagogues with regular services on Shabbat. However, Pruss said, Aish Hatorah is able to reach one-quarter of the 40,000 Jews now in Minsk, through its internal and outreach programs.

Rabbi Schwartz and Pruss paid a visit to Leslie and Anna Dan who are helping to finance a free all-day Aish HaTorah Discovery program in Russian at the Bathurst Jewish Centre, June 7. The co-sponsor is the Jewish Immigrant Aid Society. It will be led by Dr. Efin Svirsky, an Israeli psychiatrist.

For registration in the June 7 program, call 636-2316.

For further information about Aish Hatorah programs, call Russell Myers, associate director, 905-764-1818.

JEWISH STUDENTS AID CLOTHING DRIVE

Several Jewish day schools took part in the recent annual clothing drive for the Just-A-Second Shop (4117 Bathurst St.), which collected over 6,000 items of clothing. From left are Matthew Granatstein, student council president of Leo Baeck Day School; Joyce Rifkind of the Jewish Women's Federation, which co-ordinates the drive; Sara Abrahmovitz of Ulpanot Orot Girls School's chesed group; and Barbara Barak of Jewish Family & Child Service, which has operated the shop since 1982. [Ron Csillag photo]

MINYANIM IN THE GTA

Synagogue	Address & Tel.	Fri. Night	Shabbat	Sun. A.M.	Daily A.M.	Daily P.M.
Abir Yaacob (O) (Sephardic Kehila Centre)	7026 Bathurst St. (905) 669-7654	6:55 PM	8:30 AM	8:30 AM	6:45 AM	8:45 PM
Beth Avraham Yoseph (O)	613 Clark Ave. W. (905) 886-3810	Candle-lighting	8:45 AM	6:45 AM & 7:30 AM	6:45 AM & 7:30 AM	10 minutes before sunset
Clanton Park Synagogue (O)	11 Lowesmoor Ave. (416) 633-4193	7:00 PM	8:30 AM & 9:00 AM	7:30 AM & 8:15 AM	Mon. & Thurs. 6:50 & 7:15 AM Tues., Wed., Fri. 7:00 & 7:25 AM	15 minutes before sunset
Shaarei Tefillah (O)	3600 Bathurst St. (416) 787-1631	7:00 PM	8:30 AM & 9:00 AM	8:30 AM	6:30 AM & 7:30 AM	15 minutes before sunset

This is not a comprehensive listing of the synagogues in the Greater Toronto area. The information is provided by the Vaad Harabonim of Toronto. In due course we hope to receive similar information regarding non-orthodox synagogues from the Toronto Board of Rabbis. The Vaad and the Board will periodically revise the listings.

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Community Matters

First Step for Ne'eman Proposals

UJA Federation of Greater Toronto President Joseph Steiner sees the first meeting of Israel's new conversion institute as a "good first step." The new body, officially known as the Institute for Jewish Studies, was proposed by Israel's Ne'eman Commission which examined ways to resolve the controversy surrounding religious conversions.

The new Institute, under the auspices of the Jewish Agency, funded by North American UJA Federations, would involve Reform, Conservative, and Orthodox representatives in preparing people for conversions. The conversions themselves would be carried out by the Chief Rabbinate.

The Ne'eman report won widespread support from the Knesset although the Chief Rabbinate has yet to fully endorse it. The government of Israel and the Jewish Agency are moving swiftly to implement the proposals of the Commission headed by Israeli Finance Minister Ya'acov Ne'eman.

The UJA Federation system has played a major role in promoting the Ne'eman Commission's efforts and Steiner is now cautiously optimistic about the future.

"We are glad the meeting took place but much work is left to be done if the contents of the Ne'eman report are to be carried out fully."

Joseph Steiner

Committee Cultivates Communication

The Advisory Committee is fostering the kind of dialogue exemplified by this UJA Federation youth symposium.

Leaders of Toronto's Conservative, Reform and Orthodox movements have begun a new dialogue on behalf of community unity.

The Denominational Advisory Committee to the President of UJA Federation, which meets regularly to discuss cross denominational issues, was created to deal with sentiments arising from the proposed conversion legislation in Israel which the Knesset did not pass. The objective of the committee is to facilitate and expand communication between all streams on issues relating to unity.

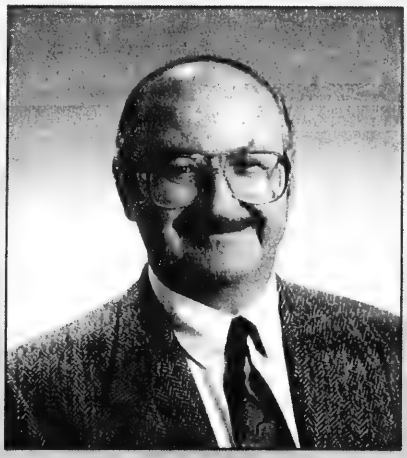
"Our mission is to keep our community on an even keel and to work together toward the common good," explains Kurt Rothschild, National President of the Canadian Zionist Federation and World Chairman of Mizrachi. "Irrespective of our differences, as a Jewish people we have a lot in common."

"The Advisory Committee provides a much needed forum in which potentially volatile denominational issues can be diffused before they reach a critical stage," adds Norm Stern, President of Mercaz Canada. "It's the only way to avoid mud slinging and remain focused on the good of the community."

"We must protect the feeling of Klal Israel in our community," maintains Art Benjamin, President of the Canadian Council for Reform Judaism. "We must turn walls into windows of opportunity."

The Committee is also helping to plan the itinerary for a visit by a Knesset delegation scheduled for next fall. Knesset members, under the auspices of UJA Federations across North America, have been visiting communities to hear Diaspora views on Jewish unity.

Yiddish for Youth



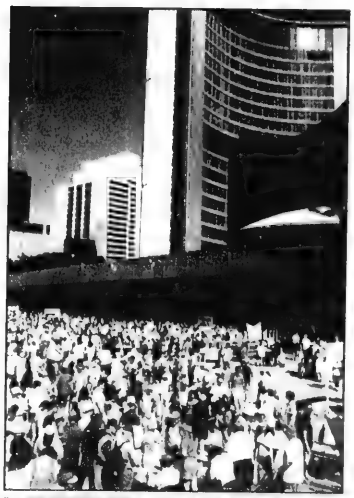
Getting more children and teenagers interested in Yiddish is one of the objectives of the new director of UJA Federation's Committee for Yiddish, Adam Fuerstenberg. He is an expert in Canadian Jewish and Yiddish literature, who studied with well-known Yiddish folklorist Dov Noy and legendary Yiddish scholar Dov Sadan. Fuerstenberg begins his new position as he retires from a 34 year teaching career at Ryerson Polytechnic University's English department. Fuerstenberg is also the editor of *Parchment*, Canada's only journal of Jewish creative writing.

These Israeli teenagers symbolize the kind of harmony for which the Ne'eman Commission is striving.

***Community Matters**, a supplement of the Canadian Jewish News, is sponsored and produced by UJA Federation. Website: www.feduja.org*

Community Matters

WOW! WHAT A TURNOUT!

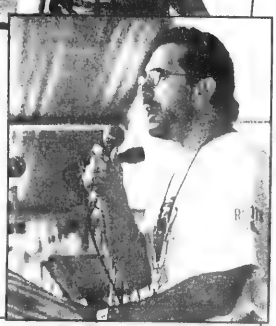


Never before have so many members of Toronto's Jewish community turned out for one event. More than 15,000 Israel 50 Fun Walkers and Festival goers filled the streets of downtown Toronto last week. The 1998 UJA Federation Israel 50 Fun Walk from Nathan Phillips Square to Ontario Place raised more than $200,000 for Jews in need." It was a spectacular celebration of Israel's 50th," said Jeff Cohen, who co-chaired the Walk with Fran Grundman and Corey Mandell. "What a thrill to see so many members of our community step together for Israel."

PHOTOS: SIGNATURE PHOTOGRAPHY AND STEPHEN EPSTEIN

ON TO THE FABULOUS FESTIVAL

After the Walk thousands gathered at Ontario Place to continue Israel at 50 celebrations which featured live entertainment on three different stages, including a choir of 1200 Jewish day school students, an Israeli marketplace and a camel at the entrance to the park. The Israel at 50 Festival was co-chaired by Tillie Margolis and Ray Rubin.



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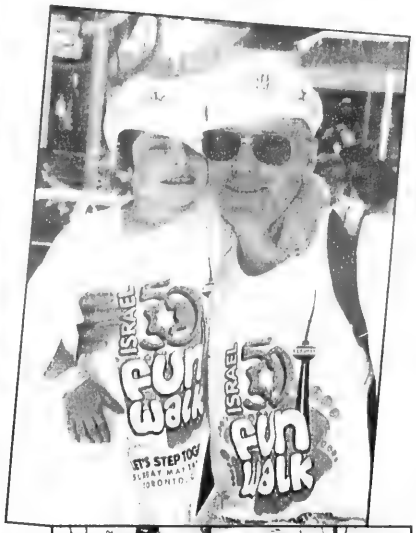
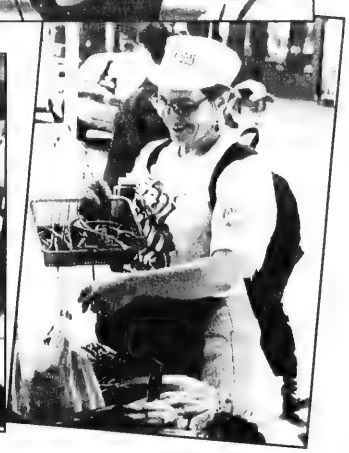
AN HISTORIC CELEBRATION





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What's New

By Miriam Herman

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DEADLINE REMINDER

What's New and About People deadlines: Monday, June 8, is deadline for June 18 issue and Monday, June 15, is deadline for June 25. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 391-1836, fax 391-0829.

Thursday, June 4

POOL TOURNAMENT

Thursday Night Out pool tournament and martini madness at Spacco, 2415 Yonge St. $10. To enter pool tournament, clothing donations at door for Jewish Family & Child Service (reserve). **Jordana** 927-9818.

Saturday, June 6

OPEN HOUSE

Kehillat Shaarei Torah open house and celebration of Israel's 50th birthday, 9:15 a.m. (services) to 12:30 p.m. For children: service 10:30-11:45 a.m., special games program during kiddush. 2640 Bayview Ave. 229-2600.

SUNNYBROOK MINYAN

Ma'yan Or Liberal Minyan Shabbat service, 10 a.m. to noon , kiddush following, Sunnybrook Jewish Chapel. **Hilda Harris**, shamus, 480-4421, ext. 3552.

Sunday, June 7

CAMP RAMAH REUNION

Camp Ramah in Canada reunion for all alumni campers and staff, 7:30 p.m. at the Reena Foundation's Toby and Henry Battle Development Centre, 927 Clark Ave. W. Thornhill. $10 in advance, $15 at door. Ramah office 789-2193.

CANADIAN PREMIERE

Friends of Yiddish and the Toronto Jewish Film Society present the Canadian premiere of the documentary film *Too Early To Be Quiet, Too Late To Sing* , visits with Israeli Yiddish poets, directed and narrated by singer/Yiddishist **Chava Alberstein**. Discussion with Toronto Yiddish poet **Simcha Simchovitch** to follow. 5 p.m., Art Gallery of Ontario, Jackman Hall. Guests $7.50. Bloor JCC 924-6211.

BREAKFAST CLUB

Congregation Habonim breakfast club features 17-year-old violin virtuoso **David Bakriges** talking about famous violinists, past and present, and also playing classical music with piano accompaniment. 10 a.m. at Beth Habonim, 5 Glen Park Ave. Breakfast and lecture $6.

OLD JEWISH TORONTO

Beth Tzedec Young Members invites singles 20s and 30s to join in a two-hour tour of old Jewish Toronto with **Stephen Speisman**, director, Ontario Jewish Archives. Meet 11 a.m. at Kiever Synagogue, 25 Bellevue Ave. RSVP **Marlene** 781-3514, ext. 34.

AFTER WE DIE

What Happens After We Die? with **Lori Palatnik**, media personality and author of *Remember My Soul* , lecture and book signing, 8 p.m. , Aish HaTorah, 949 Clark Ave. W., Thornhill. 905-764-1818.

FITTING IN FITNESS

Toronto Hadassah-WIZO, Atid Chapter (late 20s to mid 30s) Fitting in Fitness and Shaping Up With an Expert with personal trainer **Penina Janowski** 7 p.m., 1761 Bayview Ave., Unit 2. **Shayla** 447-2537.

JEWISH SINGLES

Games Jewish Singles Play (bridge, Trivial Pursuit, Scrabble and more), a social evening for men and women, Group A-ages 26-40 and Group B-ages 41-69. 7:30 p.m., Beth Torah Synagogue, 47 Glenbrook Ave. $5. **Mollie** 733-3634.

GARAGE SALES

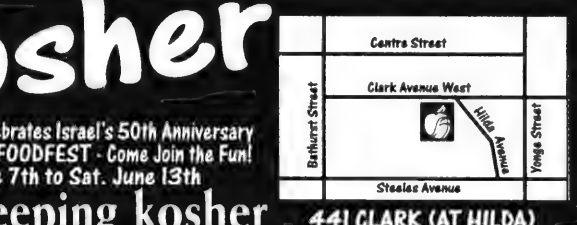
Masada Club, Na'amat, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., 116 Ava Rd. Proceeds to women shelters in Israel.

Nagillah chapter, Jewish Women International, 9-4 p.m., 114 Haddington Ave. (Wilson/Avenue Rd).

Shachar chapter, Toronto Hadassah-WIZO, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. , 10 Albion Close, Thornhill (near the Octagon).

[Cont'd. on page 19]

IGA Kosher
Clark & Hilda Celebrates Israel's 50th Anniversary with an ISRAELI FOODFEST - Come Join the Fun!
Sun. June 7th to Sat. June 13th
IGA brings down the cost of keeping kosher



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Sweet Corn
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Chicken Breast
Valu Club, Backs Attached, Fresh Kosher
7.35 kg
333 lb.

Cottonelle Bathroom Tissue
12 roll pkg.
299

Chicken Fingers
From the Kosher Kitchen
2.42 /100 g
1099 lb.

Cantaloupes
Product of U.S.A.,
No. 1 Grade
159 ea.

Assorted Olives
Krinos
500 mL tub
299 ea.

Our Compliments Cookies
Selected Varieties
400 - 450 g bag
199

Challah Bread
From The Bakery
625 g
199

Bar Cakes
From the Bakery
Selected Varieties
400 g
349

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What's New

[Cont'd. from page 18]

Monday, June 8

ORAYNU

Oraynu Community for Secular Humanistic Judaism information night with **Karen Levy,** former principal of the school, talking about Jewish Education in the New Millenium - Jewish values, heritage, history and holidays at Oraynu Sunday school. 7:30-9 p.m., Banbury Community Centre, 120 Banbury Rd. 385-3910.

JEWISH CARPETS

Beth Tzedec Museum illustrated lecture on Jewish Carpets, History and Symbolism by **Anton Fenton**, 8 p.m. 781-3514, ext. 32.

ISRAEL AT 50

New Israel Fund program, Israel at 50: Yesterdays Dreams, Today's Challenges, with **Stuart Schoffman**, *Jerusalem Post* columnist, 7:30 p.m., Holy Blossom Temple. Co-sponsored by Beth Tzedec Congregation and Holy Blossom.

Tuesday, June 9

PRIVACY IN JEWISH LAW

Rabbi Moshe Stern discusses The Right to Privacy in Jewish Law, 7:30-8:30 p.m. at Shaarei Tefillah Synagogue. This is part of the Halacha and Topics of Current Interest series.

And What Else Is New

SANCTUARY DEDICATION

Dedication of the Rabbi Dr. Moses J. and Toby Burak Sanctuary at Beth Jacob V'Anshe Drildz Synagogue, in recognition of their 35 years of devoted service, Sunday, June 21, 10 a.m. 147 Overbrook Pl. Brunch following.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS DAY

Women's League for Conservative Judaism, Canadian Seaway Branch's Canadian Public Affairs Day, Who Will Take Care of Mother?, Sunday, June 14, Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Synagogue. Program: **Dr. Joel Hurwitz**, Aging Gracefully; **Hershel Sahian**, Canadian Jewish Congress, How Will Agencies Cope With Shrinking Budgets; keynote address from Community Care Access Centre. $10 includes lunch. RSVP **Jean Bernholtz** 787-9039 or **Trudy Sassoon** 905-881-3378 or **Marilyn Siegel** 781-4234.

HANNAH

The Jewish Theatre Committee of Toronto, in conjunction with Bloor JCC, presents *Hannah* , a play about **Hannah Senesh,** pioneer poet and patriot of prestate Israel by **Eleanor Siminovitch**, June 3-7 at Bloor JCC. $10.

KABBALAH CENTRE

Kabbalah Learning Centre, 631-9395.

The Hidden Secrets Revealed, free lecture, Sunday, June 7 or 21, 8 p.m., 678 Sheppard Ave. W.

Change Your Destiny-Kabbalah and the Power of Astrology, Wednesday, June 10, 7:30 p.m., at Chapters, 110 Bloor St. W.

THEATRE PERSONNEL

Winchevsky Theatre Ensemble is seeking production, performance and technical personnel to share their talents with others in a group (read plays, stage readings, staging plays and/or musicals) 789-5502.

YIDDISH THEATRE TRIP

Friends of Yiddish weekend bus trip to Montreal to see the Yiddish Theatre of the Saidye Bronfman Theatre in *On Second Avenue* June 13-14. Also a cabaret with cast members and a tour of historical Jewish Montreal. $200. **Sandy Bokser** 736-8073.

LLIR OUTING

Holy Blossom Temple Lunch and Learn in Retirement group outing to Curve Lake (near Peterborough) Wednesday, June 17, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Temple members $15, non-members $18. Pre-paid reservations a must! **Shelly** 789-3291, ext. 233.

FOR SENIORS

Wagman Centre Bereavement Group for older adults who have recently lost a spouse, meets every other Friday. **Paula David** 785-2500, ext. 2271.

LZA Seniors Club registration for *Man of La Mancha* at Stratford Sept. 10. **Libby** 782-2059 or **Belle** 633-5841 or Borochov Centre 630-9444. Ladies Folkdancing Thursdays 1:30 p.m. Cultural Discussion Group Tuesdays 10 a.m. Borochov Centre is open Monday to Friday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club: Oak Creek Boat Farm cruise June 16; Kingston cruise July 14; cruise and musical *Little Shop of Horrors* Aug. 19; *Man of La Mancha* at Stratford Oct. 27. **Lena** 785-5773. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel. **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: June 11, Casino Rama; June 29, Cullen Gardens Whitby; July 13-19 Catskills; July 23, Casino Niagara, members $20, non-members $25; Aug. 10, shuffle off to Buffalo members $20, non-members $25; Aug. 16, annual barbecue party and entertainment members $5, non-members $6; Sunday dances June 7 and 28. 395-7881.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building): June 11 bingo and games; June 13 dance party, 50 years of Israel, Teddy Music Band, singer **Dalia Dahary,** greetings by **Shula Ofir**, regional director, Israel Aliyah Centre; June 18 Casino Rama, register with **Rina Alexander** 785-5761; June 25 comedy film *Fishke Bmilium* ; June 30, picnic. **Jerry Bengall** 633-6360 or **Malka Cola** 630-5771.

Young at Heart Seniors trip to Catskills Raleigh Kosher Hotel, 10 days including two weekends Aug. 14-23, $1299 Canadian, double occupancy, all inclusive. Singles price is higher. On-bus entertainment and refreshments. **Helen** 635-6343.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. 225-2112.

Therapeutic Touch, nurse **Florence Baum** Tuesday, June 9, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Hearing Aid Checkup, **Barry Katz** Tuesday, June 9, 12:15 p.m.

Parkinson's Support Group for people with Parkinson's disease and their caregivers, Sharing and Caring, a rap session, Tuesday, June 9, 1:15 p.m. **Ruth.**

Working Together For Change, a group for women over 55 who have been or are in relationships that hurt, new 8-week session begins June 9. All enquiries in strictest confidence. For information and meeting dates, **Sheila Zane** or **Ruth Cohen.**

Arthritis Management Clinic, **Bev Tobe**, therapist with Arthritis Society, Thursday, June 11, 1-4 p.m. Make appointment at Wellness Desk.

Dispelling the Myths About Depression, presented by Canadian Mental Health Association, Thursday, June 11, 1:15-2:15 p.m.

Father's Day dance dessert party, **Margarita Maslov** and **Michael Khinkis**, Wednesday, June 17, 1-3 p.m. Members $5, non-members $7. Tickets at Information Desk.

Israeli Club Etrog meets 7 p.m. Tuesdays for movies, sing-a-longs, lectures, bingo, dances. June 9 program is a lecture. **Anna.**

Movie *The Evening Star* Sunday, June 7, 2:30 p.m.

Fay Kellerstein program of Broadway and Yiddish favorites, Wednesday, June 10, 1:30 p.m.

BLOOR JCC

Bloor Jewish Community Centre, 750 Spadina Ave., 924-6211.

The play *Hannah* by **Eleanor Siminovitch** June 3-7. Check And What Else Is New for details.

Registration continues for Bloor JCC camps for children of different ages and interests: half-day for under fives; Summer Fun for 4½ to 10 years, arts and crafts, swimming, sports; Main Space School of Circus Arts Camp; Cityscape and Discovery at the Royal Conservatory of Music for ages 9-12.

Seniors Club, Common Foot Problems with chiropodist **Nicholas Durand** Thursday, June 4, 2 p.m.

ABOUT PEOPLE

TRIBUTE DINNER CHAIR

Susan Muskat is chair for the 1998 Tribute Dinner Sunday, June 14 at La Parc, sponsored by the Association for the Soldiers of Israel. Dinner celebrates Israel's 50th Jubilee Anniversary and includes a tribute to to the Israel Defence Forces. Its theme is Recalling the Past...Securing the Future. For information, call 787-7496.

Susan Muskat

NEW PRESIDENT INSTALLED

Laraine Hurwitz (right) was installed as president of Canadian Seaway Branch of the Women's League for Conservative Judaism at the Branch recent spring conference at Or Shalom Synagogue, London, Ont. With her are Corinne Hammerschlag (left) , immediate past president, and Janet Tobin, international consultant speaker of the Women's League. [Mollie Rothman photo]

SINGLES EVENTS CAN BE FOUND ON PAGE 22

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Ezrath Nashim fundraiser is a real laugh-fest

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — More than 350 people who love a good laugh crowded into the Leah Posluns Theatre recently for an evening of comedy presented by the Canadian Friends of Ezrath Nashim-Herzog Hospital.

They were treated to the comic antics of six stand-up comedians with proceeds from the show going to support Alzheimer research at the Jerusalem-based medical facility.

The show was very well received while as much as $5,000 was raised for Ezrath Nashim, said Jeff Toledano, executive director of the Canadian Friends. The program was geared to attract people in the 25-40 age demographic and "raise the profile of the organization," he said.

The program, which featured comedians Lou Eisen, Lawrence Morgenstern, Les Aaron, Steve Brinder, Greg Eckler and Stewart Silver, was a first for the Friends' group. The organization's main fundraising event is its annual concert, which this year is scheduled for Sept. 13 at the Ford Centre for the Performing Arts. This year's concert will honor Dr. Stanley Greben, founding chief of psychiatry at Mount Sinai Hospital.

A special guest at the comedy show was Yehezkel Caine, director-general of Ezrath Nashim in Israel. Caine was lavish with his praise for the hospital's supporters in Toronto. "Toronto has had a very marked impact on the hospital. It has one of the bigger donor groups, more than in most American cities," he said.

A rehabilitation pavilion at the hospital was rebuilt with the financial help of Nathan and Lily Silver and Sydney and Florence Cooper. Ezrath Nashim shares an endowment with Mount Sinai Hospital that was established by Albert and Temmy Latner. The endowment funds research into social psychiatry, focusing on stress-related issues suffered by Holocaust survivors as well as by war and bombing victims, he said.

"We've developed quite an expertise in coping with stress and stress-related disorders," Caine said.

With 330 beds, Ezrath Nashim is the third largest hospital in Jerusalem. The medical facility has three main divisions, Caine explained.

The geriatric division focuses on acute care medicine and physical rehabilitation. Doctors in the psychiatry division address stress-related issues and practice "regular psychiatry" while the hospital's third division focuses on "neurogeriatrics," addressing Parkinson's disease, Alzheimer disease and other dementia, Caine said.

Caine's Canadian itinerary included a trip to Montreal, where he met with the Friends' national board, and a visit to Vancouver to establish professional contacts and discuss research projects involving the University of British Columbia. In addition, he met with members of the Jewish community to examine creation of a friends group on the west coast.

Caine, who was a helicopter pilot in the Israeli air force for more than 20 years and later served as surgeon-general of the air force for 3½ years, said that between six and nine percent of Ezrath Nashim's annual operating budget is raised philanthropically around the world. There are Friends' groups in the United States, Britain, France, Holland, South Africa, Canada and Israel.

Funds raised in Canada "go almost completely to research and education," he added.

Relief far off for survivors

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A proposal to raise the maximum income levels under which Holocaust survivors of "advanced age" can get payments from the hardship fund is still subject to the agreement of the German government, said Kurt Herzstein, a caseworker with the United Restitution Organization of Toronto.

After hearing that the Conference on Jewish Material Claims against Germany has negotiated a change in the income levels for these survivors subject to the German government's agreement, Herzstein said, it "brings no immediate relief for aging survivors.

A definition of the advanced age criterion is also subject to the agreement of the German government, according to a press release from the claims conference.

The change negotiated would eliminate social security payments in tallying the incomes of survivors.

In Canada, this would mean deducting any payments under Old Age Security and the Canada Pension Plan. Prior to this, the maximum levels were $21,000 (Cdn) for a single person and $30,000 (Cdn) for a couple.

"Basically I'm glad that they [the German government] have unhitched one notch on the belt," Herzstein said.

But he pointed out that the change is also subject to the approval of the governing bodies of the claims conference.

"Any reason for rejoicing is premature," Herzstein said.

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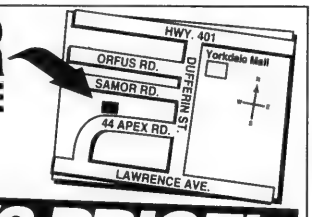

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From coast to coast

Tensions flare in Montreal

By JANICE ARNOLD
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — Police have intervened to defuse escalating tensions between Lubavitch students and members of a Christian messianic group, which proselytizes among recent immigrants from the former Soviet Union living in Cote des Neiges.

Since January, the students have stepped up their attempts to dissuade Russian Jews from going to services at the House of David, which rents space at the Bethlehem Healing Fountain, a storefront church on Decarie Boulevard, near Bourret Street, owned by a Pentecostal congregation.

The messianic group is led by a converted Russian Jewish pastor, Gennady Livshits, who came here from Edmonton one year ago.

Livshits said between 20 and 40 Lubavitchers, aged anywhere from 14 to 25, regularly show up on Friday evenings, when the messianics meet. "They stand on the sidewalk very close to the door and scream and cry as people come in. They use all kinds of manipulation and intimidation to try to stop them from entering. Sometimes, it's of a physical nature."

They first showed up when the House of David had its first meeting a year ago, he said.

The demonstrators, who come from the Rabbinical College on Westbury Avenue, have been showing up more frequently in the last few weeks, and police have had to be called in to disperse them, he said. A recent clash was described in a front-page story in *La Presse*.

The congregation has filed complaints with police that the Lubavitchers have repeatedly tried to "intimidate" members from entering the church, have sprayed graffiti on the church and its school bus, and that, in at least one instance, they grabbed a Bible from one congregant and threw it out of reach.

The congregation has also charged that one of the Lubavitchers has on more than one occasion and before more than one witness threatened to burn down the church.

Lubavitch spokesperson, Rabbi Zushe Silberstein, although not present at the demonstrations, vehemently denied that any involved would ever make such a threat or use any form of physical harassment.

"These are decent, good kids. They are not aggressive... They have been raised from birth to feel for another Jewish brother. They only have love in their hearts... There may be shouting matches, but not physical confrontation. That is not the Lubavitch way."

The students, he said, are doing what they can to counter a missionary campaign by the messianics that has "lately become bolder, more vicious, more dishonest and sneaky.

"They are disguising themselves as Jews, holding services on Shabbat, wearing kippot, using the Star of David and other Jewish symbols, when basically what they want to do is convert innocent, vulnerable Jews to Christianity."

Rabbi Silberstein said the messianics are "targeting" recent Russian immigrants because they did not practise any religion in the former Soviet Union under decades of communism and know very little about Judaism. They are also susceptible to a missionary's appeal because they are often having difficulties adjusting to a new culture and may also be in economic need.

He charged that the messianics provide food and entertainment to the immigrants as a means of attracting them to the church. Before Shavuot, he said, they advertised a program of Jewish music.

He suggests that this sort of "false advertising" might actually be illegal, noting that the term "kosher style" cannot be used by food purveyors.

The messianics appear to have "infinite amounts of money," Rabbi Silberstein added. He said they have distributed flyers and posters in the area, in Russian, that appear to be specifically aimed at Jews.

"[The students] go there [to the church] to tell people the way it is, to let them know this is not a Jewish place... they are being misled," he said.

"Lubavitch has always been in the forefront of the battle for Judaism."

Livshits does not deny that the House of David is reaching out to Russian immigrants, Jewish and non-Jewish, mainly through written material, never door-to-door. "In Canada, we are supposed to have freedom of religion," said Livshits, who has been living in Canada for 17 years and became a Christian while living in Saskatoon.

He began the group in May of last year, and today about 30 people attend its meetings and about half are Jews. He also makes no apologies for wearing a kippah or a tallit or for blowing the shofar.

Livshits and Chris Adlam, son of Bethlehem Healing Fountain's pastor, said they would be willing to sit down with Lubavitch leaders and talk in a peaceable way, but no such meeting has come about. "These people have a mission. You can't get too far with them. It's like talking to the wall," Rabbi Silberstein said.

Adlam said that the Lubavitch's dispute may be with the messianic group, but it is church property and members that are being menaced, and warned that does not sit well with the community.

Rabbi Israel Sirota, director of Lubavitch's Russian-Jewish program and a Soviet native, said that over the past year many Russian Jews have told him they have been contacted by the House of David. Lubavitch has made an intense effort for many years to bring traditional Judaism to the Soviet immigrants and provides them with many educational and cultural activities, as well as material assistance.

However, he does not believe the students are taking the right approach. He feels the Jewish community, including FEDERATION CJA and Jewish Immigrant Aid Services, should get together and devise a more professional and "diplomatic" means of countering missionaries, as is done in Toronto and elsewhere.

"The community spent so much money to bring the Russian Jews here, now they are losing them."

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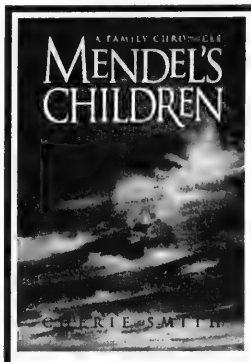

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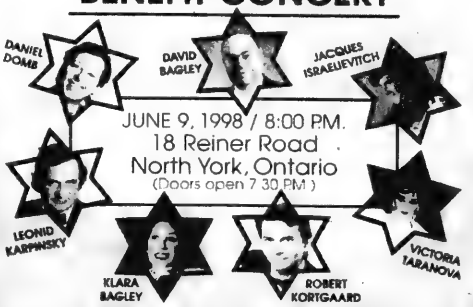

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Interactive panel discussion lets audience participate

By MYRON LOVE
Prairie Correspondent

WINNIPEG — Six interactive panel discussions were a new feature introduced at the recent 25th Plenary Assembly of Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC).

The six hour-long sessions were taped by Winnipeg-based Videon Cable Television and will be available for rebroadcast across the country.

Audience participation was invited as the panelists discussed the issues of Jewish Continuity; Prosecution of War Criminals and the Financial Restitution; Israel and the Diaspora; the Future of CJC and other Jewish Institutions; the Clash of Tradition and Technology; and What is Jewish?

CJC Plenary

The moderator of the panels was Winnipeger Jim Carr, a former MLA and former editorial writer and columnist for the *Winnipeg Free Press*.

Norman Spector, publisher of the *Jerusalem Post* and the *Jerusalem Report*, former chief of staff to Brian Mulroney and former Canadian ambassador to Israel, was a panelist at all six sessions.

Norman Spector

At the beginning of each session, Carr introduced the guests and each spoke for three minutes before the audience responded.

In the panel on What is Jewish? Spector was joined by Elan Steinberg, executive director of the World Jewish Congress (WJC); Rabbi Reuven Bulka of Ottawa; and Rabbi Michal Shekel, a Reform rabbi.

"Today ... Jewishness has been inculcated into society as a whole," Steinberg said. "The stereotypes aren't as pernicious as they used to seem. We are not afraid to appear to be Jewish."

Although there is a biological aspect to Jewishness – as in screenings for certain genetic diseases – we are not a race, Rabbi Shekel said. "You can't convert to a race. Whether you identify as Jewish through a love of bagels, Israel Bonds or Torah, all are valid," she said.

"It used to be that if you went to synagogue, you were Jewish," said Rabbi Bulka. "That is as effective a definition as saying if you go to a chicken yard, it makes you a chicken. Going to synagogue is only part of the answer.

"The major problem in defining Jewishness has to do with Jewish identity," he noted. "We tend to want to concentrate on commandments that are 'sexy' and visible to attract the next generation. But that is not where the action is."

Spector said that Jewish should be as inclusive a term as possible, welcoming anyone who defines himself as Jewish. Rabbi Bulka, however, said that self-definition is only the beginning point. There have to be some standards after that beginning that most people accept.

The Jewish Continuity panel featured Rabbi Israel Singer, secretary general of WJC, Winnipeg's Rabbi Allân Green, and Dr. Norma Joseph of Concordia University's Department of Religion, in addition to Spector.

Rabbi Singer suggested that Jewish continuity is a misnomer. "What we need is a Jewish rebirth, a renaissance, a reassessment of where we are today and how we can rebuild what we have lost," he said.

Joseph expressed a similar view saying that what we need is a Jewish present from which a Jewish future will follow.

"If we don't celebrate Judaism now, there will be no future," echoed Rabbi Green. "Modern Judaism is materialistic, secular and burdened by scientific skepticism. Too many of us are unable to appreciate the moment, the now."

One of two additional, non-televised talks debated whether dialogue is possible between Jewish groups and evangelical Christians. It featured Hal Joffe, a Calgary lawyer who chairs the CJC's national community relations committee, and Dr. James Beverley, a Baptist minister and professor of theology in Toronto.

National unity

The other, a session on national unity featured Max Bernard, a Montreal lawyer who chairs the CJC's national unity committee; Brian Schwartz, University of Manitoba law professor; and constitutional expert Phil Fontaine, the grand chief of the Assembly of First Nations.

Fontaine spoke of First Nations' efforts to find their rightful place in Canadian society. He used words such as "sovereignty" and "self-determination," but stressed that they have a different meaning for native people than for the Québécois.

Schwartz introduced the concept of a moral argument for federalism – that a federal system with two levels of government is a system of checks and balances that protects its citizens from potential tyranny. He said the federal government must become more visible in Quebec and should be seen to be working for the public good.

Bernard spoke of the CJC's role in the 1995 referendum and stressed the need for Congress to continue to work in cooperation with other ethnic groups for a strong and united Canada.

SINGLES EVENTS

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The Canadian Jewish news

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PARTY PLANNER

Diamonds are forever

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

Mark Lash started selling jewelry from his mother's dining room some 15 years ago.

Today his company, Mark Lash Designs, which specializes in custom-made gold jewelry and is known for its selection of quality diamonds, has two retail locations, and a western representative.

And he's building a large factory/showroom in Richmond Hill, which he says will be one of the largest jewelry stores in Canada.

His stores are at 938 Eglinton Ave. W. (256-5229) and in Richmond Hill at 155 East Beaver Creek Rd., #18, (905-881-5229). In Western Canada, customers can contact Sharon Filkow (204-488-0076) in Winnipeg.

"I always had a love of jewelry," Lash, 33, said recently. "My mom loved jewelry and I would tag along with her. As a teenager, I wanted to have a part-time business. I started making jewelry when I was 15."

He said he also enjoyed accompanying his father on business calls. Visiting one of his father's clients, a jewelry manufacturer, Lash said he was "just fascinated" by the factory when he toured it with the owner.

"I watched how models were carved from wax and I said to myself, 'That seems like something I could do.' So I started carving rings out of balls of wax."

He had the wax models – abstract initial rings – cast in gold, and then he did the hand-polishing with some small tools he owned.

His parents built him a showroom under the garage. "Whenever I was open, 30 to 100 people would be traipsing through my mother's home," he said. Eight years ago he purchased an industrial unit in Richmond Hill.

Lash employs six jewellers and three gemologists, and his wife Dalia is now training to be a gemologist.

Chief gemologist Louise Alexander, manager of the Richmond Hill outlet, said she helps clients make informed decisions about buying diamonds and other precious stones. "They need to know about the four Cs – clarity, color, cut and carat."

She said the clarity of the diamond is not that visible to the naked eye and some customers sacrifice clarity for a stone with better color. Not everyone has the budget for an expensive diamond ring and staff try to meet their needs by adjusting the setting as well as the size and clarity of the stones.

Lash has designed several unique settings, Alexander said. "He's working with white gold quite a bit and the square shank, the part of the ring that sits on the finger."

The store also carries bracelets, earrings, necklaces and other items by Italian designers and there is a selection of silver items for more modest gifts, she said.

Lash stressed that his company has a reputation for fair pricing and honesty. "We're known to be very honest. We work on volume. We're a wholesale manufacturer to the public."

Another jewelry company with a reputation for fairness and honesty is Laurentian Jewellers, T.O. Ltd. (782-3588), located at 1858 Avenue Rd., Suite 200. The entrance is on Old Orchard Grove.

"When you go into Laurentian, you're always going to get quality jewelry at the right price. You don't have to wait for sales because we don't believe in sales. If you want a diamond, we have many nice stones to choose from and at Laurentian, you'll get the best price," said store manager Michel Korman.

The company, which opened its Toronto doors two months ago, is a branch of the Montreal-based Laurentian Jewellers, the company founded by brothers Alex, Aaron and George Korman some 50 years ago.

George's son Michel, 32, a certified GIA gemologist with 12 years of experience, recently moved here with his family to run the Toronto branch.

He said the company has long been known for its custom work, particularly for remodelling diamond rings. "We do our own custom wax models. We can also reproduce almost anything."

And you can count on Laurentian to give a fair appraisal, he added.

"Someone will bring in their grandparent's old jewelry. They want to make something up to date and in style. We can look at what they have and modify it." These days, platinum, as well as two-toned settings which are generally done in white and yellow gold, are more in demand for engagement rings. Platinum is heavier and more expensive than gold and looks very similar to white gold, Korman noted.

He said the solitaire diamond continues to be the most popular style for engagement rings, but pear-shaped and marquis-shaped diamonds are no longer as popular as they used to be. "Our customers are buying round brilliant, and square or princess cut. People are going for more classic looks."

New ring styles Laurentian is offering are laser cut princess diamonds – multiple diamonds channel-set next to each other by laser cutting and fit side by side without gold between the diamonds, Korman said. "It's a very clean look."

He said in Montreal, Laurentian is seeing the third generation of customers at the store. Grandmothers who went to Laurentian Jewellers to buy their engagement rings have come back with their daughters and now the same customers are bringing their granddaughters.

For bat mitzvah gifts he recommended Add-a-Cube, individual 14-karat gold boxes with carved initials; the boxes go on chains of the customer's choice. He also said Laurentian's quality watches would make ideal gifts for many occasions.

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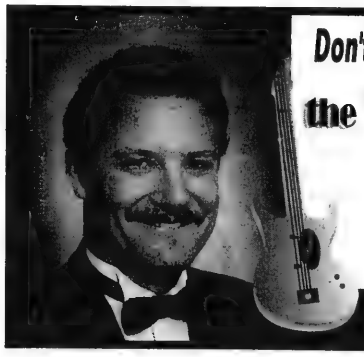

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PARTY PLANNER

Consultants ensure your party goes well

By ERIC LAYMAN
Special to The CJN

Today, more and more people hire consultants to help organize major events such as weddings. Why? Are they necessary? And if so, how should you choose yours?

Consultants Raquel Sananes-Grad (398-0217) and Risa Gold (905-882-5044) have well-thought-out answers to these questions.

First, advises Gold, understand why you need a consultant. People who plan their own events often underestimate the complexities of organizing a major celebration. Besides, if you're emotionally involved, it's hard to be objective. A consultant has emotional distance, making planning easier.

A consultant, Sananes-Grad agrees, is no longer a luxury, but a kind of insurance that things will go well. Gold compares herself to a project manager involved at every stage from preliminaries to the event itself.

Find someone you're comfortable with, says Gold, and be totally honest with each other.

Whether for a gala affair or an intimate gathering, Sananes-Grad maintains, a consultant must be a good listener – all the more so, for a milestone like a wedding.

Social changes, Gold observes, mean that traditions and customs are no longer rules, but guidelines. People marry older; they're more mature and less willing to let the consultant decide everything. On the other hand, with more women working, fewer have time to organize a simchah.

While the bride still does most of the work, Sananes-Grad says, the men play a bigger role in planning weddings than in the past, and the consultant also has to "click" with the groom and the in-laws.

Remarriage and blended families, adds Gold, mean that a consultant must often mediate to insure that everyone is pleased with the way the wedding is staged.

Sananes-Grad, who sees her work as beginning long before the event itself, divides it into two parts: making contacts and organizing or coordinating.

A good consultant covers every detail from wedding cakes to hotels. She needn't be an expert on, say, videography, says Gold, but she has to know good work when she sees it.

Other things being equal, the consultant with more contacts is better, but it's not that simple. Names, says Gold, you can get from reading ads. From a huge selection, the consultant helps choose the professionals that best suit you, for talent, experience, organization, and rapport.

Make sure your consultant is up to date on who's new in business, and who's retired. Gold also values wholesale contacts who can save you money, and newcomers, who will go an extra mile in order to build their reputation.

A consultant also has to be a judge of character. Sometimes, Gold says, she should go with you to meet other professionals and help evaluate them.

> *A good judge of character*

Sananes-Grad points out that this is more vital in certain areas. It is most important for a band leader, for example, to tap into your guests' mood.

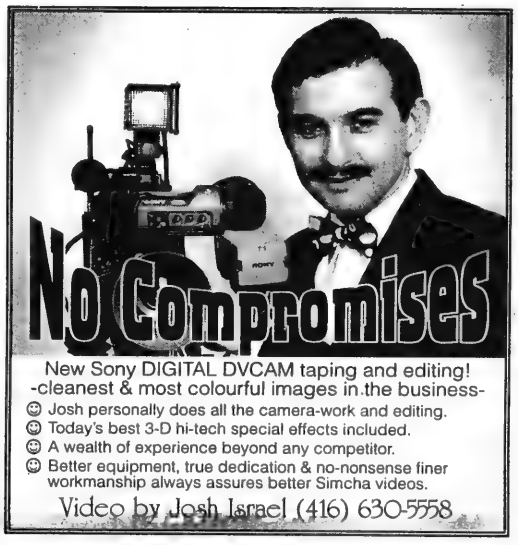
A consultant with experience in many kinds of events, Sananes-Grad says, will know more people, respect different traditions and have more ideas. She can work on any affair, private or corporate, secular or religious, big or small, upscale or downscale.

Furthermore, Gold says, an experienced consultant can allocate your budget better.

Choose a consultant as soon as you know the date and don't procrastinate till the one you want is booked in full. A year, even a year and a half, isn't too early for weddings; two to three years are good for bar mitzvahs.

Booking early allows more time to decide all the details, and this can save money, because a consultant can offer a wider choice of referrals. If caterers and others need advance booking, says Sananes-Grad, the consultant needs it even more.

[Cont'd. on page B-20]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PARTY PLANNER

Give the gift of gold that keeps on giving

By REVA KAISER
Special to The CJN

Matnas Zahav (the gift of gold), is an innovative gift-giving service that is making waves in the Toronto Jewish community, as more and more givers and recipients recognize its practical benefits and understated elegance.

A project of the Toronto Cheder's Mothers' Association, Matnas Zahav pools the monetary contributions of multiple gift-givers into one magnificent gift for the recipient on a Cambridge-Mercantile Gold Certificate, representing actual gold.

The benefits for the gift-giver are many: no need to expend energy thinking up the perfect gift, no time-consuming shopping trips, no messy wrapping sessions and no more belated deliveries. Cost factors in as well: Say goodbye to the added GST, PST and gift-wrapping, and to the extra expenses of postage or delivery.

"The general response," says Edie Bench, co-president of the Mothers' Association and coordinator of the service, "is that once you've used it, you're hooked on it; it's so simple!"

Gift-givers choose from denominations of $10, $18, $25, $36, $54, $72, $100 or more. Gifts of $120 or more are processed individually, and the recipient is presented with a gold certificate and card from that person alone.

In addition to simplifying the gift-giving process, both givers and recipients are involved in the important mitzvah of tzedakah, as a small percentage goes towards the Toronto Cheder, a young day school in Toronto. Receipts are issued annually for the charitable component of the gifts.

"Matnas Zahav is the perfect gift-giving solution for the busy homemaker and career woman," says Shoshana Zolty, lecturer and author. "Knowing that it helps a worthy tzedakah also provides a great deal of satisfaction."

Matnas Zahav is an excellent gift for all occasions, from weddings and engagements to bar and bat mitzvot, graduations, births or any special occasion. The gift of Matnas Zahav is an especially appropriate way to mark a golden anniversary.

"With so many simchahs – especially in the Orthodox circles," says Bench, "we needed to simplify the gift-giving process without compromising on the gift. With Matnas Zahav, you can rely on the fact that you're giving a unique and valuable gift that is very well-received."

Mitzvah of tzedakah

Not only do givers enjoy giving Matnas Zahav, but recipients are equally enthusiastic about it. New couples often don't need another vase or glass bowl; bar mitzvah boys lose interest in more knick-knacks for their desks and shelves. If the recipient chooses, the gold certificate can be exchanged for its cash equivalent or for the actual gold bar it represents.

"As a giver," says Linda Hofstedter who has participated in Matnas Zahav since its inception, "I appreciate the convenience, the novelty and the elegance of the gift. And as a recipient, well... you should have seen my son's face light up when his packages arrived."

Hand-delivered, Matnas Zahav is beautifully presented in a glossy, beribboned portfolio that houses both the certificate and the gift card. The elegant card identifies the recipient and occasion, followed by the gift-givers' names. Beside these names are gift icons representing the amount given. Facing the gift card is the official gold certificate, documenting how many ounces of gold the recipient now owns. Also included in the package is a brochure describing Matnas Zahav and an official letter of ownership from Cambridge Precious Metals.

Cambridge Precious Metals has graciously waived the redemption charges of cashing these certificates and is also covering all packaging costs.

The Toronto Cheder's Mothers' Association is running this project not only as a community service, but also as a fundraising effort. Other efforts include the annual tea and last year's Purim sales of Megillot Esther. Money raised covers necessities that the school does not have a budget for, such as a new computer for its administration.

Matnas Zahav can be ordered up to four weeks after the occasion. To order Matnas Zahav, call Karen at 789-2320, or for more information, contact Edie Bench at 785-6202.

PARTY PLANNER

COVER PHOTOS
By Lavee Studios of an event hosted by Times Square Entertainment.

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A photo is worth a thousand words

By ERIC LAYMAN
Special to The CJN

In the view of Greg Dean of Signature Photography (784-4488), it is important to have a good working relationship with your photographer.

Talent is a must, he says, but you have to like his individual style as well.

It is natural to choose someone with experience, says Stuart Sibulash of Sibulash Photography (598-2241) so look for referrals and recommendations.

Of Dean's clients, 30 percent know him from a simchah where he worked for a friend or relative, and 20 percent are repeat clients.

Don't talk budget or other important factors on the phone, Sibulash urges. See the photographer and his work, and try to get to know each other.

The photographer must be easily accessible, and not get fazed if anything goes wrong, he says.

Your photographer needn't have the latest state of the art equipment, says Sibulash, but it should be durable, reliable and well maintained. Backup equipment is essential.

Both Dean and Sibulash put tact and respect high on the list of qualities a photographer needs. He has to make sure everyone gets into the pictures and does not feel slighted. In situations such as those in which relatives of divorcees will be at the same event, tact is especially important.

Photo by Signature Photography

These days, Sibulash observes, clients are more thorough and sophisticated. Dean, however, who likes to have fun as he works, warns that if you're too much of a perfectionist, you won't enjoy your event; so lighten up a bit.

Book six months ahead for weddings, a year for a bar or bat mitzvah, Sibulash advises.

Even two years ahead is not too early, says Dean. He has seen clients come in 1½ years in advance, and be disappointed to discover the date is gone. Some photographers already have dates for 2000.

Start looking as soon as you know the date and place, Dean advises, but if you do not know the location and do want a particular photographer, book him right away.

"Every time you get a professional you want to work at your simchah," he explains, "your relaxation quotient goes up."

Sibulash, in contrast, advises knowing the location and who the caterers are before you come to see the photographer.

That way, you know the layout and the ambience. Thinking of a reception, for example, you should take into account the fact that hotel lobbies usually have high ceilings and ample light, while older halls are darker.

While Dean and Sibulash have different approaches to some details of working with your photographer, they agree on essentials.

Photography is both an art and a business, so anyone who does it well will have a variety of good qualities. Find these qualities, and you've found your photographer – and will have taken one big step toward putting on an event where a good time is had by all.

Other advertising photographers are: Eclipse Photography (256-3000); Horvath Photography (487-3443); Mark Stern Photography (383-1333); Party Shots (905-881-6372); Photos by Arnold (905-881-6372); Stuart Moscoe Photography (784-3686).

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PARTY PLANNER

Making a party happen

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

Jack Nodel, owner of Universal Sound Entertainment (905-479-1381), knows how to make a party happen.

Nodel, who has owned the 18-year-old company for about eight years, recently put on his 15,000th party.

His speciality, he says, is making sure that everyone – adults and kids – have a great time. Games such as Rock Through the Ages, says Nodel, "are based on music spanning many years, so everyone gets into it. Our destination contest, which consists of songs about different places, is also popular. Whatever we do, we make sure that everyone at the party can enjoy it."

Every booking comes with a large prize package so someone is always winning something.

"Kids and adults love it. Everyone likes to win."

To make a party successful, says Nodel, a disc jockey has to be much more than a music player. "It is his job to motivate the guests throughout the evening. If one song isn't getting the guests up and dancing, then another has to be chosen quickly. There must never be a dry spell."

His basic package includes two disc jockeys and the client can then decide if they want to build on that, he says.

"If they want one or more dancers, that can easily be arranged. The important thing is that we can work on a budget."

Nodel stresses that clients always get the disc jockey they request. "There are no surprises. We also use a premium sound system for every event – large or small."

His light show, he says, "helps make the party. We use laser lights and a lighting system that creates an atmosphere similar to a large television production. The light shines from above and is reflected so it makes for a real party atmosphere. The cyber lights make the room look like an elegant disco. Any room looks like a party room with our lighting."

All clients get a professional consultation with their booking. "We can help orchestrate the evening. We work with the caterer or party consultant, or we can help coordinate the candlelighting or speeches. We make things as easy as possible for our clients"

Universal now has its own venue for parties, in an open atrium at the Vaughan City Playhouse in Thornhill.

"Our clients can have a party there or at a venue of their choice. We are very flexible," says Nodel.

Another advertising DJ is Spilly Entertainment (905-709-9587).

Funky, fun flowers

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

Flowers are a perfect addition to any size party, from an intimate dinner to a lavish ball, says Elaine Birnbaum, owner of Greenleaves & Petals (905-709-4080).

"One of the best things about flowers is that they suit every taste and every budget. Flowers can be funky, fun or intimate. A lot of decorating ideas include fresh flowers," she says.

A bar or bat mitzvah is a happy occasion and the hall should reflect that happiness, says Elaine.

"When a child finishes reading from the Torah, he has a lot of dreams and hopes, and that feeling should carry through in the flowers. If guests see bright flowers in orange, yellow, pink or blue they will feel renewed and hopeful. Flowers such as gerberas, sunflowers, lilies or tulips are uplifting and bright."

On the other hand, she says, flowers can be quiet and subdued. "Soft pastels with just a hint of color also add something to a room. Flowers are versatile. They can say a lot."

Elaine employs two full-time designers who have won awards for artistic design at the Canada Blooms show held at the Metro Convention Centre.

"Our florists have credentials from the Canadian Academy of Floral Art. They are trained and they do an apprenticeship, so they are skilled at what they do. Customers need to know that they are dealing with professional florists," she says.

When people come in, her staff is prepared to help them plan exactly what it is they need.

"We will even visit the venue, if need be, to see how the room can be decorated. Sometimes people just don't know where to begin. A skilled florist can guide them through all their decisions."

Elaine carries flowers from such places as Holland, Israel, South America and Europe.

"We can get most flowers all year round, although the price might change if the flower is out of season. If someone comes in and asks for a flower that we think is not practical, we try to lead them in the right direction. We can make suggestions that the client may not have thought about. We may suggest something with the same kind of look and color, but one that is in season or is easier to obtain.

"Whether it is for a [brit milah], a pool party, a dinner party or a lavish affair, there is the right flower to enhance the mood."

Other advertising florists are: Designs by Karen Baker (886-8100); Van Bassen Flowers (222-6751).

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PARTY PLANNER

Interactive games add a new dimension

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

Want to give your child a bar or bat mitzvah party that will be the talk of the town? Call Peter Gismondi, owner of The Great Canadian Amusement Company.

Gismondi (650-5437), owner of the 6-year-old company, supplies parties with interactive equipment such as an inflatable rock climbing wall, laser tag, inflatable jumping castles, obstacle courses, 24-foot slides or sumo wrestling suits.

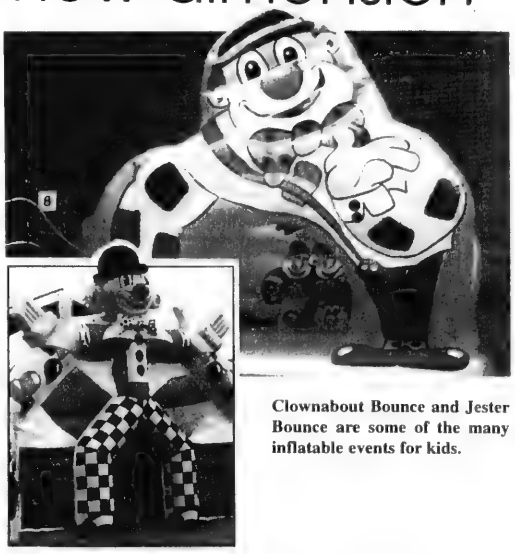
"Kids and adults have a ball with laser tag. We set up a dark, inflatable maze and suit the guests up with a laser gun and vest. Ten people can play at once, and we keep score, so there is a winner at the end of the session. It's a great way to keep busy when the adults are having dinner. We can put the maze in a large hall, a park or even in someone's backyard, so it really is not limited," says Gismondi.

The rock climbing wall, he says, is generally suited for the outdoors. "The 24-foot-high wall is made of moulded fibreglass that looks just like rock and there are three degrees of difficulty, so anyone from a young child to an adult can enjoy it."

A hit at many parties are the racing cars that run on a 3 ft. x 25 ft. oval track.

"Two-feet-long cars resembling those from the Indianapolis 500 carry the guests, who freewheel around the track and have races," he says.

Another favorite, says Gismondi are the sumo wrestling suits. "People put on these totally padded suits and just goof around. They love it!"



Clownabout Bounce and Jester Bounce are some of the many inflatable events for kids.

He says that hosts who want to add some interactive activities to their party should come to his showroom to see his equipment and watch some videos.

"We can help them decide what is best for their type of party."

Interactive games are for those who want to add a new dimension to their party, says Gismondi.

"It is not meant to replace the music, but rather give people something else to do. It really gives kids a chance to meet each other, because they are playing together."

Other advertising interactive entertainment places are: Hart Entertainment & Event Planners (762-2200); RGP Entertainment (485-4195).

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Decorations add to any type of party

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

Balloons are a sure way of turning an empty room into a lively, bright party place.

Brian O'Connor, who co-owns The Party Exchange (636-8111) with Cary Albert, carries 110 different latex balloons and at least 100 foil balloons.

"They are a great way to decorate on a budget. Most halls are not decorated, and when we bring in the balloons, it makes the difference between night and day. It fills the room and adds color," O'Connor says.

Balloons can last from 16 to 24 hours, he says, depending on the temperature of the room. "Air-filled balloons last longer than helium, but helium balloons float around the room. We've tied together 10 large balloons and had them float on the ceiling. It brightens up the room enormously."

They also make great centrepieces, he says. "We sell bags of candy hearts or chocolate kisses to anchor the centrepiece. Guests can eat the candy, or the centrepiece can be given out as a prize. Everyone loves it.

"When clients come in," says O'Connor, "we discuss the budget, and then we talk about what we can do. I have been into most halls; so I can picture what can be done with the room. A large room with a small number of guests requires more decorations than a room that is jam packed. When there is lots of open space, we have lots of room to fill it up."

O'Connor can also help clients develop the theme for their party. "Hockey is a popular theme. We've created centrepieces with actual hockey sticks and have decorated the sign-in board around the theme."

The Party Exchange carries a wide range of materials for people who want to decorate their own party. Micky Mouse, Barney and Winnie the Poo are only some of the characters the store sells.

Jack Schnoll, owner of Kosher 'N Natural (789-7173), has been in business for about 16 years. He rents out candy floss, popcorn, sno-cones, soft pretzels and mini-donut machines.

"The pretzels are a hit, especially when they are topped with the honey mustard, honey garlic or salsa toppings. They've become very popular at weddings during the cocktail hour, or they may be served with the soup," he says.

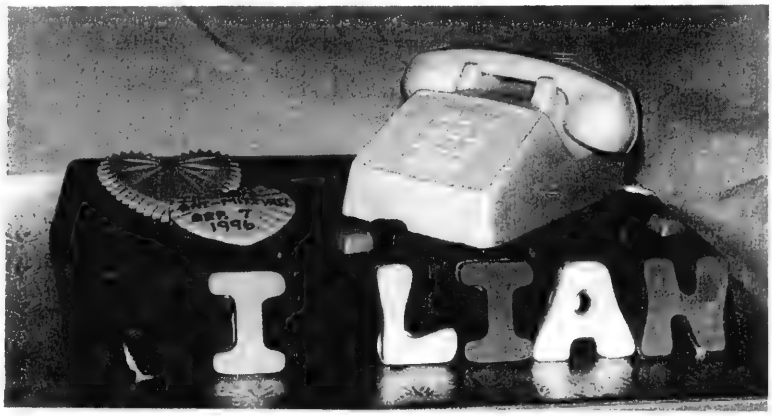
Schnoll, who also does party decor, says he can help create any theme. "We've done celestial, Academy Awards or sports centrepieces, some with a candy base, others with styrofoam."

A favorite item at Kosher 'N Natural is the chocolate smash cake. "The guest of honor breaks it with a mallet and then he shares it with his guests. It is a guaranteed hit."

Schnoll has decorated the smash cake with the bar or bat mitzvah's name, or with a picture that reflects the theme of the evening.

He recently had concessions at the community Yom Ha'atzmaut celebration. "Everyone loved the machines, from adults to kids. Somehow candy floss brings out the kid in everybody," he says.

Other advertising decor places are: Artistic Creations (905-508-8193); Happy Days (789-4438); Perlit Novelties (665-4838).



Two cakes decorated by Kosher 'N' Natural.

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PARTY PLANNER

Your invitations deserve careful attention

By ERIC LAYMAN
Special to The CJN

When you're planning a big celebration or party, entertainers, caterers and others are high on your priority list. You want quality invitations too, however, and they deserve careful attention.

The invitations set the tone for your event, Barbara Mortfield of Barbara Mortfield Invitations (905-738-1232) points out.

Not only that, they're mementos of the occasion. People keep them in their scrapbooks beside their photos and other reminders of that special day.

What's more, making your invitations can be fun. Both Mortfield and Gilda Lefton of Stationery Plus (905-881-5588) have many ideas on how to choose your invitation consultant and how to enjoy working together.

Before you meet your consultant, Mortfield recommends, know what quantity of invitations you want; write down the exact details of addresses, dates and times, and choose your color scheme, script and wording.

Lefton suggests being open-minded on style, though, until you have seen what's available. The selection is huge, in everything from handmade to computerized work.

Your invitation, Mortfield says, should "look expensive, but not be expensive."

Keep your budget range in mind; don't be tempted to overspend, says Lefton, and look for someone whose stock and services cover every price range.

Experience in this business is a must. See if your friends can recommend someone to you, advise both Lefton and Mortfield.

Mortfield lists five things you should expect as a client: attention, time, advice, patience and a professional standard of work.

Lefton also stresses that when you meet with your invitation designer, you both owe each other undivided attention.

She should offer a large selection of basics, such as paper stocks and accessories, and Mortfield advises choosing a consultant who offers the whole package: invitations, RSVPs, thank you notes, place cards, party cards for a bar mitzvah, calligraphy and kippot.

Look for someone who lets you be creative if you want to, although, Lefton observes, not every client wants this.

In organizing a big event, stress is common, partly because of the importance of the occasion and – especially with weddings – the need to please two families. Even so, Mortfield and Lefton both urge you to minimize stress and find a consultant who doesn't pressure you; this makes it easier to think, plan, and enjoy working together.

Set the tone

While some people feel a lot of tension when planning a big affair, Lefton knows others who hardly suffer. Even those who thrive on stress usually want to minimize it. And because doing the invitations is easier than the other things you have to do, it can be virtually stress-free.

Book four months ahead, at least, Mortfield advises and Lefton thinks even six is not too early. This makes it easier to be sure all the paper stocks and other things you like will be available, especially if they're coming from the United States; it also allows time to make changes. Shipments can be rushed, but they end up costing more.

Mortfield holds three meetings with the client: one, to establish rapport and go over available stocks and prices; another, where you bring your spouse and often your family, to work out details and start on the wording; and a third, to look at a proof to check spelling, spacing and typeface. Mortfield insists on always working with a proof.

Lefton agrees that everyone with a reason to be included in your decisions should come with you to a meeting, to confer in her store or home studio – say, for a bar mitzvah, both parents and the boy. This way, everyone sees what's available and has a say.

In Mortfield's view, a good invitation specialist enjoys being helpful. Sometimes, for example, she might mediate disagreements about a script, typeface or wording. This is over and above the details of, say, calling a synagogue to confirm addresses and times.

Punctuality, planning ahead, honesty about what you want and consideration are qualities which Lefton values highly in a client. They help her give you what you want and make her work enjoyable. If you have these qualities, both you and your professional invitation consultant will work well together.

Other advertisers that design invitations are: Barbara Mortfield Invitations: (738-1232); Heather Hennick-Invitations Plus (905-881-5736); Invitation House (593-0519); Invitations by Susana (905-882-8689); Muroff Impressions (633-4491); Please Reply (905-881-1760); The Printed Word (484-4600); Pro Art Invitations (905-475-7111).

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Get maximum benefit with a gift registry

By ERIC LAYMAN
Special to the CJN

By now, gift registries are common. Originally for china and tableware, they have expanded to items such as furniture and even hardware.

They're not only for weddings. You can register for other family events like Mother's Day, birthdays, baby showers and bar and bat mitzvahs.

Bronson's China and Gifts (905-881-9930) has one of Toronto's best-known registries. Proprietor Ilene Bronsteter offers you her insights into choosing a registry and deriving maximum value from it.

A registry's major benefit is that it allows a bride to make a wish list, and see her wishes fulfilled. For guests, the major benefit is that they can choose gifts more easily. Knowing what the bride wants, they can pick something within their own budget, and be sure she'll like it.

There are other advantages for the bride. If she has things she doesn't want, and they come from a store where she is registered, it is easier to exchange them. If she gets two identical items, and one is from a store where she is not registered, she can exchange the other piece for something else on her list.

Changes in society make it harder to choose gifts people will like. People marry at an older age, and being more mature, they have stronger ideas of what they like. Details such as the color and shape of the morning coffee cups are important.

Often, the bride and groom live on their own before marrying and when they combine their households, they have a lot of things they need. This can make it complicated for wedding guests to buy for them.

When registering, be clear on what you want. For instance, you may have everyday things already so you'll want to think about more formal items.

Decide on designs and colors and know your personality and tastes. Are you a more formal person, or more casual? Do you like ornate patterns, or simple ones?

While the bride still plays a major role in decisions about tableware, men are becoming more involved. Ilene thinks it especially important that they participate when the time comes to make final decisions.

Get referrals from friends, then visit the stores, and make your choice as soon as you can after you set your wedding date. If you visit three retailers and like them all, you don't have to pick only one. You can register with all three. This may also please some of your guests, if they especially like one of these stores.

Choose a store with a good selection. There are thousands of patterns and designs available. This makes matching and coordinating easier.

Pick a well-organized, computerized registry, and be organized. Keep track of what's been bought as it can change within a day.

Look for rapport, too. Intangible as it is, it is easy to recognize when it's there. It translates into staff who is flexible, who take extra time with you, and who go the extra mile if you need it. Insist on services – gift wrapping is now standard, for example.

Come to the store with a list of what you already have. Ilene advises and let the store know exactly what you want. Even bring pieces in, so the staff can work with them as a guide. The store can sometimes make a perfect match, and can usually coordinate your piece with something they have or can order.

Divide your gift list into categories such as cutlery or flatware, and make a decision on what you want in one category. Once you've made final choices in one area, it's easier for the staff to help you make other choices since they have something to work with.

Ilene sees the purpose of the registry as twofold: helping you put together what she calls "a total tabletop"; and simplifying this part of setting up your household. Anything that simplifies the many decisions you have to make has got to be a good idea – no wonder it's caught on.

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PARTY PLANNER

Egg-shell color popular for bridal gown

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

Shopping at Ritche's for gowns has become a family tradition for many brides.

Second and third generations of Ritche's first customers are buying their bridal gowns where their mothers and grandmothers shopped.

Jack Ritche started the company 46 years ago; he now runs it with his daughter and son-in-law, Vivian and Arthur Prussky.

One of the first wedding gown companies in Toronto, Ritche is known for original designs, according to Vivian Prussky. When former Ritche customers come to choose a bridal gown with their daughters, they'll often describe the dress they purchased when they themselves were brides.

"They usually recall the exact details," Prussky said. "My father still remembers those individual gowns. He did such unique fashion pieces that the women were often buying them straight from the fashion shows. The gowns are still distinguishable."

The Ritche bridal shop at 1662 Avenue Rd. (789-4378) has 6,000 square feet on three levels offering everything for the bridal party down to the last accessory.

On the main floor, you'll find eveningwear and suits for the mother of the bride or a bar or bat mitzvah hostess, along with a collection of daywear.

On the second floor, Ritche offers more than 700 different styles of wedding gowns, with five private consultation rooms. The lower level is the accessories and fitting department.

"We have our seamstresses on the premises, some who have worked for us for 25 years," Prussky said.

The shop carries a large selection of manufacturers from across Canada, the United States and Europe. One of their most popular new lines, Pronovias, is made and designed in Spain, she said. "It's exquisitely made out of the finest of fabrics, silk organzas, crepes and chiffons."

Ritche is showing a lot of sleeveless and halter-style dresses, which Prussky described as "very sophisticated and classic-look looking." For the ceremony, most girls cover up with a matching shawl or jacket that comes with the dress, or one can be custom made, she added.

Sheath dresses ares starting to come back and you can see some simple looking styles with just "a little or not a stich of lace or beading," she noted. "The dresses are completely made of silk satin, without lace or beading, just a beautiful cut with halter style criss-cross back, or a drop natural waist and full gathered or pleated skirts."

In contrast to those simple styles, she said, Ritche is also carrying dresses with fully hand-beaded bodices and a full organza skirt with an optional train – long or short or detachable.

Ritche's carries a large selection of mothers' and bridesmaids' dresses. It also carries a line of less formal gowns that start at $500, Prussky said.

She said Ritche also offers brides the convenience of one-stop shopping with bustiers, crinolines, veils, shoes and other bridal items available on the premises.

And Ritche still does a lot of custom design, with the master himself, Jack Ritche, Prussky said. "People come specifically for the famous Ritche designs."

Designer Gisella Furfaro (905-264-2746), whose bridal shop is located at 7938 Kipling Ave.in Woodbridge, specializes in custom bridal evening and daywear.

Everything is custom-made according to the needs of the client, said spokesperson Antonella Furfaro, Gisella's sister, who runs the bridal shop with a third sister, Maria.

They started their bridal business because they couldn't find formal wear that appealed to them, Antonella said. She said the advantage of a custom-made gown is that it is designed for a specific individual. "We start from scratch. We design something that will flatter the body type of the client."

People are welcome to come in for a free consultation, Antonella said. Usually, there's a telephone interview first. The consultation is by appointment, so that Gisella can prepare for the meeting and have samples of fabrics on hand.

Silk is the most common fabric used, she said pointing out that there are many types of silk. The fabrics are priced according to the weight and weave. The type of silk chosen will depend on the style of the dress and the budget she said.

She stressed that Gisella Furfaro uses the finest designer fabrics and the company also does its own beading on the premises Any kind of detailing can be arranged.

The egg shell or off-white is one of the most popular colors for bridal gowns, Antonella said. "Sometimes an egg shell color is more flattering to the skin and hair color than a blue-white."

Antonella described the company's approach as "consultative:" they work within people's budget and with their specific tastes in mind.

She said at Gisella Furfaro, veils are custom made and the shop also carries bridal accessories, such as hosiery, lingerie and evening shoes, as well as designer jewelry and headpieces; jewelry by Nina Ricci and Christian Dior and Tiaras by Paris, an exclusive line of tiaras.

She said that in August, Gisella Furfaro will be carrying Stuart Weitzman's bridal and eveningwear shoe collection from Spain.

Other advertising fashion places are: Adele Wechsler (787-5768); Beatties (481-4459); Kim Abrams (667-8031); Toni Plus (512-0341)

PARTY PLANNER

Kosher wines have come a long way

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

The slogan, "You've come a long way baby," certainly applies to kosher wines.

Where once kosher was synonymous with sweet and syrupy, kosher wines now include a vast array of Bordeaux, Cabernets, Chablis, Chiantis and other dry wines, as well as champagnes, Rieslings and Malaga wines, to name but a few of the types now available in Toronto.

One of the companies responsible for expanding the selection of kosher wines is Mazel Wines (631-8071) located at 3825 Bathurst St. in North York. For more than three decades, Mazel, the Ontario agent for Royal Wines has represented Kedem and the Herzog family wines, among other companies.

You can find more than 20 different types of Mazel's wines at the recently opened kosher wine kiosk at the Clark and Hilda Plaza in Thornhill.

Run by the Liquor Control Board of Ontario, it offers a broad range of products, including a California red Zinfandel, a late harvest Riesling, Herzog's Cabernet Sauvignon Special Reserve, and from Italy, Bartenura Chianti and Valpolicella, said Mazel's marketing director, Janet Klugsberg.

"Kosher wines needn't be sweet, just special. Our listings are always increasing. We're always working to bring to the kosher consumer a better selection and better kosher wines."

She said the selection of kosher wines has increased to meet the growing demand for better quality wines, noting that the first kosher Bordeaux hit the market some 20 years ago. "Our wines rival the best of non-kosher wines."

Klugsberg said the Herzog family, originally from Europe, were wine-makers for eight generations. Now based in the United States, they have focused on improving the quality and expanding the selection of kosher wines.

Among the wines Mazel promotes are those from Gan Eden, a small California winery which has produced an award-winning black muscat wine, she said.

She was also excited about bringing in Alfasi Cabernet Sauvignon, the first kosher wine made in Chile. "Chilean wines have been experiencing phenomenal sales due to the quality/price ratio. We're very excited that we can finally bring this to the kosher consumer."

Klugsberg said Mazel Wines will assist people in the selection of wines for a simchah. "Usually we work with listed products." She advised people wanting this service to book an appointment.

These days the rules about the types of wines one matches with foods are "not hard and fast," according to Klugsberg. Chicken can be eaten with red or white wines, as can beef, but white wines, which are lighter, are generally eaten with fish, she said. She noted that because of recent reports on the positive health benefits of red wine, it has become much more popular.

She said champagne and orange juice can be served at a bar or bat mitzvah kiddush, and it is also a popular cocktail at evening receptions, as is straight champagne with a strawberry or raspberry garnish.

Klugsberg also praised the liquor board, which, she said, has come to appreciate and help promote kosher wines over the years.

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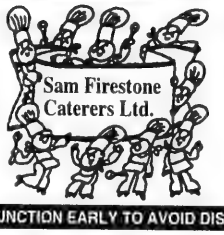

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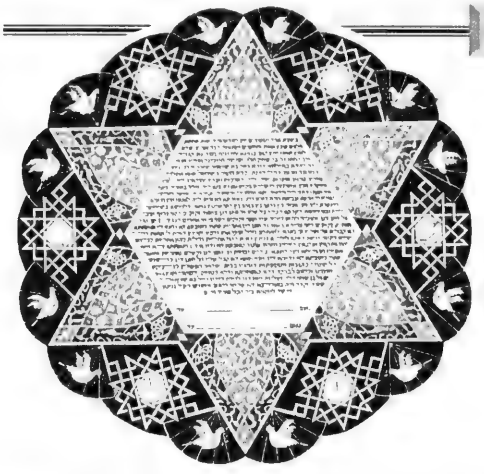


Ketubot designed to your taste

By STACEY STEIN
Student Intern

A walk through calligraphy artist Karny Rivlin Vorona's house reveals her passion for intricate detail, the written letter and Judaic themes. The walls are adorned with her artwork, showcasing her original, hand-made ketubot, naming certificates, family trees and other Judaic artwork.

Born in Israel, Vorona picked up Hebrew calligraphy while working as a draftswoman and graphic designer at an architectural design firm in Tel Aviv. After moving to Toronto in 1978, Vorona immersed herself in calligraphic art and took calligraphy courses in English.

She believes that artists must continually work at improving their skills.

"Every artist has to keep on developing one way or another," she says. "If you don't have contact with other artists or you don't take workshops or teach, you regress."

Vorona consistently challenges herself by taking courses and work shops. She is also a member of the Calligraphic Arts Guild of Toronto and served as its president in 1993 to '94.

Vorona has been creating art as far back as she can remember.

"I think I was born with a pencil crayon in my hand," she says with a laugh. "I always drew and painted and experimented with new things."

Vorona says calligraphic art appeals to her because of its structure and the exactness of the design. She has been creating ketubot and other artwork professionally for about 15 years. All of her works are originals, with no prints available anywhere.

She needs about two to three months notice before starting a new project, although the length of time required to create a ketubah or certificate varies, depending on the design.

Vorona uses a wide range of materials in her creations. For ketubot, she uses mostly gouache, acrylics and watercolors. She buys materials whenever she travels, and her collection includes items from Central America, South America, Europe and Israel.

"Wherever I am, I look for art supply stores, and I could spend hours looking for new things," she says.

Vorona works closely with her clients to create a design specific to their personal taste.

"Some [clients] come with their own idea of the design they want," she says. "I like to work one-on-one so that I can get a feeling of what they're like and what they want."

Certain recurring symbols and themes pervade her work. These include the pomegranate, a symbol of fertility; the number seven, referring to the days of the week, the branches on the menorah and the seven species; and two interlocked rings, a symbol of unity.

"I work with couples on their ketubah, beautifying the Jewish elements common throughout history," she says.

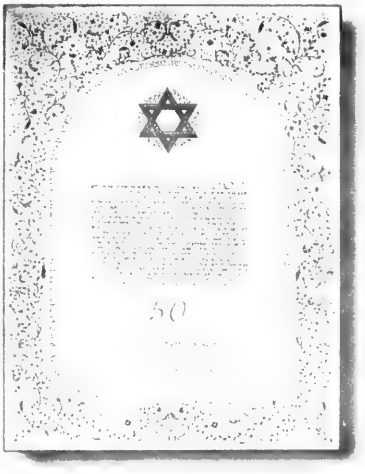
Her work is also heavily influenced by the Bible and her creations incorporate the animals and flowers referred to in its verses.

But many of her artistic ideas don't have a tangible source.

"It comes from within," she says. "It just pops up in my mind. The more you do it, the more ideas you get."

Vorona's ketubot start at $500. She can be contacted at 226-3131 or at her Web site, [http://web2.ica.net/ketubah].

Another advertising designer of ketubot is Ketubah Ketubah (256-0554).



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Lots of fabulous halls to choose from

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

Before you book the caterer, buy the dress or hire the band, one of the first steps in making a simchah is deciding on where to hold the party.

If you are in the market for a synagogue with a big banquet hall, one of the places you might consider is the Sephardic Kehila Centre (905-669-7654) at 7026 Bathurst St. in Thornhill.

"The banquet hall, which can accommodate up to 500 dinner guests with a dance floor, is absolutely breathtaking, with detailing in the design and colors that reflect the Sephardic community's Spanish and North African roots," said centre administrator Mercedes Bendayan.

"The room is so exquisite that you really don't need to spend a lot on decor," she said.

The arches and circular windows are typical of the North African architectural style, as are the mosaic tiles on the wall which are done in blues, golds, burgundy and greens; those colors are also echoed in the chair coverings and even the patterns in the wooden floor, she explained.

The vaulted ceiling, which is divided into three sections, is hand-painted in shades of blue to emulate the sky, and each section is adorned with a custom-made chandelier in the Moroccan style, she said.

The three chandeliers each weigh 4,000 pounds and has 729 light bulbs and 108,000 hand-cut jewel crystals. Each has a Hebrew message inscribed on the brass grid, Bendayan noted.

She said the large foyer with its pillars and intricate inlaid marble floors is ideal for serving cocktails and hors d'oevres, and can be a dramatic setting for a chupah; the sanctuary is also available at a nominal charge, as is the outdoor garden which has a chupah.

Five kosher caterers are associated with the Kehila Centre: Beverley Hills Catering, Classic Catering, King Solomon's Caterers, Prestige Fine Cuisine and Tri Elm Catering. Some of the caterers are more specialized in preparing Moroccan food, Bendayan said.

The banquet hall can be split into thirds to accommodate smaller parties. Beautiful room dividers are available to make the room more comfortable. Room rates vary according to the amount of space rented – one-third of the hall is priced at $250 for the evening while the full hall costs $750.

The banquet hall is equipped with concealed state of the art acoustical and audio visual equipment. The building has an indoor parking lot and elevator, and is completely wheelchair accessible, Bendayan noted.

Those hosting a simchah might consider renting space in one of the two stately 1930s mansions on the 52-tree filled acres of The Estates of Sunnybrook, (440-2500) which are located on the Sunnybrook Health Science Centre campus.

Comprised of Vaughan Estate and McLean House, the homes can be used for both social and corporate functions according to Kirk Brady, managing director of the Estates of Sunnybrook.

McLean House, a Georgian-style mansion with several wood-burning fireplaces, has been used for parties since 1985; it can accommodate 75 people for a sit-down dinner and 150 for a cocktail party, Brady said.

"It's perfect for a small wedding. It has formal gardens, as well. We have many outdoor weddings... We do a lot of Jewish weddings and we also do bar and bat mitzvahs."

The conservatory is the main dinner venue at McLean House while the mahogany-paneled dining room is where buffets and/or sweet tables are generally set up, Brady explained.

Extra chairs can be added for weddings in the gardens, which have been restored to their 1930s splendor. McLean House's outdoor patio, with its permanent seating, can accommodate 60 people, he said.

Brady recommended the Vaughan Estate, which he said has a baronial feel, for larger parties. The mansion, which has been a venue for parties since 1991, can accommodate up to 150 people in one of two rooms: the large dining room with its glassed in loggia overlooking the ravine, or a lower-level room with a walkout terrace that can also seat 150 people.

Vaughan Estate has separate entrances so two parties can be run simultaneously.

The cost of renting either mansion is $150 an hour for as long as one needs the facilities; the price includes rental of tables, chairs, dishes, linens, and servers, Brady explained. For kosher affairs, an outside caterer is permitted, but there is an additional charge for the rental of kosher dishes, he added.

To find out more about the services available at Sunnybrook Estates, Brady suggested a visit to the Sunnybrook Estates Web site at [WWW.estatesofsunnybrook.com] or contact sales manager Maureen Wright.

Other advertising kosher places that cater to parties are: Baycrest Hospitality Services (785-2500 ext. 2477); Beth Radom/ Freda Tobler (636-3451); Royalton Banquet & Convention Centre (222-1230). Sheraton Centre Toronto (905-886-9703)

The interior of Sephardic Kehila Centre. [Photography by Isaac]

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Mister DJ: From zero to Mach 6 in three minutes

By ERIC LAYMAN
Special to The CJN

Everybody talks about interactive entertainment today, but how many people provide it? For real interaction, talk to Ed McMurtry of Mister Disc Jockey (905-886-4488).

"My opening number," he says "takes you from zero to Mach 6 in three minutes."

McMurtry has many ways to create fun and entice a crowd to join in. Sometimes he's subtle, sometimes direct; he stages a mix of choreographed and off-the-cuff numbers, amateur and professional, and he uses both live and recorded music, along with singers and dancers.

Most conventional efforts to get people to participate don't work, he says. A 16-year-old standing on a speaker yelling, "Why aren't you dancing?" tends to intimidate rather than encourage. The same goes for hauling a hapless guest onstage and cajoling him to sing.

Instead of embarrassing people, McMurtry entices them to overcome their shyness. "We entertain," he says, "by getting you to entertain yourselves."

He blurs the borders between DJ and performer, performer and audience; and it works. At a bankers' party, he had executives onstage imitating the Beatles, Stones and Village People, and everyone else was partying along with them.

McMurtry rehearses the prepared parts of his show carefully, and places great value on timing. He teaches his people they have 30 seconds to get the audience's attention; if the act works that far, they have another 60. In other words, they have exactly 90 seconds to get the audience involved.

One ingenious way to involve people is with party favors as props. Depending on the theme, any prop might do, but McMurtry stages things so that you need it to do the dance. For a *Men in Black* theme, for example, you need sunglasses. Getting the glasses puts you in the mood and then you feel more at ease about dancing.

For McMurtry, interacting includes working closely with the other party professionals – with the videographer on lighting, for example, and the caterer on food themes. He keeps their requirements in mind and makes sure his performance is in sync with their work.

Synergy Show

McMurtry puts on the Mister Disc Jockey Show for weddings, bar mitzvahs and corporate events, and the Synergy Show for bar mitzvahs and corporate events. The Synergy Show, with its 12 professional dancers, offers a lively contrast with impromptu numbers where guests perform.

For Synergy, the client picks themes – shows like *Rent*, for instance, or eras like the '50s or the '70s. The dancers change costumes three times, and each change introduces a new theme.

"Whatever you can think of," says McMurtry, "we'll do a theme for it."

McMurtry also does shows across North America, and is currently preparing to go to Las Vegas. He's had enquiries from as far away as Tel Aviv. He used to get international bookings from visitors to Toronto; now he gets them while working outside the country.

While McMurtry does lots of improvising, he insists on getting certain things exact. For instance, to make sure he has the interactive gear he needs – wardrobes, props, party favors and the like. He ships everything for a booking outside Toronto or Canada.

Because McMurtry attracts adults and children to enjoy the same show, he's been called the Pied Piper of Canada. Recently, a client flew him to Hawaii for a convention booking. The conventioneers had brought their kids. He was to do one show for adults and older teenagers, another for younger teens and kids, but the adults liked their show so much, they brought their children to it.

McMurtry has shared the stage with celebrities such as Don Cherry, Alannah Myles and Ivan (formerly of the '80s pop band Men Without Hats). He's sometimes asked for his autograph; and in 1997 and 1998, Mister Disc Jockey won a Canada-U.S. interactive disc jockey competition.

McMurtry has three walls of testimonials, including some from clients who were surprised at the quality they got on a moderate budget. Successful as he is, he's still not too big to do your bar mitzvah, and for the price of local entertainment, he gives you the quality of an international show.

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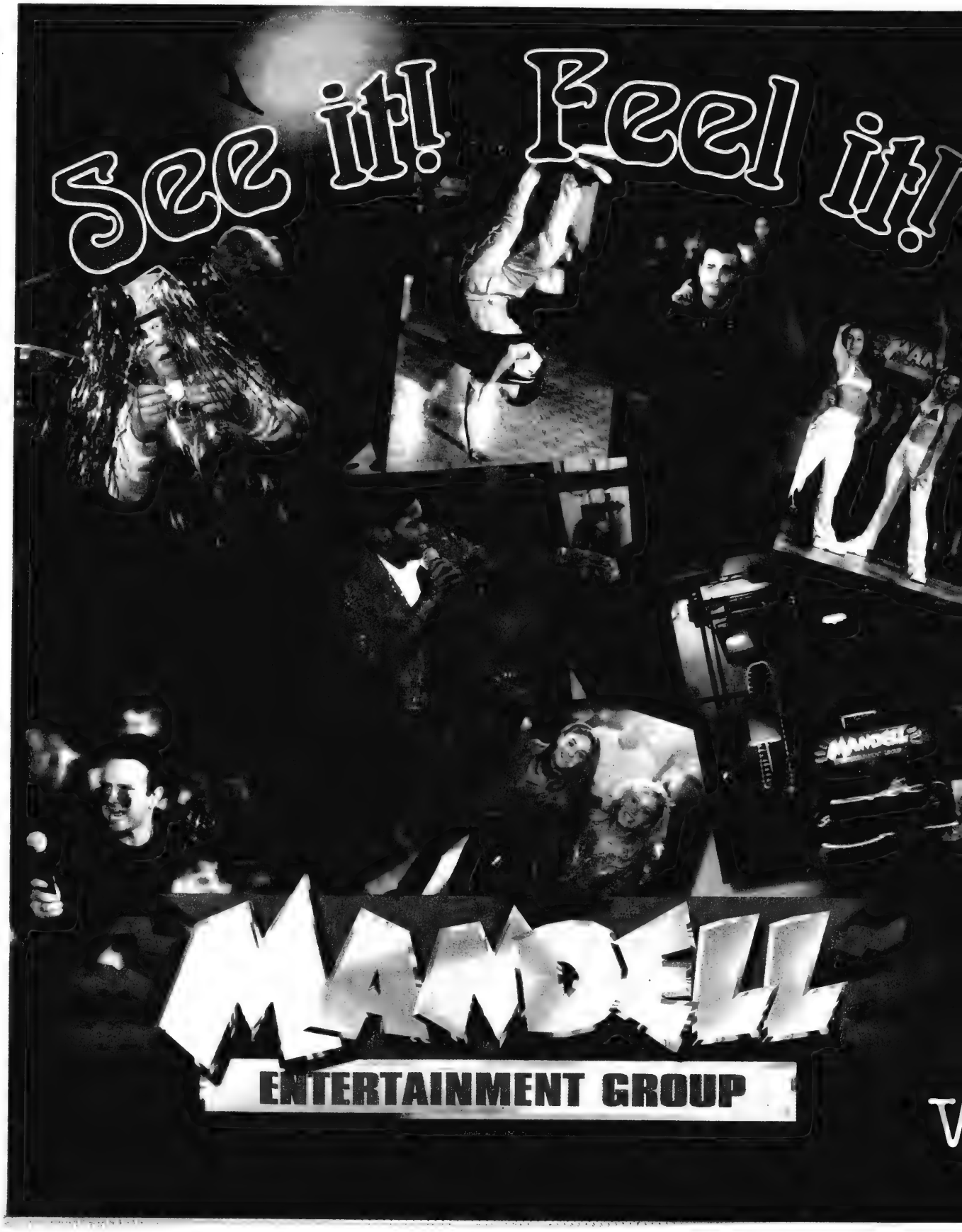
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Right music at the right time

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

Times Square Entertainment (905-881-6400) crosses the boundary between a disc jockey and live entertainment.

Rick Levine, president of the 5-year-old company, has been a bandleader for 22 years; at all parties, he sings live to a digital backtrack.

"The music appeals to the kids and my songs appeal to the adults – it's a great mix. Everyone enjoys it," he says.

Levine is producer of We're Having a Party, a party show that promotes bands, disc jockeys and everyone else connected with the party industry.

"Traditionally, there were bridal shows. We were the first to do a show designated for every type of party."

He developed Times Square Entertainment in order to branch into the interactive DJ market. "DJs are geared to the kids, and I decided with my background, I could build a show that is geared to everyone."

When a client comes in, says Levine, they develop an agenda for the party. "Essentially, I am the event coordinator. I help right from the beginning – from deciding on the decor, to obtaining the giveaways, to deciding if the show should be live or with a DJ. We are the only company that offers a band and a disc jockey, so that we really have a lot of options."

Rick Levine entertains a bar mitzvah boy. [Lavee Studios photo]

The secret in running a great party, says Levine, is playing the right music at the right time. "Timing is everything. That is why it is important to work with someone who has experience in the industry. The DJ must coordinate with the caterer to ensure that the music stops during dinner because most people want to talk during their meal.

"What I do is sing during the meal; I may come out in a genuine *Phantom* costume and do a medley of *Phantom* songs. Whatever it is, I make sure that I am providing the right music at the right moment."

When the music is playing, the sound is from a nightclub-quality sound system, he says.

"The dancers come out in glitter jackets and get the audience motivated. We run contests such as Coke and Pepsi, hoola hoop or limbo, and even the adults are thrilled when they win a prize. Everyone has a great time."

Levine has disc jockey packages ranging from $700 to $3,200, depending on the lighting and number of dancers. The elite package comes with six dancers, staging backdrops and a lighted DJ booth. Computer enhanced lighting and the great sound system add to the party atmosphere, he says.

Levine has recently played at a Crohn's and Colitis Foundation of Canada fundraiser and he will be at the upcoming Temple Kol Ami fundraiser.

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[Cont'd. from page B-4]

For weddings, both Sananes-Grad and Gold usually have four face-to-face meetings with clients. The first is to get acquainted; the second, to plan the rehearsal. The third is the rehearsal itself, and Gold prefers deciding as many details as possible beforehand, so it runs smoothly. Finally, there's the wedding itself. There's plenty of phone consultation along the way, too, and sometimes other face-to-face meetings.

Your consultant should be a perfectionist, says Sananes-Grad. In a play running for a week, if the opening night has problems, you can fix them for the next performance, but there's no rerun for a wedding. A consultant must get it right the first time.

Other advertising consultants are: Judy Stein (905-764-2728); Marla Kay (905-882-2042); Sarah Cherry (905-764-7121); Up & Coming Events (905-886-8148).

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Get dressed up just like a celebrity

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to the CJN

Lou and Wendy Myles mourned the recent death of Frank Sinatra along with the rest of the world. But for them he was more than a legend. Sinatra had been buying Lou Myles' hand-made suits for two decades.

"We just lost a good friend," Wendy said recently. "Sometimes I would meet Frank in Atlantic City or in New York at the Waldorf Astoria where he used to have a suite. I would bring him fabrics. He was our customer for 20 years.

"He was a beautiful dresser, an elegant man. When I first met him in 1988 – Lou knew him longer – I was so nervous. He was charming. He would buy six dinner jackets at a time, twice a year. He was very generous. He would always treat us for dinner."

Wendy Switzer Myles and Frank Sinatra

Sinatra was one of many celebrities to wear Lou Myles handmade suits, among them, crooner Vic Damone, Lee Iacocca, former chair of Chrysler Corporation, Mohammed Ali, Pierre Elliott Trudeau, and Magic Johnson.

Lou Myles Disegnatore is one of the last places to buy handmade suits, Wendy said. "We have a factory and retail store in Woodbridge at 380 Millway Ave., (905-738-3333) and a new retail store at 20 Toronto St. (365-7777), half a block north of the King Edward Hotel. It's spectacular with 21-foot pillars."

She described her husband as someone with a "marvellous sense" of fashion and style."

Lou said he became interested in the clothing business as a teenager. "I loved the way Sinatra and Tony Bennett dressed. There were many tailors in my neighborhood. I was always asking them, 'How do you do this? How do you do that?'"

He created his own market niche by designing the ivy jivey suit, which had a very fitted look, he said. "I was getting my share of business from people who wanted to look different. The store took off."

When Lou saw Tony Bennett's English-cut suit at a 1964 performance he decided that it was the style of suit he wanted to make.

An English suit with square shoulders and a tapered waist is the most flattering because it gives "the guy a defined silhouette," Wendy explained.

"The guy's going to look like Arnold Schwarzenegger, who is also our customer. We say our clothing makes a bad figure look good and a good figure look great."

At the Lou Myles factory all the workers specialize in making one part of the suit, such as the pockets, shoulders or lapels. This way, the factory is able to produce 300 hand-made suits a week, Lou said.

"All suits are cut by hand, one by one, and the lining, sleeves and shoulder are set by hand. The shoulder is the key point of the suit. It gives it life. A good suit can last forever."

Most of his suits – they are all made of the finest Italian and English wools – are exported to major American cities, he said.

"You'll find my suits in all the best stores." A third retail store in Windsor was set up to accommodate his many customers in Detroit, he added.

His agents can visit a home or an office, or customers can shop at the retail locations which also stock fine quality shoes, sweaters, and other high-end accessories. Women's suits can also be ordered.

Heritage Clothing (789-5192) at 103 Orfus Rd. is the place to shop for those people seeking fine quality well-priced executive and upper-end suits.

The merchandise is priced well below its competitors, filling a special market niche, says Heritage Clothing president David Rosenberg. "When we started the business there was no one selling high-end clothing at popular prices. That's where Heritage has positioned itself."

He said half the suits come from Italy and they're "all world famous labels. We don't cut the label. We cut the price. We don't have one or two of a size, we have 300 of a size."

The 50,000 square-foot fashion house offers shoppers a huge selection, in all sizes of top quality suits, according to Rosenberg.

"We believe we have the best selection of men's upper-end apparel under one roof in the country. Instead of having 20 locations we have one huge location." The store carries a wide range of accessories with ties priced from $35 to $75.

Half of Heritage's stock is private label, Canadian-made suits made out of the finest Italian fabric, Rosenberg said. "A suit that retails from $250 to $425 is equal in quality to the $895 Canadian-label men's suit found in many fine men's stores," said Rosenberg.

Italian suits that sell for $695 and $895, compare to $2000 Italian designer label suits in other fine men's stores, he said.

"We sell strictly kosher suits. All Heritage suits, including tuxedos, are lined to the knee and made from cloths that conform to halachic specifications."

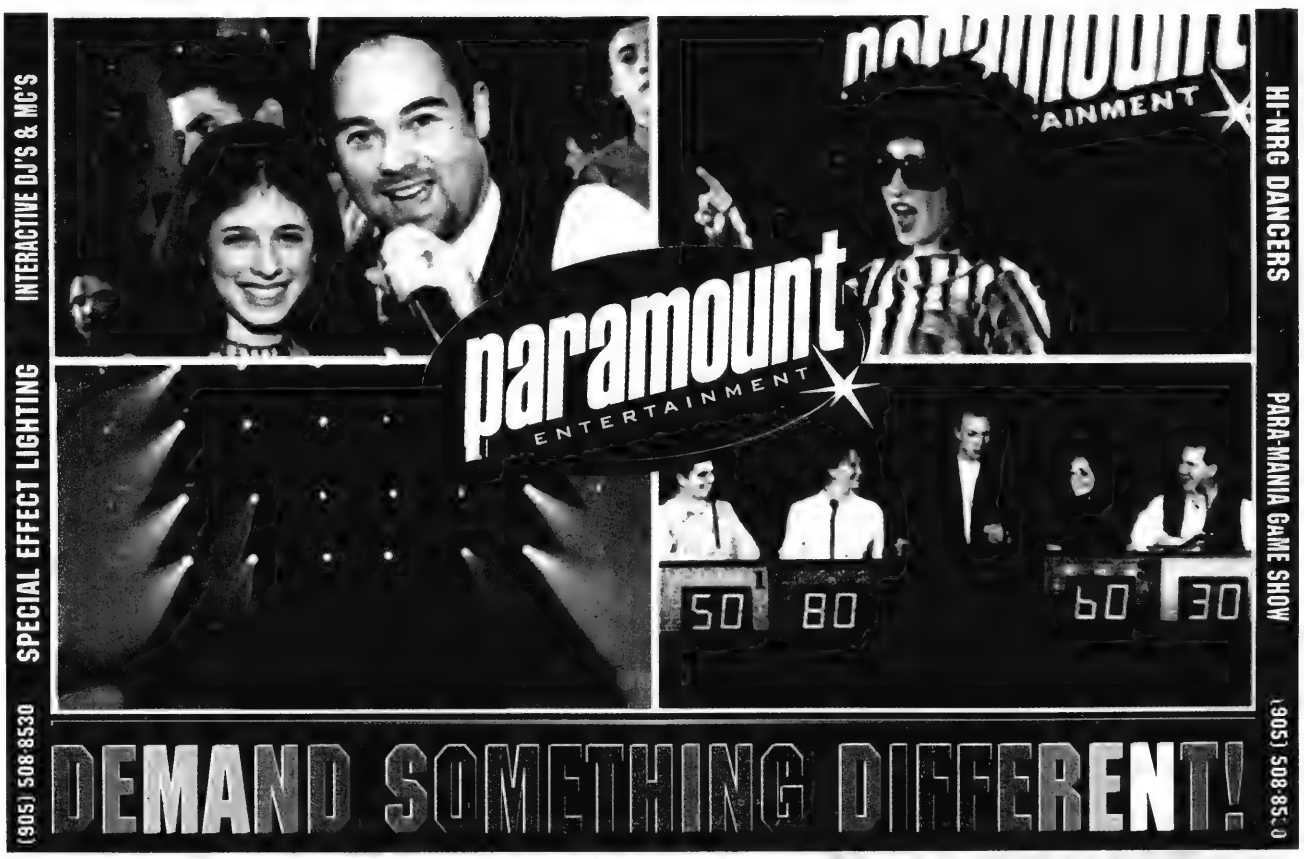
Tuxedos, which are all made of fine Italian wool, are trimmed with satin on the lapels, and have a protective layer to absorb and camouflage perspiration, Rosenberg noted. "[They] start at $595, and are easily a $1,200 value. For the price of three rentals you have a tuxedo forever."

Heritage carries a large assortment of black-tie accessories which include suspenders, cummerbund sets and pleated shirts with regular and wing-tipped collars.

He said that customers meet the tailor who will do the alterations; he does the pinning and the work on the premises.

Rosenberg runs the business with his sister Anita Rosenberg Gleberzon. "We're a family business that cares.

"The family aspect distinguishes us from the competition. My father was in the menswear business for 50 years. He passed Heritage Clothing on to me and my sister. I hope we can pass it on to the next generation."



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Sari and Ryan Kraft, with Mandell dancers Marnie and Rena – or is that Rena and Marnie? – Schwartz, are all smiles at the end of Sari's bat mitzvah party. [Ellen Markin photo]

Testimonial to Mandell

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

On Victoria Day, the Sephardic Kehila Centre was rocking with celebrants of all ages, partying at Sari Kraft's bat mitzvah.

In the balloon-festooned banquet hall, people were up dancing during any given song. And one of the people on the dance floor practically the entire evening was the guest of honor herself.

Sari was even up on the stage with the DJ, leading everybody in the dance for the Village People's *YMCA*.

"My friends pushed me up on the stage," Sari insisted.

But from her big smile, it was evident she was enjoying the limelight and she was quick to admit, "It was fun being up there."

She credited the DJ, Jared Florence, from Mandell Entertainment Group, with making the party a success. She liked the music he played, and she particularly enjoyed dancing to *The Time Warp*, she said. "It's a really fun song."

Before the simchah, Florence sat down with the family to pick the music for the candlelighting ceremony.

He also chose quieter music during dinner, and when the children finished eating, which they did long before the adults, Florence involved them in dancing and other activities.

Twin sisters Marnie and Rena Schwartz, dancers exclusive to Mandell Entertainment, were hired to get the guests dancing.

Florence, Marnie and Rena are part of the stable of 100 DJs and dancers on the roster of the Mandell Entertainment Group (905-886-4000).

Founded and run by Corey Mandell, 28, the entertainment company is one of Toronto's largest. In addition to providing DJs and dancers for corporate parties and simchahs, the company offers party planning and decorating services. Packages may also include specialty lighting, laser shows and pyrotechnics (indoor fireworks), as well as Karoake machines, fun food carts, and a huge selection of interactive games.

Mandell said his DJs are at more bar and bat mitzvahs than any other group. A DJ himself, he said he's already booked through the year 2000, and many of his more popular DJs are also in high demand.

Mandell attributes his company's popularity to the fact that he and his DJs put on a show.

They interact with the guests to get them more involved in the party.

[Cont'd. on page B-23]

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'Absolutely fabulous'

Mandell keeps clients happy

The Schwartz twins are some of the many entertainers provided by Mandell Entertainment. [Ellen Markin photo]

[Cont'd. from page B-22]

an interactive approach he introduced in Toronto 10 years ago, he said.

Mandell sends at least two DJs to every party. One takes care of the music – they carry a wide range from international songs to current hits – while the other interacts with the crowd, organizing activities like line dancing or dance contests.

At Amanda Leigh Wyman's bat mitzvah party held across town one week after Sari's, Saul Sacks, another DJ from the Mandell Entertainment Group kept the 130 guests on their toes all evening.

Good music is critical to the success of a party, Marlee Wyman, Amanda's mother, told *The CJN*. "As far as I'm concerned Saul made the party."

Amanda shared this view. "Saul was great. He got everyone involved in dancing. He taught everyone the moves to *Holiday* by Madonna. He would stop the music and say, 'This is how you do it.'

"And he would really encourage people. He praised everyone when he gave out prizes for dancing. He tried to make everyone feel good about themselves. He would say, 'You were terrific,' or 'You did great.'"

Saul had "a real feel for the crowd," said David Wyman, Amanda's father. "We got plenty of positive feedback.

"He kept all of the adults going. They loved the music. He also showed great initiative in choosing intro-music for all the speakers."

On the same evening, just up the road from Amanda's party, Samantha Plested was celebrating her bat mitzvah with Adam Schachter from Mandell Entertainment running the show.

"He was fabulous," Samantha said. "He got everyone dancing. He made me get up to do *YMCA* and he told everyone, 'Me and Samantha have been practising the whole week.' He did it with me so I just copied him."

He was able to get the adults dancing by awarding a prize to the child who could bring the most adults to the dance floor, she said.

Her mother, Debbie Plested, said she was thrilled with the evening. "It was everything I had hoped it would be." She said she felt the DJ had been wonderful with the kids, especially with Samantha.

She was extremely pleased that she hired the dancers, she said. "They got everyone involved. There were no wallflowers with those dancers. Some of the kids – they were as young as four years old – were up there dancing. The kids would have stayed all night dancing."

Finally at midnight the parents had to beg her to stop the music so they could get their children to leave the party, Debbie said.

"If all of Mandell's guys are like Adam then Mandell deserves to be number 1 in Canada. He was absolutely fabulous."

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PARTY PLANNER

Variety makes it easy to plan ahead

One-stop shops keep purchasing simple

By ERIC LAYMAN
Special to The CJN

When you buy party supplies, the range of choices is exciting, but it can be bewildering. One way of having a lot of choice but simplifying your work is to get everything from a one-stop party supplier.

Granted, there may be times you want to buy at different stores, but the one-stop approach makes party purchasing easier, and fun besides. Both Stephane Abbat of It's My Party (469-4223) and Mel Grevler of Party Supply Depot (905-764-5457) recommend choosing a supplier big enough to stock everything you need. Bigger is better.

To choose among party suppliers, do as you would with any other business: start with word of mouth referrals, then check out a few competitors. Find a store you like, Abbat advises, then establish a long-term relationship.

If you save time by visiting a one-stop store, you give yourself a chance to enjoy the variety on the shelves. Your party shouldn't just be fun for the guests, you should enjoy planning it too. "If it's fun to plan," Abbat maintains, "it's fun to be at."

A good one-stop party store is customer friendly, set up so that it's easy to find your way around, and has an expert staff with constructive ideas. Expertise is crucial, says Abbat, because you don't buy party supplies every week and good staff will know the merchandise hands-on, not just by the catalog.

The supplier's inventory will be huge and constantly changing, with up to 15,000 items, 3,000 to 4,000 of which are replaced at any time.

Consequently, instead of one aisle with napkins, you may find one aisle with nothing but napkins of a single color. Such variety can be confusing, but expert, friendly staff make it a pleasure to choose from this abundance.

Variety makes it easier to plan ahead, too. Your supplier should have things for every holiday in the year. When buying for a summer lawn party, for instance, you should be able to look, if you want to, at what's available for fall events.

Good staff, Abbat says, listen even to off-beat ideas; so don't hesitate to say what's on your mind. They help with unusual theme parties – say, if you want to do a winter theme in midsummer. If you come in stressed out from planning the party, they're patient.

Grevler believes in letting customers handle the merchandise. "A party store isn't a museum," he says. "Kids will play with anything that resembles a toy. And why not, as long as they don't do anything destructive? Letting them play with something could help sell it. After all, if your bar mitzvah boy comes along on your buying trip, he's actually an unofficial consultant."

Flexibility is the key

As to budget, Grevler holds to the time-honored maxim of balancing cost and quality. No quality store can offer the lowest prices for every item. In your budget, Abbat recommends flexibility. Staff should respect your spending guidelines, and must also be flexible. If you buy all your balloons there, maybe they can give you a reduction on tableware.

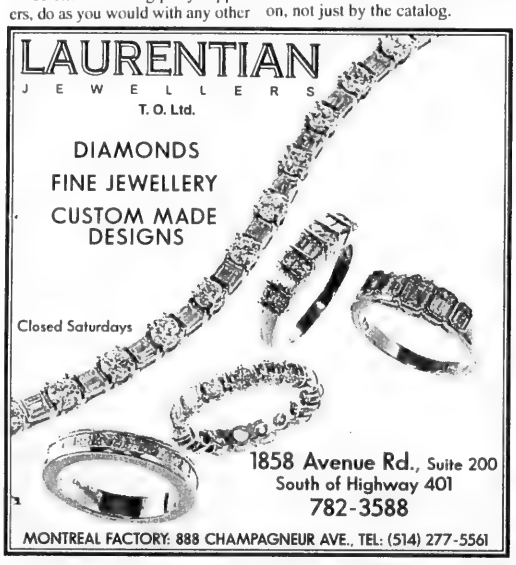
Remind yourself, as well, of points you'd consider in making any purchase. Usually, disposable items are cheaper; but it's often more economical to buy something durable. Discounts may seem to offer savings, but what good are cheap napkins, Abbat asks, if a few drops of liquid make them disintegrate?

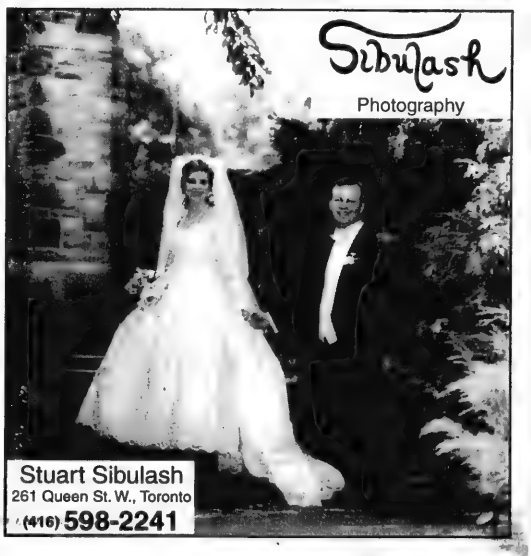
Some savings are less obvious. If you're buying large quantities and need lots of time to choose, Grevler points out, free or inexpensive parking is an important bonus; and extra services like decorating can save you time and energy.

Grevler thinks honest advice is the best policy, even if it means you spend less at any one time. For a bar mitzvah, for example, he might advise you not to buy the most expensive cutlery. Money you save this way might go to something else in the same store, be saved from your overall budget, or even be spent elsewhere; but in any case, the store earns your goodwill.

And, Grevler and Abbat would agree, it's goodwill that makes you want to come back.

Other advertising one-stop party shops are: The Candyman (789-7173); Venture Warehouse Inc. (905-709-4370).





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PARTY PLANNER

Why buy when you can rent

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

Your guests will sit comfortably all evening in chairs covered by Chair Decor Etc. (905-731-9217).

Mary Bien, who owns the company with Phyllis Rich, specializes in taking ordinary chairs and making them look extraordinary. "We have 14 different styles of covers including full and half covers. We have something to fit every chair and every budget," she says.

For a formal wedding, says Bien, she may cover the dinner chairs in brocade, damask, satin or cotton. "The cover always fits the chair perfectly. We will never recommend a cover if we feel it is not right for the chair. We can work around most chair sizes. We have worked at most hotels and banquet halls and we have an idea which chair size is where."

Guests feel good sitting in covered chairs, she says, because they are slightly padded and they are always clean. "Our covers are laundered, dry cleaned and pressed after every use."

Not only does it feel good, Bien stresses, a covered chair looks great. "It creates an elegant atmosphere to see the guests sitting on such classic chairs.Accents such as bows, bands, rosettes, braiding or cording really brighten up the room. Often, we coordinate the room with the bridesmaid dresses.

"We design all the covers, which are made in Toronto, ourselves. The fabrics are bought in the Orient and Europe."

While buying in the Orient, she says, she also brought over a lot of new accessories to enhance the table setting. "When clients call, we invite them to our showroom. We either show them tables that we have set up, or we custom design a setting. A complete table could include coordinating napkin rings or show plates which are placed under the dinner plate. Accents like that really put the finishing touch on a table."

Higgins Party Rentals (252-4050) carries everything you need for a party."We have tables, chairs, dishes, glasses, staging – even a dance floor," says John Higgins, one of five family members who run the 16-year-old business.

Chairs come in different types, including fold-up chairs, ballroom chairs in gold or black, or wooden chairs with padded seats. "A room full of gold chairs literally makes a room glow," says Higgins.

His china and cutlery also cover every taste, from formal to casual. "Our multi-colored china is great for an afternoon luncheon, and the best thing about it is that it does not look rented."

Each dish, he says, comes sterilized and wrapped in shrink wrap, and customers leave them dirty. "People are so stressed out when they make a party. By renting the dishes, they are leaving a major part of the party to us. We help them decide how many they need, and we will even work with the caterer or event coordinator in setting up the room."

Table coverings, says Higgins, also come in a multitude of colors, fabrics and designs. "We have plain cloths, as well as damask, brocades and lamés. We even carry chiffon and leopard cloths."

He invites party-givers to visit Higgins' new 25,000-square-foot showroom in Etobicoke. "If they call in advance, we will get some ideas over the phone and have some set tables waiting from them."

Another advertising rental place is Chair-Man Mills (391-0400).

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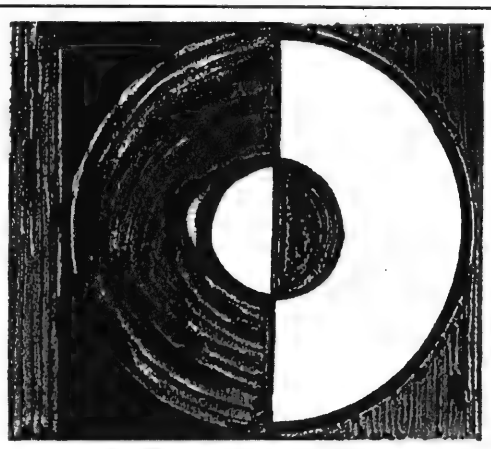

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PARTY PLANNER

Desserts: saving the best for last

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

The dessert may come last, but it is certainly not least in importance, especially at a simchah. No matter how good the main course tastes, the piece de resistance usually comes at the end of the meal.

Many caterers prepare the main course and appetizers as well as the desserts, but others rely on companies that specialize in sweet table goodies and centrepiece desserts.

One dessert company is Richman's Kosher Bakery (636-9710) at 4119 Bathurst St., a 1997 winner of The Liberal Reader's Choice Award for best bakery. Along with its many breads, Richman's specializes in a wide assortment of pareve desserts.

"We've been known as a place for bar mitzvah cakes," said bakery owner Jonah Libman, whose grandfather was also a baker. "But we also make fantastic wedding cakes, tortes, petit fours and tarts, and we provide the cream for many of the mousses."

Traditionally, wedding cakes were fruit cakes, but Libman only does one such cake a year, he said. "Now the sky is the limit. People choose whatever they want on the inside of the cake, such as hazelnut, chocolate fudge or chocolate mousse. The outside of the cake is decorated like a traditional wedding cake."

The three-tier wedding cake is still the most popular design, he said, but cakes with staggered tiers are growing in popularity.

He praised the skills of the Richmond Bakery cake designer who "does beautiful work and has years of experience."

Wedding cakes are as much a part of the decor as they are a dessert because they are often the head table centrepiece Libman said.

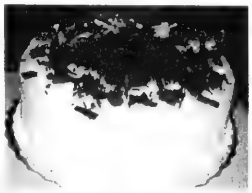
"We like to say that our wedding cakes taste as good as they look."

He noted that bar/bat mitzvah cakes come in all kinds of shapes; he recently did a cake in the shape of a piano and one as a basketball court, to go along with the themes of the respective parties.

He said the most common shapes of bar/ bat mitzvah cakes are Torah scrolls and tablets or books. Half-and-half cakes – one layer chocolate, one layer vanilla – tend to satisfy every sweet tooth.

He advised people to buy the proper size cake for the candle-lighting or flag ceremony. "You don't want to have an undersized cake."

Another company offering luscious desserts is Sweet York Desserts(783-4293) the dessert division of Caterers York, the caterers at Pride of Israel and Beth Tzedec synagogues. The company provides cakes to many synagogues and hotels



Cake by Richman's

Sweet York, now operating for 15 years, was established because catering company co-owners Sharon Firestone and Bill Batista felt there were not enough "good quality pareve desserts" and they also wanted to custom design wedding cakes and other special occasion cakes, Firestone said.

Cake designer Linda Thomas custom-designs "spectacular" cakes which can come in a variety of flavors – carrot, lemon, mocha, and chocolate mousse, to name a few, and bar/bat mitzvah cakes can be coordinated with a theme or color scheme, she said.

According to Firestone, some frequently requested desserts from Sweet York include "the best chocolate chip cookies," chocolate mousse torte, chocolate pecan flan, concord, and a variety of fresh fruit flans. For sweet tables the company prepares an assortment of mini-pastries, squares, cookies, and 9-inch cakes.

She said desserts go in and out of fashion. Biscotti, an Italian cookie, similar to mandel broit-which is popular these days, as are apple desserts. "Fruit generally is more in vogue because there is a trend to lighter and healthier eating."

To add a light refreshing dessert after the main course of a simchah one may want to use fresh fruit sorbet, said Beverley Golden, spokesperson for Metropolitan Ice Cream (245-1335). The company, founded in 1984, produces gourmet hand-packed, kosher ice-cream.

She noted that all Metropolitan gourmet ice cream and fruit sorbets are made from fresh raw ingredients. "There are no artificial flavors, colors or extracts and only all natural vegetable stabilizers are used."

The company serves both the retail market – you'll find Metropolitan ice cream in the freezer of most of grocery chains and fine food retailers – as well as the hospitality industry which includes golf clubs, hotels, restaurants and caterers, Golden said.

"We work closely with all the Jewish caterers."

The company boasts more than 150 different flavors, among them fruit sorbets, she said. "We were one of the first companies to do fresh fruit sorbets."

She said the sorbets are not only fat free but they're also made without dairy. Some of the flavors offered include blends of tropical fruits such as strawberry, kiwi, and banana, and orange, peach, and mango. "Designer flavors" can be made to accommodate customers' needs, she added.

Another kosher specialty food place is Chocolate Charm (787-4256).

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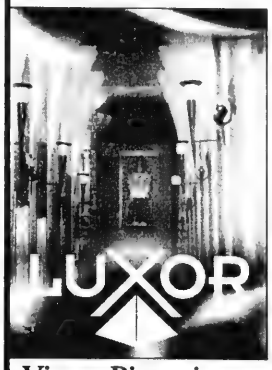

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The joy of giving

By ERIC LAYMAN
Special to The CJN

Choosing a gift is often a challenge. In fact, sometimes it's not just a challenge, but a frustration.

But there are ways of turning this frustration to pleasure. To begin with, consider what a gift is: a tangible object that symbolizes what someone means to you. It should reflect the recipient's values and tastes, and at the same time show that you share those values.

Don't choose from a category you know nothing about, even though your friend or relative is interested in it. Why suffer the letdown, say, of buying a book for someone who likes mysteries – only to discover that they have that title already or don't like that author?

Instead, think of an interest or liking you share with the recipient, then choose from that category.

You can also benefit from knowing about current trends in gift buying, which may help you find what you want among the huge range of choices in the stores.

Lori Barzakay and Stacey Dombrowski of Fancy That! (905-669-5559) and Miriam Faivish of Elegant Sterling (256-1098) have observed that gift buyers are becoming more demanding. They're more budget-conscious, they want better quality and service, and presentation matters more, too.

People are buying crafted gifts made by artists or unique things with a personal touch, not seen in every store. They want to find a gift so special, Barzakay says, that when the recipient's friends see it, they ask where it came from, then go a step further and call the store itself. This compliments the giver and the retailer.

Most people aren't artists who craft one-of-a-kind gifts. As Barzakay points out, though, you can make a gift unique by customizing it.

This desire for uniqueness fits with Faivish's observation that people aren't giving money as much as they used to. But it too can be spent in more personalized ways, like gift certificates or bridal registries. The registry offers the added advantage of letting someone with a modest budget contribute to a more lavish present.

Durability is another factor. People enjoy receiving gifts like crystal, china, even furniture, that last for years, decades or generations. Sterling silver, as Faivish points out, is an excellent instance of a durable gift.

Being malleable, silver can be shaped to any form or style, contemporary or traditional, ornate or austere. It matches any occasion or setting, formal or casual. It can be polished to look new, no matter how old, and can usually be mended without leaving marks. It has significance for Judaica too: objects like menorahs and tzedakah boxes are commonly made of silver.

Also, as a precious metal, silver's value tends to increase. Despite wear and tear, an ancient silver service is usually worth more than it was in the year it left the silversmith's. What's more, it's now affordable, no longer costing hundreds of dollars.

"Functional, but fun" is a guideline for many gift buyers. Barzakay names examples like whimsically- shaped salt and pepper shakers, which are conversation pieces and useful as well.

"Functional" is also the watchword in oven-to-table items strong enough to withstand oven heat, but pleasing enough in design to share the table with fine china.

On the other hand, Barzakay acknowledges, some people prefer gifts that have no purpose other than fun or beauty. Does someone you care for like to watch fish, for example, as long as they don't have to feed them?

Would they like a bowl of glass fish that actually swim?

In sum, there's almost no limit to the range of choices. And if you go about it the right way, not only will your friend or relative enjoy the gift you choose. You'll enjoy making the choice, too.

Other advertising gift places are: Laurentian Jewellers T.O. Ltd. (782-3588); Tri-Versa-Global (771-6494).

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Bringing people a high-energy simchah

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

Paramount Productions (905-508-8530) specializes in full-scale, high-end party productions.

Willie Kozma, who bought the company when it was called Paramount Sound, says he changed the company's focus in order to bring people "a high energy dance party."

Paramount's interactive show, says Kozma, is enhanced by a state of the art sound and lighting system.

"Guests are surrounded by multi-colored light beams and pulsating patterns, all set to the rhythmic sounds on the dance floor. We offer lighting ranging from simple colored floor lighting to suspended ceiling trusses loaded with intelligent lighting effects and state-of-the-art lasers."

Special effects also "make the party special. Light clouds of mist may float across the dance floor, or showers of confetti might rain from the ceiling. We always do something to make the party memorable.

"Our number 1 objective is to make each party different. When clients meet with us, they come to our 4,000-square-foot, high-tech facility and we discuss our packages and services. Our offices are geared to make the client comfortable so that they can decide how to incorporate our product into their simchah. When deciding on a theme, we always encourage input from the guest of honor. It is their party."

Doing the unconventional thing

Kozma, inspired by New York and Los Angeles parties, says he always tries to do the unconventional thing. "Rather than the standard entrance by the bar or bat mitzvah, we may do an opening number with dances. We bring in the boy or girl and they dance with our dancers.

"Once a month, all our dancers meet for a rehearsal, and during that time, the kids come in and practise the simple steps in their opening routine. We have another rehearsal one hour before the party. When the party actually starts, the dancers come out in costume to reflect the theme of the evening, and then the guest of honor is brought out. Laser lighting is used to enhance the routine. It makes for a spectacular opening."

Dancers change their costumes to reflect the theme of the dance routine. "For a disco set, they wear sequinned outfits with feather boas; during a neon nights set, they dress in neon costumes and colored wigs. We use a lot of black light so the colors really stand out. The hip hop set has the dancers in streetwear – overalls and backward baseball caps."

Partying it up. [Howard Levitt Photography]

At the conclusion of the party, Kozma says, they break into a horah medley to end the party on a traditional note. "Dancers circulate throughout the tunes to make sure that people are taking part."

He concedes that it is a challenge to keep the interest of 13-year-olds and he makes sure that there is always something going on. "When the kids finish eating, we run games and contests for them until the adults are through. Then we begin the party again."

Paramount's basic package, which can be built upon, always includes the disc jockey, MC, light show, dancers and prizes.

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Caricatures evoke an affectionate smile

By ERIC LAYMAN
Special to The CJN

When buying a gift for someone special, we often want to give our friend or relative something with the personal touch and dedication of art.

Looking for a gift with this kind of special touch? What about a personal portrait? Let Jack Risenman of Kartoons 'N Prints (226-4457) make an affectionate cartoon portrait.

A gift such as this can fit many occasions and settings. Think, for example, of your parents on their 50th wedding anniversary, or of a bar or bat mitzvah portrait showing the boy or girl in a favorite activity. And for decades after the big day, this portrait will be treasured as a permanent memento.

Risenman has been making cartoon portraits since he was a student, when he drew fellow students and staff for fun. When he entered the working world, he kept the hobby up. Since he retired, word of mouth referrals have helped him turn his hobby into a full-time career.

These portraits are worlds away from your typical caricature, which usually shows a certain malice, or at least a desire to laugh at someone. Risenman's work is full of good feeling, meant to evoke an affectionate smile. He focuses on the features that make a person unique, that will be recognized and loved by friends and family.

Among his sources of inspiration are the kinds of benign, fun-loving popular art many of us grew up with: the magazine cover paintings of Norman Rockwell; and comic strips full of amiable characters like Walt Kelley's Pogo or Al Capp's Li'l Abner.

Jack Risenman of Kartoons 'n' Prints.

His main motivation, he says, is the fun of doing the work. In fact, he doesn't even call it work; he likes it too much.

The portrait can show the face or the whole body, and a scene of choice; the only limit is your imagination. Newlyweds on a Mexican honeymoon, for example, can be portrayed in sombreros and serapes; or a medical graduate could be wearing a white smock and a stethoscope. The name can appear and the star of the picture can be shown quoting a favorite saying or expression.

Risenman also takes art's practical side seriously. He was a teacher of technical studies and loves art forms, such as silkscreen, which require expert command of materials. He taught communications too, covering subjects like the differences between magazine and newspaper cartoons.

The portrait he provides is in acrylic paints, 18 in. x 24 in., and set on a 30 in. x 40 in. board. Room is left at the sides and bottom so that friends and family can sign. The artwork only, not the surrounding area, is coated with vinyl to preserve it. (You can have T-shirts done too, on special request.)

The whole process takes three to 3½ weeks; so book well ahead. Good work can't be rushed. Allow yourself time to chat and decide about theme, objects and colors. Risenman likes to get enough feedback so he can give you exactly what you want.

He knows from experience that most of us have a problem sitting still for long periods and he won't ask anyone to sit more than five or six minutes. Rather than try to record every detail, Risenman focuses on essential features. If you want the present to be a surprise, he'll work from a photo.

Kartoons 'n Prints brings to mind an old story, about a Dutch woodcarver named Hans Vrill. He made his living by carving toys and figures for children; over his shop door, there hung a carved, brightly painted sign: "Hans Vrill – Never Worked and Never Will." He liked his trade too much to call it work. And that's how it is with Risenman.

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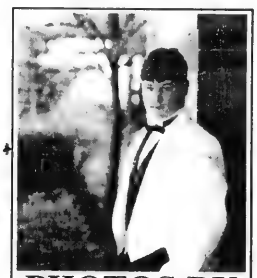

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PARTY PLANNER

Caterers on the lookout for innovative kosher food

A sweets table prepared by Peter Graben.

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

Toronto caterers now offer much more than what most people think of as traditional Jewish fare.

"We are always on the lookout for innovative kosher food that is lighter in style," says Walter Vaz, general manager of Peter Graben Fine Foods Inc. (510-1818).

Graben, who recently celebrated his 30th year in business, specializes in keeping up with trends in the food industry.

"Our menus include Thai, Chinese, Asian and a wealth of other cuisines," Vaz says. "A luncheon may include such dishes as drunken mushroom and sherry soup or four tomato salad with fresh herbs served with a pesto vinaigrette dressing and accompanied by spicy eggplant chips. A fish meal could consist of maple glazed fresh fillet of Atlantic salmon marinated in Ontario maple syrup, then grilled."

Graben realizes that hors d'oeuvres are a favorite part of any meal. Guests always look forward to his Thai salad rolls with a sweet dipping sauce; smoked salmon sushi, vegetable sushi and California rolls with a soy dipping sauce; beef tenderloin on toast rounds with tarragon sauce; or Graben's homemade pate on focaccia crusts.

When the Chinese pancake is served, guests choose from an assortment of bite-sized pieces of chicken or beef, accompanied by slivered cucumbers, green onions, bean sprouts and hoisin sauce, all enfolded in freshly made Chinese crepes and topped with plum sauce, lychee nuts, sliced almonds or sesame seeds.

Graben, whose list of venues include Casa Loma, the Royal Ontario Museum, the Estates of Sunnybrook, the McMichael Art Gallery, the Four Seasons Hotel, the Sheraton Centre Hotel, the Royal York Hotel and several synagogues including Beth Tikvah, Holy Blossom and Beit Rayim, realizes that a caterer's job goes beyond cooking and serving food.

"We offer a complete custom event. We sit down with clients on day one and decide where, how, and when. Most people have a fairy tale in their head when they come to the caterer. So they tell us, and then we give them their options," says Vaz.

Delicious

"We can literally walk people through the whole event, from deciding on decor and props, music, party favors, rentals and liquor and wine services. We hire only trained professionals to run, control and manage all of our functions and we have a brigade of trained, certified chefs cooking all of our cuisines."

Victor Alloul, who opened Fifth Avenue Caterers (905-763-8211) in September, specializes in home parties. "We bring in the burners and our own utensils and put together a pasta bar, Chinese or Mexican food – anything the client wants.

"The basic Chinese meal," says Alloul, "is chicken, beef, spring rolls, stir fry vegetables and Chinese rice, and then everything is custom cooked from there. Guests can choose what they want and how they want it made."

Shabbat dinners, which consist of soup, salad, chicken, vegetable and dessert come with full instructions, in a container that is ready to be popped in the oven.

Alloul says he tries to keep his cooking away from the mainstream. "We follow cooking trends and then we make them kosher. We have found a company in Quebec that makes kosher truffle and hazelnut oil, and is currently waiting for its kosher supervision. I always keep my eyes open for new foods."

He has kept up with the Asian influence in cooking by finding a kosher hoisin sauce, sesame oil and lemon grass. Cooking with maple has become quite popular and Alloul now lists maple infused chicken amongst his specialties.

"There is no reason at all why kosher food has to be limited. I hear about something, I look for it, and then I play with the dish until it is right."

He also runs a restaurant in Reena's new Toby and Henry Battle Centre in Thornhill, which is open for lunch Monday to Friday, and dinner and Thursday and Sunday.

Both caterers are kosher under COR.

Other advertising kosher caterers are: Caterers York/Sweet York Desserts (783-4293); Le Parc and Beverley Hills Caterers (789-7246); Malmar Fine Foods & Catering (638-0091); Prestige Fine Cuisine (782-3231); Rose Lazar Catering Services (633-0344); Sam Firestone Caterers (782-8022); Zuchter Berk Creative Caterers (738-6880).

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PARTY PLANNER

Now you can cook just like mom

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

My mother is a wonderful cook, but you won't find any cookbooks in her house. The truth of the matter is that she considers them superfluous. After all these years of laboring in a kitchen and pleasing her family with hearty and delicious meals, her cooking is an eclectic blend of immense knowledge and quick silver intuition.

Most of us aren't as erudite or as lucky. We need to consult and pore over recipes. In short, cookbooks are our culinary salvation.

The cookbooks under review may not transform you into a peerless chef, but they will doubtless improve your skills and enlarge your repertoire.

Master Chefs Cook Kosher (Raincoast Books) proves yet again that the possibilities in kosher cooking are virtually limitless. The author, Judy Zeidler, is the hostess of *Judy's Kitchen*, which appears on the Jewish TV Network, as well as the co-owner of two restaurants in southern California.

In this lavishly illustrated volume, 37 prominent chefs who've been on her show meld traditional kosher cuisine with international influences – French, Italian, Mexican and so on – for recipes that are au courant and irresistible.

Consider Thomas Keller's warm smoked salmon with Italian potato gnocchi; Joyce Goldstein's mushroom and hazelnut soup; Evan Kleiman's marinated white fish with pine nuts; Stephan Pyles' tomato salsa; Bradley Ogden's prune fritters with lemon and orange curd; Phillipe Jeanty's olive and feta vinaigrette; or Mary Sue Milliken's Mexican bread pudding.

The recipes are supposedly foolproof, having been tested and retested on *Judy's Kitchen*.

Kosher food tends to be filling, but *Harriet Roth's Deliciously Healthy Jewish Cooking* (Plume) solves that problem and eliminates the guilt.

Roth, a former director of the Pritikin Longevity Centre Cooking School, shows a reader how to trim fat and cholesterol, decrease sodium and use alternative ingredients to create comfort food.

The book is organized around the Sabbath, major holidays, appetizers, soups, salads, noodles and grains, vegetables, fish, poultry, beef, lamb and veal, and, yes, desserts.

Her apple date salad looks great. Her turkey, rice and vegetable soup sounds mouth-watering. Her oven-fried flounder is less fattening than you think. Her honey glazed chicken hits the spot. Her Hungarian sour cherry muffins are fit for kings.

The Passover Table (HarperCollins), by Susan Friedland, presents more than 40 recipes, both traditional and modern, for celebrating the holiday and coping with seders.

Friedland, the director of cookbook publishing at HarperCollins, offers reliable versions of classics (gefilte fish and pot roast) and contemporary fare (chicken tangine and Turkish sweet and sour artichokes).

Pasta lovers will appreciate Joie Warner's *No-Cook Pasta Sauces* (Raincoast). Her premise is: why cook if you don't have to? In this spirit, she divulges the secret of whipping up easy pasta sauces ready to eat in minutes without even turning on a burner.

With only a handful of flavorful ingredients such as olives, tomatoes, citrus, cheese and herbs, you can cook up a storm.

It doesn't get better than this.

Soups are to meals what nails are to home construction: absolutely vital. If you agree, you'll be swept over by Marguerite Patten's *Soup* (Raincoast).

Patten, a distinguished British food writer whose books have sold millions of copies, has soups for every conceivable occasion – clear soups, fish soups, meat soups, vegetable soups, cold soups, fruit soups and poultry soups.

The recipes are simple and to the point.

Mediterranean food is all the rage nowadays, and for good reason. It's light and fragrant and glows with color and texture.

In *Mediterranean Cooking* (Raincoast), Matthew Kenney and Sam Gugino take traditional recipes from countries like Greece, Turkey and Morocco and adapt them to North American tastes.

The result is gratifying. How about a baked squash soup with nuts and spices? Or eggplant puree with yogurt and mint? Or a Tunisian couscous salad? Or lemon chicken with pine nuts and green olives?

Trust me, you won't be disappointed.

Advertisement

Montreal's premier party and event planner opens Toronto office

Phil Bloom launches *Special Event Architects*

For over 30 years, Phil Bloom, master party planner and special event consultant, has dazzled Montreal partygoers. Starting in June 1998, Bloom will bring his expertise to Toronto clients. In conjunction with Audrey Hyams Romoff, owner of OverCat Communications, a Toronto-based special events and public relations company, Bloom will continue to build on his illustrious career which includes the planning of over 5,000 events.

From an "Arabian Night" wedding to a product launch in an airplane fuselage, Bloom has built a reputation for creating unforgettable events, including Hyams Romoff's sweet sixteen — a "disco" themed party thrown at the height of Saturday Night Fever. The two met again recently when Hyams Romoff contacted Bloom about a product launch she was planning in Montreal. "I had been thinking about expanding into the Toronto market for a long time," said Bloom. "I am really looking forward to this new opportunity."

Special Event Architects will offer a full range of party and event planning services, from concept to conclusion. "We take a germ of an idea and create a fantasy," said Bloom.

Past "fantasies" created by Bloom include a "Barn" Mitzvah where guests gathered round a campfire to eat hot dogs and beans, a corporate affair where he excavated an executive's back lawn to create an underground ballroom and a sweet sixteen where the entire cast of the television show ***Fame*** was flown in to perform.

Bloom began his career as the owner of two flower shops where he became known for his theatrical arrangements. He was soon being asked to consult on food, music and entertainment. When a cousin asked him to create a "total" party, a new facet of his career was launched. The circus theme featured tightrope walkers balancing a few feet over the guests' heads as they ate dinner.

In addition to event planning, Bloom runs a "private entertainment facility" known as The Living Room in downtown Montreal. The 6,000 sq. ft. space can accommodate events for 50—500 people. He has also recently begun hosting Dr. Party, a live, weekly radio call-in show on a popular Montreal station, where he shares his expertise and offers advice.

"Both Audrey and myself feel that Special Event Architects is an accurate description of the services we provide, since we literally build the event," adds Bloom. "Regardless of the size or type of the event, it will be memorable."

For a consultation please call Special Event Architects at 416-586-0040.

PARTY PLANNER

Harvey Seigel of the Fabulous Harvey Seigel Band.

Bands help set the tone of the party

By ERIC LAYMAN
Special to The CJN

At a party, the music sets the tone so it's best to book the best band you can find.

Shelley Miller of the Shelley Miller Band (481-1034) and Harvey Seigel of the Fabulous Harvey Seigel Band (782-9202) offer some pointers on how to choose a band.

Seigel recommends picking full-time musicians who are members of the Toronto Musicians' Association.

Don't talk prices or essentials on the phone, he says. Arrange to meet as soon as you know the date, then talk in person.

The day you know when your event will take place, urges Miller, pick up the phone. Prime dates go fast. Then have two meetings before the big day. The first is to get acquainted. The other, about two months before the party, is to plan the agenda, make song lists, and work out details such as special dances. For a big event, you may need a third meeting led by the consultant.

Do not trust someone who agrees too easily with you, warns Seigel. Spend a couple of hours and be sure he understands you. Know what you want, but be flexible. Trust the band leader's knowledge and experience, and respect someone with the courage to tell you if an idea won't work. Let him tailor the band and music to your plans.

If you want material that is not in the band's repertoire, give them lead time to learn it.

Be specific about the songs you like, urges Miller, but take guests' tastes into account too. Remember that different parts of the party need different music. The Beatles, for example, are great for quiet times like dinner but won't always get people up to dance. Even dance music, Seigel says, should not be so loud your guests can't talk.

The leader, says Miller, has to work well with the caterer, consultant and other professionals at a simchah, both to give and take direction.

You're hiring both a leader and performers, Miller reminds you. They have to be talented and sincere, and at the same time play to an audience. Just as important, they must be reliable and organized.

The band, Seigel says, has to enjoy the event along with you and your guests. They have to be dedicated and in synch with each other.

Choose a band, Seigel says, with a solid core group of musicians. The leader should be able to add people as needed, changing size from a single keyboard to a three- or four-piece dinner ensemble, to a nine-piece dance orchestra.

After 25 year of experience, Miller knows that musicians perform better if they get occasional breaks – to rest, as well as to adjust the mood from one part of an event to another. There is a big contrast between dinner music and dance rhythms.

Get a band with its own backup equipment, Miller recommends. You don't want to hear about problems with mikes or speakers. As Seigel points out, if there's a delay in serving food, it's the band that has to keep everybody happy until the glitch is fixed.

The client and the band leader, Miller and Seigel say, are looking for a fantastic party where the music will be remembered. Find the band that will give you this and you will work well together.

Other advertising bands are: Aelita & Friends (222-7573); Ambiance Flute and Guitar Duo (693-8778); Fern Lindzon Piano & Vocals (445-9780); Hu-Tsa-Tsa Klezmer Band (651-7521); The Kenny Simon Band (638-2549); Kings of Klezmer (905-731-6179); Klapman's Klezmer Band (658-0854); The Larry Rodness Orchestra (650-5858); Nu-rhythm Band (905-882-5044); The Paul Zurin Band (905-770-3084); The Russ Myers Band (905-771-0257); The Sky Band (565-1620); Times Square Entertainment Group (905-881-6400).

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Videos go hand in hand with photos

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

A video is the only way to capture the true feeling of a party, says Darren Sager, owner of D.M.S. Video (905-881-7677).

"A video relives a dance, captures a speech and shares a special moment. It films events that hosts might miss at their own party. The videographer sees things that people can cherish forever.

"It cannot replace a still picture, of course, because you cannot take a video to work or hang it on the wall. But on the other hand, you cannot pop a picture into the VCR and have the party right in your living room. The video and the picture go hand in hand."

Although Sager will provide videotaping without editing, "90 percent of our clients want an edited version. This includes a photographic introduction of the child growing up and background music. Special effects, such as page turning or water rippling, are always done with an emphasis on class."

He has been a videographer for 12 years, and he usually knows what to include in the edited version of the video, but clients are welcome to sit in on the editing process.

"If that is not feasible – the process takes about 15 hours – we always have a footage review night to see certain parts."

Sager stresses that everything is captured on film. "Editing should not be done at the party. It needs to be done in a calmer environment when I can reflect on the party."

When filming a wedding, says Sager, the cameraman and his assistant arrive one hour before the signing of the ketubah and bedecking of the bride and stays until the end of the evening.

"We're there, but we're never in the way. There are no wires or tripods, and we use a 20-watt camera light so no one is shocked by the light.

His digital equipment is state of the art, Sager says. "Picture quality is good and skin tone is accurate. These are things an amateur videographer usually knows nothing about."

He says it is never too early to book a videographer. "I have bookings into the middle of 2000. When clients come in, we discuss a budget and then we work from there. No matter how much the customer is prepared to spend, however, they always get a professional video, something that will keep memories alive forever."

Other advertising videographers are: ABC Video (265-8313); Exclusive Video (905-882-8689); Images International (977-5575); Lisa Productions (905-764-1033); Redstone Pictures (256-4666); Together Forever Video (633-5971); Twins Photo Video (905-660-7385); Video Affairs (905-889-0909); Video Excellence (905-731-4355); Video Productions by Josh (630-5558); Videocassions (905-737-6800).

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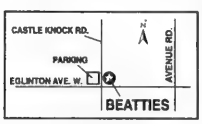

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PARTY PLANNER

From pillow fights to whirlyball:

Lots of ways to party

By ERIC LAYMAN
Special to The CJN

Party locales vary greatly, from your recreation room at home to hotels and convention centres, and the number of businesses offering different kinds of venues is huge.

Chandra Narayan of Mad Hatter's Tea Party (905-475-2854) and Howard Orfus of The Rinx (410-RINX) operate specialized party venues for kids of different ages.

Mad Hatter's Tea Party specializes in parties for kids aged four to 12. It offers a present-opening room, a maze, a pillow fight room, a water room, a gym, face paint, party food and candy grab bags.

Rinx, for a slightly older age group, offers whirlyball, ice skating, in-line skating, video and laser tag. Its banquet room, which can seat 200 people, is elegantly decorated with wall sconces, carpeting and imitation trees.

Both have suggestions for picking a locale, however, that make sense for any age group and type of party.

The things you think of in dealing with any professional, such as courtesy, rapport and readiness to minimize your stress, are important in this case too, Orfus points out.

A good professional respects your budget range, for example, but you need some flexibility too.

Before you choose a venue, consider what kind of function you're having. Who will be attending, and how many? What is the age and taste range? What mood and atmosphere do you want? What time of year will it be? What size and what kind of layout go with your party?

If you're building a surprise into the entertainment, for example, you may want unobtrusive doorways and rooms where people can wait for their cue without being inadvertently spotted by your guests.

If it's a summer event, you may prefer a venue with outdoor green space.

Orfus says he places high value on how well the venue is maintained. You might prefer a dignified ambience like that of some older hotels, for example, but the best older venues are as well maintained as the newer ones, and offer up-to-date amenities.

To find a locale that matches your event as closely as possible, you need to do some research, Narayan says, and study the options. For every function, there are hundreds of possibilities and unless you have a clear idea what you want, the choices can be confusing.

Once you have some idea how much work is involved, decide what you want to do personally and what you want to delegate. No matter how much you delegate, you'll be surprised what you still have to do, planning and organizing, setting priorities, making decisions and drawing up schedules.

One major advantage of using a specialized venue is that "little things" like decoration and cleanup are looked after.

Pick a place that offers something for everyone, advises Orfus, with everything there from games to dishes. Look for a locale that takes into account the fact that every age group needs a different form of entertainment. Even if you bring entertainers in, it's better for there to be something on site as well.

Many events take place in two different places, Orfus observes. A bar mitzvah, for example, may be in a shul on Saturday and in a banquet hall on Sunday. Weddings often move from one place to another. Make sure you plan this aspect of the logistics carefully, he says.

Come in and make face to face contact first, advises Narayan. Then much of the planning can be done on the phone, though more meetings in person are welcome.

Major decisions, however, should be made face to face, Orfus says.

To save both work and worry for a kids' party, Narayan recommends looking for a venue with a completely supervised program, where all you need do is drop your kids off and pick them up. And to ensure the kids have fun, use a venue that's designed for them.

Book at least one month in advance. There's no such thing as too early, Orfus and Narayan agree. Book at least five to six months ahead, a year if you can. If you're going to choose the best venue you can find, make sure you get it.

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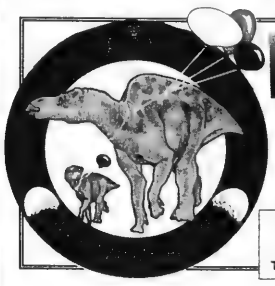

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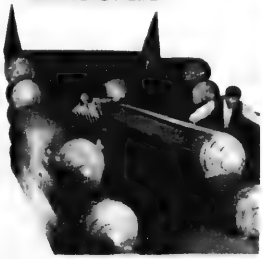

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From coast to coast

Resolutions on Israel stir lively debate

[Cont'd. from page 3]

While most of the other 30-odd resolutions – covering a wide array of subjects from social justice issues to Jewish education to combating hate crimes and Christian missionary activity –

CJC Plenary

passed easily, two resolutions on Israel proved to be quite contentious. One resolution calling upon Congress to urge the Canadian government "to assist in facilitating the Middle East peace process by encouraging the parties and by offering constructive ideas in support of negotiations toward a permanent political settlement" passed with the support of only two-thirds of the delegates. Some dissenting delegates objected to the resolution on the grounds that it was unnecessary. They argued that the Canadian government was already doing what it could to help along a largely moribund peace process at the moment. Others objected to what they viewed as interference in Israeli political affairs.

That same argument was used against two resolutions on religious pluralism in Israel. There were a couple of unsuccessful efforts to amend the resolution calling on Congress to "urge the government of Israel to ensure the legal and social equality of all Jews in Israel." The amendment would have replaced the word "Jews" with the word "people." But the resolution passed unamended.

Additional resolutions from the floor were also passed after some debate. The first two dealt with the B'nei Menashe, a group of people in India and Burma who claim to be descendants of the Tribe of Menashe.

One resolution called on Congress to support the rescue of 211 B'nei Menashe youngsters while the other called on Congress to establish a fact finding mission on the whole subject of the B'nei Menashe. The resolutions were passed with some changes in wording.

Near the end of the session, some student delegates attempted to introduce a pair of resolutions demanding that the new president of Congress appoint a young Jewish adult – defined subsequently as a full-time student or recent graduate – to one of four seats on the CJC's national officers' committee. The students also called for the appointee to be nominated or elected "by a body of his or her peers."

After some discussion, the students agreed to withdraw the second resolution and reword the first to define a young adult as anyone between 18 and 35. With yet another change in wording, the resolution passed and the session was adjourned.

Ronen elected

[Cont'd. from page 3]

Sorokin, a CJC activist in Edmonton, was given the Monroe Abbey Award. Sorokin was unable to accept the award in person due to a death in the family.

Sam Filer Distinguished Service awards went to Maurice Benzacar of Toronto; Bob Levin, a leader of the Jewish community in Kelowna, B.C.; Sheva Medjuck, a CJC activist and community leader in Halifax; and Winnipeg lawyer Joe Wilder, who has carried a banner for Congress in this city for 45 years and has filled many Congress offices during that time.

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Other participants: John Witte, Emory University Law School; Lenn Goodman, Vanderbilt University, Philosophy; David Weisstub, University of Montreal, Law and Psychiatry; Robert George, Princeton University, Political Science; Wael Hallaq, McGill University, Islamic Studies; and Robert Tuttle, George Washington University Law School.

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Israel consulate may close

[Cont'd. from pg. 1]

however, did not appear to jibe with the fact that the Jewish community and Israeli diplomatic offices were aware of the possible closure before the *Ma'ariv* story.

David Cooper, a press officer with the Israeli Embassy in Ottawa, acknowledged, contrary to Shiron, that closing the Israeli Consulate in Montreal was "under consideration" and that he "heard about it the other day."

FEDERATION CJA president Stanley Plotnick, similarly, said he was aware of the possibility of the Israeli Consulate closing down about a day and a half before the *Ma'ariv* report appeared.

Thomas Hecht, chair of the Canada-Israel Committee, Quebec region, also said he knew about the possible closure before the Israeli story appeared, after getting word from Israeli Consul General in Montreal Daniel Gal.

Also contrary to Shiron, the Jewish community responded last week as if the closure of the consulate was a virtual fait accompli.

In Winnipeg, on May 26, Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) national officers expressed their "deepest concern" over the possible closure of the consulate and urged in a motion to Israel's Foreign Ministry that any such decision "be reversed immediately."

In Montreal the same evening, Hecht, Plotnick and officials from Israeli-based institutions met to devise a strategy to block the closure, Hecht said.

"We have taken all necessary measures to ensure this does not happen," he said.

"If this has been decided upon, it is a decision that should be rescinded, both in the interests of Israeli diplomacy, its worldwide diplomatic strategy, and also on behalf of the Jewish community."

Hecht quoted from a letter to Israeli Foreign Ministry officials in which he stated: "The Israeli Consulate in Montreal has always been the symbol of recognition by Israel of the uniqueness of Quebec in the Canadian federation, as a result of the particular political and bilingual characteristics."

It was Hecht's opinion that the Foreign Ministry, "probably in its wisdom – or lack thereof – decided in the closing of certain consulates.

"I think they did not take into account the reality and very special nature of the Montreal consulate."

Plotnick, like Hecht, voiced optimism that the consulate will not close.

"It ain't gonna happen," he said. "We are not going to allow it to happen. There is a plan in effect to reach out to the appropriate people and to change the decision."

Ironically, it appeared that the future of the consulate here was put in doubt after Israel rescinded a decision, some months back, to close the Israeli Consulate in Toronto.

The *Ma'ariv* story said that the decision at that time was reversed, "due to pressure of influential Jewish leaders."

Plotnick said the Montreal Jewish community "helped support Toronto's position." Asked if Toronto would do the same now, he replied, "Absolutely!"

Plotnick said closing the Israeli Consulate here, "would be a tragedy not only for the Montreal Jewish community, but it would be a tragedy for Israel."

He said he did not know whether the decision was "final," only that it may have been made at the "bureaucratic" level, but not yet at the "political" one.

"I guess [Israel's Finance Ministry] is going around trying to save money. [But] all major Diaspora communities have a major investment in the State of Israel and a great deal of affinity towards the State of Israel. Not opening a consulate is one thing, but closing a consulate has tremendous ramifications."

In Quebec City, Sylvain Simard, the minister for international relations who has visited Israel twice, said he was shocked and disappointed by the news that the Israeli Consulate might close.

While Simard understood Israel's budgetary constraints and noted that the decision to close the consulate is Israel's alone to make, he said doing so, "will give bad signals for our relations, which are so excellent now."

Asked if closing the consulate would actually damage Quebec-Israel relations, Simard replied:

"The word 'damage' is difficult to use in diplomatic terms, but what I can say is that it would give the signal that what we have built over the last years is not seen by the Israeli government as very important. This, in a sense, will hurt our relationship."

United Church reaches out

[Cont'd. from pg. 1]

council, which meets every two or three years, and represents the church's 700,000-plus membership. But it is being greeted in Jewish circles as a major breakthrough.

"It's a quantum leap…a tremendous achievement," enthused Rabbi Reuven Bulka, chair of the religious and inter-religious affairs committee of Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC), which was consulted in the document's drafting. "It's a sincere, heartfelt and careful attempt to set up a new basis for the future."

Rabbi Bulka recalled the days in the 1960's when relations between Jews and the United Church were "horrible," due in part to vituperatively anti-Israel articles in the church's newspaper, the *United Church Observer.*

But this latest effort "opens up, in terms of honesty, a whole new chapter in inter-religious relations. This is the way to redress the past," Rabbi Bulka said in a telephone interview from Ottawa.

The report is "quite remarkable," and "hails a new stage in United Church-Jewish relations," said Karen Mock, director of B'nai Brith Canada's League for Human Rights. "What's really significant about it is that it's written by Christians for Christians."

Mock is hopeful that the report will trigger changes in attitude, "which will ultimately affect behavior."

The document is an outgrowth of a petition the church's general council passed in 1988, in response to the case of Holocaust-denying teacher James Keegstra. It called on the church to confront Christian anti-Semitism and to mend fences with Jews.

In 1991, the church declined to apologize for its role in Canadian anti-Semitism, deciding instead to educate members about anti-Judaism in the Scriptures and anti-Semitism in general.

The resulting document is surprisingly candid and self-examining in places. It states plainly, for example, that "no other religion is as closely related to Christianity as Judaism. The Christian God is the God of Israel. Jesus and all the apostles were of Israel…the hope of Israel is the Christian hope too."

There is now "wide-ranging recognition that the church's rejection of Jews was an act of disobedience to God," the report adds.

Apart from imploring members to be "respectful" of Judaism, the report identifies and helps contextualize passages in the New Testament which have led to negative images of Jews.

For example, Jesus is often depicted in the Bible as a true Torah-believing and observant Jew, but sometimes as opposed to Judaism. The same applies, the report says, to the apostle Paul.

"The best data we have today," the report cautions, "suggest that neither rejected Judaism or their own Jewishness – quite the opposite. We should choose to interpret on that side of the dichotomy."

The document cites several other examples of Scriptures which may cast aspersions on the Jewishness of Jesus and his early followers. It admonishes adherents to err on the side of tolerance and respect for Jews.

"The development of anti-Judaism could not have been in the purpose of God. It certainly has no place in the church more than 50 years after the Holocaust," it states.

שישאר בינינו

גידי קורן וחברים

"ירושלים-שיר אהבה" - יוני

יוני הוא סטודנט באוניברסיטת טורונטו. שעל פי דבריו- מתלבט בין ביולוגיה וספרות התלבטות כזו מוכרת לי בצורה מאוד אישית. הוא שלח אלי כמה שירים ומהם בחרתי את השיר הבא. בהצלחה, יוני. תמשיך להתלבט, ואל תוותר לא על ביולוגיה ולא על ספרות. האדם הוא סך הכל של כל מה שהוא, ולא בהכרח רק דבר אחד. לו אני הייתי מוותר על מוסיקה וספרות לטובת רפואה, הייתי אדם נקה.

אביונים פושטים ידים בסמטאות ירושלים
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על בכיסים שוממים בתוך ירושלים, על צידי דרכים
שם ישבנו גם בינינו.
וחיינו אומרים זה אל זה: עוד נשוב ונזכר,
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שם חיינו שוקקים חרש בין עפלסים וקיסרים
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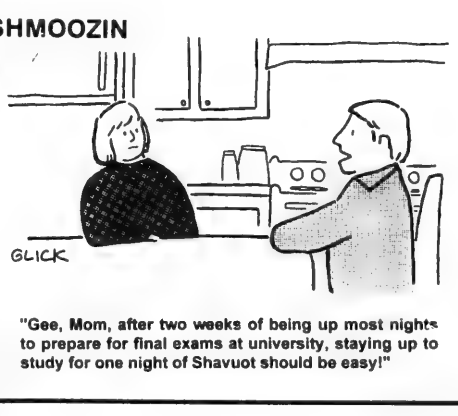
הכובשים החדשים של פראג- יהורם פירוצקי:

רק ערים בודדות ביבשת אירופה הצליחו לעבור את מלחמת העולם השניה בלי הרס וחורבן. אחת מהן, פראג, נחשבת בצדק ליפה בערי אירופה בזכות הריכוז הגדול של ארמונות, כנסיות, בנייני ציבור ובשרים מדהימים שעומדים על יסודות איתנים עוד מימי הביניים, והופכים כל פינה בעיר לגלות נוף מדהימה. אפילו הנאצים והקומוניסטים לא הצליחו לפגוע ביופייה המיוחד של העיר, וזה מה שהביא אותנו לבקור בפראג שם גיליתי להפתעתי שצבא כיבוש חדש מאיים על העיר היפה. ואת התוצאות רואים כמעט בכל רחוב, כיכר או צומת. ואני מתכוון לכיבוש האמריקאי שבמקום מצעות הוריד על העיר דולרים. וכך תחת כל ארמון רענן ומאחורי כל כנסיה צצים מקדונאלד, קנטאקי ציקן, פיצה פיצה, בורגר קינג ויתר סמלי הכיבוש החדש. אם כל זה לא די, נעצו האמריקאים בכל צומת אסטרטגית שלטי פרסום לדוויזיות המובחרות שכבר הספיקו לכבוש את העולם כמו קוקה קולה, מאלבורו, נייקי וכו'. כל זה בלי להזכיר את קרוניות הרחוב והאוטובוסים הצבוריים שצבועים בשלל צבעי חברות הענק. כדי להשלים את התמונה כדאי להוסיף שאין כמעט צעיר או צעירה בפראג אשר עכוזם הצנום אינו אחוז במכנסי ג'ינס לוויס וחולצת T מכסה את החזה כאשר בין האצבעות עולה באש סיגריה אמריקאית. קשה גם להתעלם מכתובות הגראפיטי בסגנון ניו-יורקי על רכבות, אוטובוסים, חומות בטון ובניני צבור שהצליחו לעבור בשלום הרבה שנים של היסטוריה עד שבא הצבא הכיבוש החדש. על הכיבוש הישראלי של הרפובליקה הצ'כית ברשימה הבאה.

התקליט הנבחר שלי לשנת החמישים:

הרבה תקליטים יצאו לשנת החמישים, רובם הם אוספים שחוזרים ומשמיעים מה שכבר הושמע בתקליטי אוסף רבים. ואז נפל לידי האוסף החדש של הגבעטרון ואין מה להגיד - ארץ ישראל במיטבה! יש שם הרבה שירים שאתם מכירים, ולצידם שירים חדשים, שאחרי שמיעה שניה נשמעים כאילו שרנו אותם כל חיינו. יש לי הרגשה שמרגע שתשימו אותו במערכת שלכם, בבית או במכונית, הוא לא יצא משם כל כך מהר. הנה כמה שורות מרגשות משיר הזיכרון "החיטה צומחת שוב":

"זה לא אותו העמק, זה לא אותו הבית,
אתם אינכם, ולא תוכלו לשוב,
אז איך קרה, אז איך קרה ואיך קורה עדיין
שהחיטה צומחת שוב?"



"Gee, Mom, after two weeks of being up most nights to prepare for final exams at university, staying up to study for one night of Shavuot should be easy!"

On Campus

Students close out a busy year on Montreal campus

By DAVID LAZARUS
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — One way to see how busy students were on campus as the CEGEP and university school year drew to a close, is to peruse Hillel's report for March and April.

The biggest news in the report prepared by director Steve Spodek seemed to be that Hillel last month held its first annual Student Awards Evening. It paid tribute to some of the leaders who work to keep students actively involved during the school year.

According to Spodek's report, Emmanuel Castiel, a past chair of the Hillel city-wide student executive, took note of the higher level of Jewish student activity during the 1997-98 year, and of the fact that the activities originated with the students themselves.

Current chair Andrew Elbaz stated that the city-wide executive "is a growing student body, filled with the most energetic, dedicated and passionate students."

In a way, Castiel's and Elbaz's remarks were echoed by McGill professor Gil Troy, who, in the report, "challenged the student leadership to encourage others to get involved" beyond the actual moment of graduation.

'Growing student body'

Tributes were paid, as well, to outgoing McGill Hillel president Amy Shore, who is heading back to her native Toronto.

Shore, who also sits on Hillel's international board of directors, said that at an international level, Hillel is "creating a Jewish renaissance, and Montreal Hillel is playing an important role.

"People are coming to us and asking to get involved in Hillel, and enthusiasm and involvement are at an all-time high."

For example, a fundraising raffle for Hillel programming across the city sold over 1,000 tickets, with the credit going to Tania Guindi, finance vice-president of Hillel's city-wide executive committee.

Other examples include a Passover Mimouna party that drew over 100 and a Centre Hillel cafe show party featuring former Montrealer and now French up-and-coming star Gad Elmaleh.

Or how about an earlier Purim party that drew over 400? Or the Wake-Up Tour concert with the Moshav Band that attracted over 1,000? (It was followed up by a "learning session" with over 100 taking part.)

All the above, just in March and April, not to mention several Jewish learning initiatives involving Rabbi Shlomo Atlan, Prof. Norma Joseph, Jason Lax (for the McGill portion of Holocaust Education Week), Purim and Passover events, and media interviews of students about Israel's 50th birthday.

This summer, the report said, Jewish students are being welcomed to Beaver Lake for Israeli folk-dancing, and the doors to Hillel are always open in cyberspace, at its award-winning Web site: [http://www.hillel.montreal.qc.ca/zionet.html].

מזל טוב Mazel Tov

We cannot guarantee the date a picture will appear. Please limit all greetings to 25 typewritten words. We reserve the right to edit all items and condense any that are longer than that.

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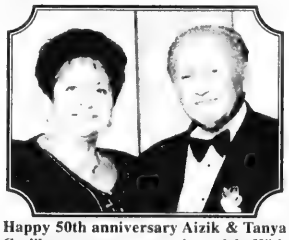
To Jasmin Aviva Batia Goldstein, happy fourth birthday and lots of love from Zayde Adrian.

Happy 20th anniversary to Frances & Stephen Kraft. Love, Ryan and Sari, Esther & Eugene Tozman and Libby & Harry Kraft.

Leonard Lurie of Shaker Heights announces the engagement of his daughter, Nancy, to Dr. Robert Zimmerman, son of Drs. Arthur and Selma Zimmerman of Toronto.

Sol Zulauf's family, Belle, Debra, Randi, Sandra, Leslie, Lindsay, Daniel, Matthew and Nicole send their best wishes on his 75th birthday.

Annette & Asher Breatross celebrated their first wedding anniversary on April 6.



Happy 50th anniversary Aizik & Tanya Geylikman; you are our role models. With lots of love and happiness from your children and grandchildren.

The children and grandchildren of Syd and Riva Bojarski wish them mazel tov on reaching the milestone of 50 years of marriage on March 28.

Mazel tov to Jeno & Agi Weiszhauz on their 50th wedding anniversary. Love, Ann, Harry, Erica, Jeff, Danielle, Jeffrey, Kyle, Kevin and Jake.

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Support group helps remove stigma of cancer

By JANICE ARNOLD
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — When Jessica Miller found out her 18-year-old daughter Sheryl had Hodgkin's disease, she had to practise saying cancer alone in a mirror before she could use the word in front of her daughter because the fact was just so hard to bear.

That was 18 years ago. For most of the time since, Miller has worked volunteerily with cancer patients and their families through Hope & Cope (H&C), a highly regarded support program at the Jewish General Hospital (JGH), founded by Sheila Kussner 17 years ago. Sheryl, now a mother of three and a lawyer, leads a Hope & Cope support group for young adults with cancer.

"If anyone had told me before my daughter's illness that I would be so involved with this type of work I would never have believed it," said Miller, a librarian by profession, who has just been named H&C president. She had previously never thought of herself as "helping" by nature, and, though her father died of cancer, she says, he never used the word or spoke of his illness from the time he was diagnosed until he died a month later.

Jessica Miller

While providing support is H&C's raison d'etre, Miller is determined to also remove the stigma still associated with cancer.

Nearly all of H&C's 130 volunteers have either had cancer or had a close relative with the disease. They are trained and guided by professional social workers in how to help those dealing with the physical, emotional and social effects of a diagnosis of cancer and its treatment.

"Sure it's emotionally draining, and some volunteers leave quickly realizing it's not for them. But many have been around for years, some from the beginning" she said.

"Sometimes when I come back from a clinic, I just have to have a quiet cup of coffee to calm down. Other people need to take a few months off."

The H&C's office is right next to the oncology department, and volunteers are at hand to greet those coming to the clinic.

H&C has separate support groups for young (18 to about 35) patients, older patients, relatives and friends, women newly diagnosed with breast cancer, and the bereaved.

Volunteers may also provide one-on-one support, as companions, hospital visitors, drivers to treatments, patient advocates. H&C, which is funded entirely by private donations (except for the use of its office), gives away wigs, turbans and prostheses, has a library of 1,000 books and cassettes, and publishes a newsletter.

Rita Fargnoli was 26 and married eight months when she was diagnosed with Hodgkin's disease in April 1994. She was reluctant to join a group, thinking it would be depressing and that she wouldn't fit into a group.

After her first meeting, she never missed another one through her two months of radiotherapy, six months of chemotherapy and six months in between. "I came out feeling wonderful. It was so encouraging. I had found people who were going through the same thing, with whom I could share feelings. As much as your family and friends are there for you, it's not the same as talking with people in the same situation."

A couple of months ago, Fargnoli became a group facilitator.

"It was time to move on. H&C had helped me; it was time to give something back. Also, it was time to stop focussing on myself and focus more on other people. Eventually, you have to let go of your own little worries."

The importance of mutual aid was obvious to Miller when her daughter was ill. "She desperately wanted to meet a Hodgkin's survivor who had got married and had children," she said. And as a parent, she is acutely aware of how devastating a cancer diagnosis in a child can be. Since then, she has "specialized" in working with mothers.

Miller noted that people often need more support after their treatment because they suddenly are on their own again after perhaps months of medical care. Relatives, too, are usually overlooked. "Everybody asks how's your husband (daughter, mother), but they never ask how are you doing? The family can be under tremendous stress."

H&C's philosophy is that everyone is a survivor from the day of their cancer diagnosis, and life should be lived to the full as it comes. Each year, a Cancer Survivors Day is held to "celebrate" with entertainment and refreshments, and a testimonial from someone who's beat cancer.

Program provides education on osteoporosis

TORONTO — It's never too late to look after your bones!

Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care, North York General Hospital Seniors' Health Centre, Yee Hong Centre for Geriatric Care, along with Toronto Public Health, have jointly developed an education, nutrition and exercise wellness program for the growing number of seniors with age-related osteoporosis, a brittle bone disease that is the leading cause of hip fractures.

POWER (Promoting Osteoporosis Wellness Through Education, Exercise and Resources) is a model that can be adopted by other communities, say the organizers. Proctor & Gamble Inc. is providing the seed funding for the program.

By the year 2001, an estimated 31,000 people will be diagnosed with osteoporosis in Toronto. In Canada, the prevalence of this disease rises to one in four women and one in eight men over the age of 50.

Falls were found to be the leading cause of hospital admissions between 1990 and 1995 in North York, accounting for 87.3 percent of all injury-related admissions of seniors aged 65 years and older.

POWER program classes began in May at North York General Hospital Seniors' Health Centre and Yee Hong Centre for Geriatric Care. The Baycrest Centre classes will start in early June.

There is still space available in some classes. The program is specifically designed for seniors who have been diagnosed with osteoporosis.

For more information, call: Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care, 785-2500, ext. 2636; Yee Hong Centre for Geriatric Care, 321-6679; or North York General Hospital Seniors' Health Centre, 756-1040, ext. 8036.

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15 percent pullback rumored

By JAY BUSHINSKY
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Word is spreading at the senior government level that the State Department expects the cabinet to authorize the IDF to withdraw from up to 15 percent of the West Bank.

A source coupled this demand to a warning from the United States that Secretary of State Madeleine Albright will publish the proposals made by American intermediaries, a move that one diplomat said would transform the current differences between Israel and the United States into "an open confrontation."

The source said the cabinet's acceptance of a pullback deemed adequate by the U.S. administration would be followed by President Bill Clinton convening a summit conference in Washington within the next two weeks or by the end of June with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat.

"I have absolutely no first-hand knowledge of any such deadline, except as speculated in the press," said David Bar-Ilan, the prime minister's director of communications. "I don't think it is wise to set deadlines or ultimatums. We're dealing here with questions of Israel's security and not with trivial matters," Bar-Ilan said.

New support for an IDF withdrawal from more than the nine percent minimum set by the cabinet earlier this year came from Internal Security Minister Avigdor Kahalani.

"I believe there will be no solution other than a two-digit percentage point pullback," he said. "The peace process will continue and I have no doubt that The Third Way's stand on this issue at this moment is critical."

Kahalani's Third Way Party is a pivotal member of Netanyahu's coalition.

Asked to define his party's "red line" beyond which it will not remain in the coalition, Kahalani reportedly said it is the cessation of the peace process.

"In my opinion, this is quite close. I won't hold a pistol to the government's forehead, but it should be clear to all that whoever does not want to go on with the process cannot be with us."

Among the indications that intensive diplomatic activity is under way, is the presence in Washington of Netanyahu's foreign policy adviser, Uzi Arad, who was sent from Netanyahu's entourage in China to Washington for talks with U.S. officials. A senior official conceded that "even cabinet ministers" are unaware of the nature of Arad's mission.

Knesset bill aims to end direct election of PM

By MICHAL YUDELMAN
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — The bill to abolish direct election of the prime minister, presented by Uzi Landau (Likud) and Yossi Beilin (Labor), passed preliminary reading in the Knesset 50-45, with one abstention.

Support for the bill crossed party lines, with many Likud and Labor MKs voting for it in what was seen as a rebellion of the back benchers against their party leaders, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Ehud Barak, both of whom are strongly against changing the direct election law.

Netanyahu, who tried to persuade Likud MKs by telephone from China not to support the bill, said there is no chance it will pass first reading.

He was echoed by senior figures from both Likud and Labor, who said it was doubtful the bill will get the required support of 61 MKs.

Eleven Likud members, including National Infrastructure Minister Ariel Sharon and MKs Dan Meridor, Ze'ev Begin, Ehud Olmert, Ruby Rivlin, and Michael Kleiner – supported the bill.

Haim Ramon (Labor), who voted against the bill, said it was "the victory of the dinosaurs, the veterans of both parties and their mental heirs."

Most Likud and Labor MKs are in favor of abolishing direct elections, which are expected to reduce the power of the major parties even further in the next elections to the benefit of the smaller parties.

Netanyahu and Barak, however, are interested in preserving them, as they enable them to get the votes of people who do not necessarily support their respective parties.

Former prime ministers Peres and Yitzhak Shamir, founding members of the Council for Parliamentary Democracy, expressed deep satisfaction with the outcome of the vote.

'Islamic bomb' worries Israel

By DAVID LANDAU
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

Israeli policymakers are treading warily around the potential pitfalls posed for the Jewish state by recent nuclear tests by both India and Pakistan.

Analysis

While Israel shares the world's fears of a dangerous atomic arms race between India and Pakistan – fears heightened last week by the "retaliatory" nuclear tests set off by Pakistan – there are aspects and repercussions of the ominous conflict in the Indian subcontinent that create special challenges for Jerusalem.

Foremost among Israel's concerns is the longstanding fear of an "Islamic bomb" – particularly one in the hands of an extremist state like Iran or Libya.

Israel has long been concerned that in Pakistan's quest to achieve nuclear parity with its larger neighbor, it will turn – or has turned – to rich Muslim states for cash aid and, where available, for brainpower and technology transfers.

There have been scenarios under discussion here in which Libya or Iran request a quid pro quo for such help in the form of subsequent cooperation from Pakistan, also a Muslim country, that would in effect equip them with a finished weapon.

A variation on this scary prospect has Pakistani personnel, motivated by religious and pan-Islamic as well as mercenary considerations, participating in Muslim military action against Israel.

Israeli observers say the fear of Iran acquiring nuclear weapons is the foremost concern of the U.S. administration as well, and it accounts for the severity with which President Bill Clinton has reacted to India's move and to the recent Pakistani response.

These observers say the president is determined to demonstrate that nuclear proliferation will be painfully punished, in the hope that the lesson will be learned in Iran and Libya.

Beyond the Islamic spillover effect, however, Israel is troubled by two other ramifications of the stepped-up arms race on the subcontinent that could affect the Jewish state.

Israel, India and Pakistan are the only three countries that are widely believed to have a nuclear weapons capability who are not signatories to the Non-Proliferation Treaty.

In addition, all three countries have, for different reasons, adhered to a policy of deliberate vagueness in all public pronouncements connected to their nuclear capabilities.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu adhered closely to this long-standing policy. When, asked recently on American television for his reaction to the news that India had detonated five underground nuclear tests, he immediately reiterated that "Israel will not be the first state to introduce nuclear weapons into the Middle East."

The meaning of that statement? Make what you want of it, Netanyahu advised his questioners.

But with India, under its new Hindu nationalist government, boldly deciding to step out of the nuclear closet, and now Pakistan too, people here wonder how long Israel's option of nuclear vagueness will remain available.

There could be, as a consequence of the world's sudden new interest in the danger of proliferation, a reawakening of international pressure – on all three recalcitrants – to come clean and sign onto the Non-Proliferation Treaty.

Israeli policymakers, regardless of their political affiliation, are almost unanimous in their belief that Israel cannot afford to relinquish the vagueness posture – at least as long as the Israeli-Arab conflict remains unresolved.

Indeed, in a readily understandable paradox, it is often the staunchest soft-liners on Israel's hawk-dove spectrum who are the toughest proponents of Israel jealously guarding its nuclear capacity as the surest guarantee of its security.

These doves believe that all progress made in the peace process rests ultimately on the Arab realization that Israel is ineradicable – in no small part thanks to their perception that the Jewish state has the ultimate weapon at its disposal.

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Symposium addresses hearing impairment

By EDGAR ASHER
CJN Israel Correspondent

PETACH TIKVAH — A symposium on hearing impairment in infants and children brought together senior doctors and health care workers from Canada, Israel and Jordan.

The symposium, the fourth such international meeting on the subject of otology and audiology, took place recently at the Schneider Children's Medical Centre of Israel here. The last symposium on the subject was held in Jordan.

Canada, Israel, Jordan participate

The sponsors of the meeting were the Canada International Scientific Exchange Program (CISEPO), the Mount Sinai Hospital and the University of Toronto.

Prof. Arnold Noyek, chair of CISEPO, is a surgeon who also heads the ear, nose and throat department at Toronto's Mount Sinai Hospital.

"CISEPO has been in operation since 1984. It's a volunteer, charity funded, non-governmental organization based at Mount Sinai Hospital," Noyek said.

"Our main focus was in scientific exchange; in fact we trained about 20 physicians and scientists here in Israel, the object being that they would return to their country and take a leadership role in research, education and administration. It's been very effective.

"In 1995, the program became trilateral: Canada, Israel and one other country... All the time we tried to weave Israel into the matrix of the scientific program. I have been academically involved with Israel since the early '70s.

"We started to work with Israel because in those days Israel was being isolated in international medical exchanges and we wanted to overcome that barrier. Now we work with all of Israel's four medical schools and we also have special programs for Soviet olim.

"Three years ago King Hussein and the Israeli government invited us to take a role in peace-building and apply our academic, medical collaborative skills in the region."

Noyek explained that although other medical disciplines will be the subject of joint collaboration, hearing problems have been chosen at present because the incidence of hearing loss in children in the Middle East is very high, particularly with problems arising from genetic deafness.

"We want to establish a hearing-loss association in the Middle East, starting with Israel and Jordan and then extending to the Palestinians, Egyptians and Moroccans. In Canada, we have support from both the Jewish and Arab communities," he said.

Noyek appreciates the cooperation the program received from the Royal Jordanian Medical Services. "They have been wonderful partners," said Noyek. "They recognize that we were are trying to bring something tangible to the region. For example, we have brought from Mount Sinai Hospital the software for the Jordanians to help establish automated hearing tests for the elderly."

'I would like to see more cooperation'

Dr. Mohammed Al-Omari, head of the ear, nose and throat department of the King Hussein Medical Centre in Amman, said, "We have been working together since 1995 on this subject and I hope it will continue successfully. You can see the fruits because you can see we are now again here in Israel. I was also here a year ago and I would like to see more cooperation.

"We need to establish a research forum, so that instead of only curing the patient, we also practise preventative medicine. In both Israel and Jordan, we have almost the same medical problems. We will take from Israel their experiences and we will exchange our own experiences with the Israelis. With the cooperation of the Canadians, it will be a nice way to bring people together and to have successful scientific action. We want to see a deepening of relationships in the medical profession, and I am going to push hard for it."

MILITARY JOINS CELEBRATION
The Jerusalem Day parade in the streets of Israel's capital included the largest participation of the Israel Defence Force in recent years. [Israel photo]

Report scores Swiss bank

By DANIEL KURTZMAN
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

WASHINGTON — A long-awaited report examining Switzerland's hand in the Nazi gold trade is fueling Jewish demands for more Swiss compensation and accountability.

The report, commissioned by the Swiss government and issued by an independent panel of historians, concludes that during the war, Swiss National Bank officials knew they were buying looted gold from Nazi Germany, but turned a blind eye and went ahead with "business as usual."

That charge has been put forth – even documented – by the U.S. government and Jewish officials before, but this marks the first time a study sanctioned by Switzerland has reached that conclusion.

The report of the so-called Bergier Commission once again throws the spotlight on Switzerland's wartime role, even as the United States is preparing to issue its own report that some observers say is intended, in part, to underscore the fact that other countries were involved in wartime transactions with the Nazis.

The U.S. report, on gold transactions between Nazi Germany and other wartime neutrals, is a follow-up to a report last year that focused largely on Switzerland's World War II-era financial dealings.

Like last year's U.S. report, this week's Bergier Commission study criticized Switzerland for its extensive financial dealings with Nazi Germany.

The Bergier report specifically targeted the Swiss National Bank for following an "ethic of the least effort" to trace the origins of the looted gold during the war, even though bank officials "became increasingly aware that Jews and other persecuted groups were being robbed."

The study by historians from Switzerland, the United States, Israel, England and Poland also confirmed that Switzerland was the leading centre of German gold transactions and that the Swiss National Bank was the biggest client.

Overall, the report estimates, Switzerland's central bank bought $280 million (US) worth of gold from the Nazis, which would be valued at $2.5 billion today.

Switzerland has defended its wartime purchases of gold from the German Reichsbank as necessary for maintaining the country's economic stability.

Jewish officials immediately seized on the report's findings as they renewed calls for Switzerland to agree to be part of a global settlement of all Holocaust-era claims stemming from Swiss actions during World War II.

The World Jewish Congress, lawyers representing Holocaust victims, and Switzerland's three largest private banks have been holding settlement talks in recent weeks under the aegis of the U.S. State Department.

But the Swiss government has so far refused to join the commercial banks in the talks.

Thomas Borer, Switzerland's point man on Holocaust restitution issues, said this week as the Bergier report was released that his government "won't take part in any settlement that involves taxpayers' money."

The World Jewish Congress, for its part, called on Switzerland to provide compensation for all looted gold it took in during the war – not just the $58 million it turned over to the Allies in accordance with a 1946 accord reached in Washington.

Under the terms of that agreement, the Allies agreed to drop all claims for looted gold bought from Nazi Germany.

The Swiss government, however, said this week that there were no grounds for any reparation by the government or the Swiss National Bank.

Although the government criticized the central bank's wartime managers for lacking "the necessary sensitivity for moral and political considerations," it said the bank had already made a sufficient gesture by contributing $68 million last year to a humanitarian fund set up to benefit Holocaust victims.

The World Jewish Congress said Switzerland's refusal to provide additional restitution "desecrates the memory of the victims of the Nazis" and is a "moral stain on Switzerland."

"In effect, they have ignored the findings of their own commission," said Elan Steinberg, executive director of the WJC. "Why appoint a commission if you are not going to act on its findings?"

Rabbi Abraham Cooper, associate dean of the Simon Wiesenthal Centre, called the Swiss government's reaction "an exercise in damage control rather than full commitment to the truth."

He said Switzerland must follow up on the report by directly confronting the basic moral issues and come clean with all relevant historical facts if it wants to attain closure.

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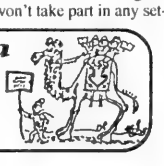

The Week in Israel

May 25

• U.S. House Speaker Newt Gingrich, in Israel with a congressional delegation, reaffirmed his support for moving the U.S. Embassy to Jerusalem from Tel Aviv.

May 26

• Palestinian legislators became embroiled in a melee with Israeli police over the construction of tin huts by Ateret Cohanim, an Orthodox nationalist group in the Muslim Quarter of the Old City. Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert promised the huts would be torn down.

May 27

• The Israeli Broadcasting Authority dismissed two of its journalists and reprimanded two others for apparently doctoring a report involving Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to make it seem as if Netanyahu encouraged chants of "Death to Arabs" when he appeared at a local soccer rally.

(The dismissals were subsequently set aside.)

May 28

• Two IDF soldiers, Yehuda Salem and Avraham Limoy, were killed by Hezbollah in south Lebanon.

May 29

• The Antiquities Authority announced it would begin excavation next week on the site owned by Ateret Cohanim in the Muslim quarter of the Old City.

50 Years Ago

TEL AVIV, *May 19* — The 1,500 beleaguered Jews in the Old City of Jerusalem today received a supply of urgently needed food, water and medical supplies, when Jewish army units battling Arab Legionnaires broke through the Arab ring around the area and later joined forces with the several hundred haggard defenders within the Old City's confines.

Jewish units today captured Sarafand, formerly the biggest British base in Palestine. Several months ago, the Jews had offered to buy the camp from the British for $2.4 million, but the British turned the camp over to the Arab Legion. The camp, of tremendous military strategic importance, is located between Lydda airport and Tel Aviv and controls the main highway from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem.

With files from JTA

Iran to give Hamas $15 million a month

Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — An agreement between Iranian officials and Hamas spiritual leader Sheikh Ahmed Yassin will provide the movement with some $15 million (US) a month and also calls for a Hezbollah-style organization to be set up to assist Hamas in carrying out terrorist activities, according to a report in the Paris-based *Al-Wattan al-Arabi* last week.

As Israeli security and government officials continued to debate whether Yassin will be permitted to return to Gaza, he collected donations of some $300 million from the Gulf states, causing Palestinian Authority (PA) officials to express their concern at his growing power, fearing it will weaken PA Chairman Yasser Arafat's position, Army Radio said last week.

"If Yassin is prevented from returning to Gaza, it will lead to violence and Israel will pay the price," Hamas spokesperson Mahmoud Zahar said last week. He denied that Yassin is collecting funds to carry out attacks on Israel and said he had been invited to undergo medical treatment in Egypt and Saudi Arabia.

"Where he received invitations to visit, he went," Zahar said.

Army Radio said Yassin reportedly asked for donations for Hamas during prayer sessions and meetings he conducted throughout the Gulf states. Throughout his visit, Yassin has continued to criticize the PA and condemn the peace process.

During his visit in Syria, Yassin stressed the pact he had signed with Iran and told reporters: "We refuse to recognize Israel and will continue to oppose all those that do."

Zahar said that it is a known fact that Hamas has offices in Jordan, Syria, Lebanon, and Iran.

According to Israel Television's English news, Jordan and Lebanon have said they will not allow Yassin to enter.

Yassin, who was released from prison last October in a trade for the Mossad agents captured in the abortive assassination attempt on Hamas leader in Jordan, Khaled Meshal, was allowed to leave Gaza to undergo medical treatment three months ago and has since visited over a dozen Arab countries.

Nazis' Czech victims receive compensation

By RANDI DRUZIN
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

PRAGUE — Eduard Belas spent three years during World War II in labor and concentration camps in Slovakia.

Now with money from a joint Czech-German fund for victims of Nazism, Belas, 78, believes that "our suffering has been acknowledged to some degree."

The fund was established in January 1997 by the two governments.

After months of delays, which sparked a series of protests by the country's aging survivors, the fund's officials have begun issuing payments to 6,200 victims of Nazism, Jews and non-Jews. An additional 300 victims are expected to start receiving payments next month.

Approximately 2,000 of the recipients are Jewish.

The German-Czech declaration establishing the fund, which was in negotiation for almost two years, was intended to ease long-standing tensions rooted in Germany's wartime occupation of Czech lands and the subsequent deportation of Sudeten Germans from postwar Czechoslovakia.

Jewish leaders complained at the time of the pact's signing that Germany did not comment on the Holocaust in the declaration, which stated that Germany "regrets the suffering and iniquities inflicted on the Czech people."

The fund, which was originally to be used for communal projects, was created with some $76 million from Germany and about $12.9 million from the Czech government.

"The money will be a great help to these people because some of them have very modest pensions," said Oldrich Stransky, chair of the Association of Former Political Prisoners. "Now they can live the rest of their lives with some dignity."

Those imprisoned up to 12 months will receive some $900 each year, those imprisoned between 12 and 30 months will receive about $1,100, and those imprisoned longer than 30 months will receive about $1,400. All of the payments will be made annually.

Fund officials describe the annual payments as humanitarian aid, saying that the money is intended to help victims with health and social needs.

For his part, Belas said he would use some of the money to subsidize his wife's spinal operation. He said he also plans to use some of the money to purchase a new sofa – and will add the rest to his savings.

"I am glad we are receiving the money," he said.

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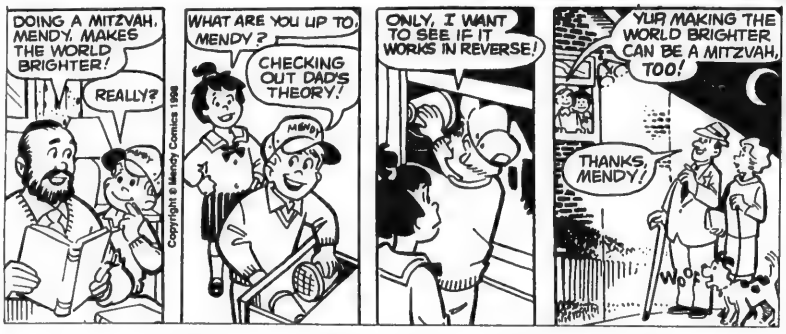
GAMES AT BIALIK

Bialik Hebrew Day School's Senior Division created an interactive learning centre to help celebrate *Israel at 50*. In this photo, a group of children play a board game depicting Israel's past military activities.

CJ Kids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Book explains Jewish spirituality

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

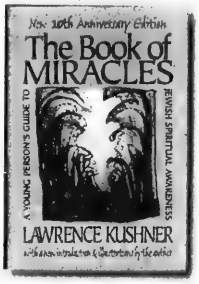
Part of being Jewish is having some kind of a relationship with God. But for most of us, that is not an easy thing.

It may surprise you to know that even grown-ups have a lot of questions. Just where do we find God? What is He like? Does He really listen to us when we pray?

And then there are the questions we sometimes think we shouldn't ask, like "Why do terrible things happen to very good people?"

The Book of Miracles: a young person's guide to Jewish spiritual awareness, by Rabbi Lawrence Kushner (Jewish Lights, 1997), is not a new book. In fact, the publisher has just produced the 10th anniversary edition.

The reason they did this is that the book is so good at explaining about the Jewish people and God, and individual people and God.



You might expect this kind of book to be very hard to read, but *The Book of Miracles* is not at all like that. Rabbi Kushner uses a lot of parables, which are funny, sad or moving stories that teach a lesson. He explains his points in simple language, but not the kind that makes children feel like they are stupid.

For instance, one chapter talks about taking responsibility for what you do. When Adam and Eve ate an apple (actually, it was probably a pomegranate), first they blame each other, then they blamed the snake. Rabbi Kushner knows us, he says, "We too sometimes blame our brothers and sisters, our parents, our enemies, and our friends. We even try to blame God."

God answers that "It is your world. You are free to do with it as you choose...If I [told you what to do], then you would be nothing more than a puppet. Instead, I will tell you what is right and wrong. You are then free to choose for yourself how to act...Just remember that I will hold you responsible for what you do."

One of the best things about *The Book of Miracles* is that it is the kind of book that children and adults will enjoy reading to each other, and taking the time to talk about what is in it.

HOLDING HANDS WITH DR. RUTH

A former kindergarten teacher herself, Dr. Ruth Westheimer enjoys a visit to one of 45 special summer education programs in Gedera for Ethiopian children held throughout Israel by the Coalition for Ethiopian Education, a coalition led by the Joint Distribution Committee. **[Vera Etzion photo]**

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Photographer explores his anger

BY ADAM BELLO

Special to The CJN

TORONTO — In a series dedicated to the Holocaust, photographer Martin Kellerstein has set his sights on expanding the art of the medium, using a novel process where images are painted onto film during development.

He creates a print by manipulating and injecting color into the emulsions of unexposed Polaroid/instant film, and he says that the approach has given him the artistic outlet and emotional release he needed for the subject.

"Creating these pictures gave me a way to explore my personal anger," Kellerstein says. "For years, I wanted to do something that would allow me to explore all these feelings I've had about the Holocaust and the life of the generation that survived after the war.

Creating a series of physical reflections in everyday objects, Martin Kellerstein seeks emotional reactions from viewers in the show Reflections, at Gallery Gabor in Mirvish Village until June 4.

"In this technique, you start with a photograph but end up with a kind of lithograph, which allowed me to capture my emotional state."

With a working title of Chai – Life, Kellerstein says the series of 18 prints explores a tapestry of emotions from terror to hopelessness, and ultimately defiance.

He is currently negotiating a showing of the series in Toronto.

A dentist with a full-time practice in the Riverdale area of Toronto, Kellerstein has also been a photographer for nearly three decades, but he has only come into the eye of the arts community in recent years.

A photograph given by Kellerstein to a friend as a gift was shown to the owner of the Gallery Gabor in Mirvish Village in Toronto. The owner contacted Kellerstein to view more of his portfolio, and the result was a showing of his work in 1996, which was viewed by hundreds.

Last month, Kellerstein returned to Gallery Gabor with the launch of Reflections, an exhibition of black and white photographs. Running until June 4, the show has been well received by the arts community and other gallery owners, he says.

"The title of my exhibition is meant to have a double meaning; it refers to the visual images, many of which were taken in reflection through glass or a mirror, and to the mental and emotional reflections that the images inspire in the viewer."

While his inclination for new approaches to the art of photography may be a result of his being mostly self-taught, Kellerstein has also studied with several acclaimed photographers including Ansel Adams, Fred Picker, and Susan Barron.

"My interests in photography are in the same vein as theirs in that I like to capture the 'quietness' of an image at a given time and place."

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Animated Moses film coming this December

Jewish Telegraphic Agency

LOS ANGELES — *Prince of Egypt*, a full-length animated feature on the life of Moses, won't premiere until Dec. 18, but the publicity buildup is already in full swing.

What is known already is that among the prodigious feats of computer-generated animation will be seven million locusts, 16,000 Israelites fleeing Egypt and a spectacular four-minute parting of the Red Sea.

Taking no chances, the producers have consulted some 500 religious leaders of all faiths – and the staff includes a full-time liaison to the Jewish community.

The voice of Moses will be actor Val Kilmer, and other voice parts will go to Michelle Pfeiffer and Ralph Fiennes. When God speaks, it will likely be a combination of voice, sound effects and music.

DreamWorks faces some tough marketing problems with its $50-million to $60-million project. The studio must convince moviegoers that *Prince of Egypt* is not a cartoon for kids, but a serious feature for sophisticated adults.

Travel, Arts & Business

Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

CONCERT IN AID OF VIENNA CEMETERY

Walter Pagler is a Viennese Catholic who for many years has helped to restore the sprawling old Jewish cemetery of Vienna, which contains more than 60,000 graves and which had been in derelict condition since 1945.

Thanks to Pagler's association, Verein Schalom, much-needed renovations have been started at Vienna's Central Cemetery and 43 other Austrian Jewish cemeteries. However, much work remains to be done.

The Toronto Friends of Walter Pagler are hosting Vienna In Music and Words, an evening of entertainment in aid of the Verein Schalom. Heliconian Club, 35 Hazelton Ave. (off Yorkville), Toronto. $50 per person includes light refreshments (kosher). June 21, 6 p.m. Send cheque to Friends of Walter Pagler, 4383 Bathurst St., Apt. 902, Downsview Ont., M3H 3P8. Donations invited. 922-8002.

* * *

Jewish Music: Heart and Soul: An Evening of Jewish Music and Song features renowned singer and recording artist **Avraham Fried**, who has captivated congregations around the world with his unique blend of traditional cantorial liturgical music and contemporary Chassidic melodies. Sharing the bill are Montreal-born cantor **Ari Klein**, Toronto's own **Nafshenu Orchestra** and the **Toronto Jewish Male Choir**.

Ford Center, North York. June 24, 7:30 p.m. Sponsored by Chabad Lubavitch of Markham. Tickets available at select Jewish bookstores or by phoning 905-709-2372.

* * *

Artists of Castlefield: Eight accomplished artists of Castlefield Ave. present their fifth semi-annual exhibit. Art includes pottery, jewellery, floral arrangements, paintings, sculpture, glass art and painted custom furniture. The artists are **Lenore Atwood**, **Sephi Band**, **Raquel Feldberg**, **Risa Goldenberg-Wexler**, **Patti Linzon**, **Marjorie Moeser**, **Paula Rubin**, **Gayle Shuman** and **Patsy Telpner**.

The exhibit is arranged in six houses in an open-house concept. Just stroll down the street in and out of the artists' home studios; the houses are marked by balloons. Castlefield Ave., six blocks north of Eglinton, between Avenue Rd. and Bathurst St. Three days: June 5, 5 to 8 p.m.; June 6, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.; June 7, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

* * *

Casting Call (1): The Winchevsky Ensemble Theatre is planning current and future projects and seeks production, performance and technical personnel who wish to share their talents with others in a group whose undertakings are oriented to perpetuate Jewish culture. Interested parties are invited to attend a meeting in the Winchevsky's library, 585 Cranbrooke Ave., June 3, 7:30 p.m.

* * *

Casting Call (2): The producers of *The Wizard of Oz*, which opens this month at Toronto's Hummingbird Centre, were feverishly seeking Munchkins last week. Although hopefuls were advised "to follow the yellow brick road" down to the Hummingbird Centre on June 2, it's possible the producers didn't fill their quota.

According to the press release, candidates "must be less than 4'10" tall (height will be checked upon arrival) and seven years old and up. They will be judged on their animation, energy and ability to dance and sing the chorus to *Ding Dong The Witch Is Dead*. Unique qualities such as a 'Munchkin-like voice' will also be considered. 393-7445.

* * *

Israeli Film: The Toronto Jewish Film Society and The Friends of Yiddish are jointly sponsoring a screening of the Israeli film *Too Early To Be Quiet, Too Late to Sing* (1996). The film shows director **Chava Albertstein** visiting Israel's top Yiddish poets and writers. "The elderly artists charm as they recite their works, discuss their lives and make an eloquent argument for the continuing endurance of Yiddishkeit.

Discussion with Toronto Yiddish poet **Simcha Simchovitch** to follow. June 7, 5 p.m. Art Gallery of Ontario, Jackman Hall, 317 Dundas St. W. (McCaul St. entrance). Members free; guests $7.50. (The 7:30 p.m. showing is sold out.)

* * *

Arts Briefs

• Maya Angelou's Unique Lives & Experiences lecture at Roy Thomson Hall has been rescheduled to June 15, 7:30 p.m. 872-4255.

• Postmark deadline is Sept. 21 for entries in The Amadeus Choir's 12th annual Christmas Carol and Chanukah Song-Writing Competition. 446-0188. [amachoir@idirect.com.]

• **Hillel Kagan**'s Subway Paintings are on view at D&E Lake Ltd., 1199 Yonge St. (at Summerhill) through June 24. 944-2324.

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD ANSWERS

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Concerts honor Israel

TORONTO — With the assistance of a financial grant from the Action Committee for Jewish Continuity of the UJA Federation of Greater Toronto, the Lachan Jewish Chamber Choir is presenting two choral concerts commemorating the 50th anniversary of the creation of the State of Israel.

The first performance is on June 14 at the Beach Hebrew Institute 109 Kenilworth Ave., at 8 p.m. For ticket information call Ari Nurman, 757-8393.

The concert will be repeated June 18 in the Studio Theatre of the Ford Centre for the Performing Arts, 5040 Yonge St., also at 8 p.m. Tickets are available from the Ford Centre box office or through TicketMaster 870-8000 or by calling 787-0393.

The concerts will feature a newly commissioned medley of songs reflecting the history of the state of Israel by Russian-Canadian Jewish composer, Yefiat Adler. The program will focus on the music of the history of Israel.

Lachan, the Toronto Jewish Chamber Choir, is a group of singers from the foremost Jewish choirs in Toronto. They are drawn together by the love of Jewish music and the desire to explore it to its fullest and share it with the broadest possible audience.

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Bathurst & Steeles Yorkdale Subway (Bus Lane 13) Jane/Wilson (Coffee Time)	10:15AM 10:30AM 10:45AM 3:00PM	8:00PM 8:00PM 6:00PM 10:00PM
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Dragon Centre (Hong Kong Bank)	9:45AM	5/6:00PM
MARKHAM	**DEPARTURE**	**RETURN**
Kennedy Rd. & Steeles Ave. (Baker's Dozen Donut)	10:45AM 2:15PM 4:15PM 9:45PM	5:45/7:00PM 10:00PM 12:00AM 5:00AM
RICHMOND HILL	**DEPARTURE**	**RETURN**
Commerce Gate (505 Hwy 7 Second Cup)	11:15AM 2:30PM	5:45/7:00PM 10:00PM
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Travel, Arts & Business

Travel Talk

BY BILL GLADSTONE

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES FROM ALL OVER

Poland & Ukraine: Travcoa's Rivers of the Ukraine and Black Sea Cruise departs Sept. 5, during the so-called Velvet Season when the mountain and sea air combine with the scent of the local evergreens to form a soft, fragrant atmosphere that locals believe is a tonic for the lungs.

Itinerary includes an overland journey in Poland to Krakow and Warsaw, as well as Kiev, Odessa, Yalta and various resort areas and villages along the Dnieper River. Phone 800-563-005 in Canada; 800-992-2003 in the United States.

* * *

Midrash Program: The Philadelphia-based Institute for Contemporary Midrash is hosting its second annual week-long intensive training in Midrashic art, dance, storytelling, writing and bibliodrama, July 6 to 12 at the Elat Chayyim Retreat Center in the scenic Hudson Valley near New Paltz, N.Y.

The retreat is intended for educators, clergy, artists and laity who wish to use midrashic methods to explore sacred text in the classroom, from the pulpit, in their own work or in community settings. Participants from all denominations are welcome. Besides a diverse intellectual program, the retreat features kosher vegetarian meals, recreational facilities and a complete children's camp. 215-247-8655. Email [midrash@aol.com.]

* * *

A monument to the victims of the Warsaw Ghetto, part of the itinerary on the Travoca Rivers cruise. [J. Serge photo]

Japanese Holocaust Museum: In a country in which the winds of anti-Semitism sometimes blow despite a lack of Jews, the existence of a Holocaust Museum must be regarded as an encouraging symbol of understanding. The Holocaust Education Center in Fukuyama, Hiroshima district, is dedicated to the memory of the roughly 1.5 million Jewish children who were victimized in the Holocaust, and has adopted Anne Frank as its special patron.

Already, some 20,000 visitors, including 7,000 children, have toured the facility which is under the directorship of Rev. Makoto Otsuka. (+81) 849-55-8801. Web site [www.urban.ne.jp/home/hec jpn/].

* * *

Kosher Africa: Celafrica Tours, a Johannesburg-based tour operator, offers kosher tours to South Africa, Zimbabwe and Botswana with all food glatt kosher prepared under the supervision of the Beth Din of Jahannesburg and of Cape Town. Itineraries include visits to private game lodges and hotels, Victoria Falls, safari excursions, and travel through beautiful forests, winelands, and along a spectacular coastline. Email [celpro@hixnet.co.za], Web site [www.celafrica.com].

* * *

Yiddish-Chassidic Tour of Ukraine: Prof. Dov Noy, a world-renowned authority on Jewish folklore and ethnic history, is to accompany a seven-day tour, In the Footsteps of the Hassidic Masters and Yiddish Authors, that leaves Israel June 30 for the Ukraine. The itinerary includes visits to the graves of early founders and masters of the Hassidic movement: Baal Shem Tov, Nachman Bratslaver, Natan Nemirover and Levi Yitzhak Berdichever. A visit to Pereyaslev-Khmelnitzky, the birthplace of Sholom Aleichem, and many other sites are also included. The tour, conducted in Yiddish and kosher throughout, is sponsored by the Samuel A. Klurman Institute for Yiddish and Yiddishkeit in Eastern Europe in association with the Tel Aviv-based World Council for Yiddish Culture. Megiddo Travel Agency, 21 Ahad Haam St., Tel Aviv. Phone 972-03-517-1222; fax 972-03-517-1227.

* * *

Israel Notes

•Avis in Israel has upgraded its internet site. The site includes information concerning the fleet, stations, locations, conditions of rental and other general information. The web address is [www.avis.co.il].

• The Israeli Society for the Protection of Nature is offering two 14-day, 4-border desert excursions, departing Oct. 14 and Nov. 11. Highlights include a three-day camel caravan through the Negev; a jeep journey to Petra, Jordan; a three-day hike through Egypt's Sinai desert, including a stop at Saint Catherine Monastery; and a visit to Jericho, the world's oldest city, governed by the Palestinian Authority. Israel Government Tourist Office, 964-3784; Web site [www.infotour.co.il].

• From June to August, the luxurious Renaissance Jerusalem Hotel is offering a special We Love Kids family vacation package. For a minimum of seven nights, the rate for a couple with up to four children in two rooms with breakfast daily is US $242. Special programs and instructors for children provided. Greater reductions apply for longer stays. Phone 02-6599999; fax 02-6511824.

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Firms seek partners

MONTREAL — Israel's leading biotechnology firms will be in Montreal for a two-day event spotlighting new technologies and opportunities for strategic partnerships with Canadian biotech companies.

The Israel-Quebec Partnering Meeting will take place June 9 and 10, at the Biotechnology Research Institute of Canada, 6100 Royalmount Ave. The event is being sponsored by the Biotechnology Research Institute of Canada and the Government of Israel Economic Mission to Canada.

Up to 15 Israeli companies are expected to attend, including Alomone Labs Ltd., Ester Neurosciences Ltd., Hitech Associates-Biotechnology Framework, XTI Biopharmaceuticals Ltd., CBD Technologies Ltd., D-Pharm Ltd., Peptor Ltd., Gamidagen Ltd., Pharmos Ltd., Savyon Diagnostics, Orgenics and Luridant Ltd.

Travel, Arts & Business

History and the Jewish sensibility

By BILL GLADSTONE
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — With his second successive book having reached the *New York Times* bestseller list, author Thomas Cahill says he expects that the newer book, *The Gifts of the Jews: How a Tribe of Desert Nomads Changed the Way Everyone Thinks and Feels*, will be the most important work in an envisioned seven-volume series. The Hinges of History, through which he intends to recount pivotal moments in the evolution of human sensibility.

The first book, *How the Irish Saved Civilization*, sold more than a million copies and was on the New York Times list for 18 months. "I was just getting my feet wet with that book," Cahill admits. "It was a way of gathering an audience whose attention I now have. The book about the Irish was a kind of finger exercise, a means of getting myself started."

In *The Gifts of the Jews*, Cahill traces the stories of Abraham, Lot, Moses, David, Amos, Isaiah, Naomi, Ruth and other biblical personalities. As he examines, interprets and comments upon key passages from the Torah, he reveals a significant knowledge of the ancient world, intermittently finding relevant comparisons and insights in the words of modern writers like Bob Dylan.

The book begins in ancient Sumer with a discussion of the pagan antecedents of Abraham. The pagans, Cahill explains, had a cyclical view of history – for them the present was merely a repetition of the past – and were without a sense of destiny. "Then Abraham arrives on the scene with a different kind of world view" and a linear view of history, he continues.

"With Abraham, time became real for the first time. Abraham is taught to expect something new, something that has never been before. Rather than recurrence, he's taught to expect surprise."

Abraham, according to Cahill, never was a strict monotheist, even though the God that speaks to him becomes larger and larger as the story progresses. "We see here monotheism in its tadpole stage… With Moses you get a stricter monotheism, with the revelation at Mount Sinai. There's a 'monotheistic personalism' that continues to evolve throughout the Bible."

Pagan antecedents of Abraham

In preparation for writing *The Gifts of the Jews*, the articulate 57-year-old New Yorker (who is not Jewish) became a visiting scholar for two years at the Jewish Theological Seminary of America, where he learned to read the Torah in its original Hebrew. "I wanted to be able to read the Bible with Jews," he explains. "I found that a fascinating experience because Jews do not read the Bible the way Christians do.

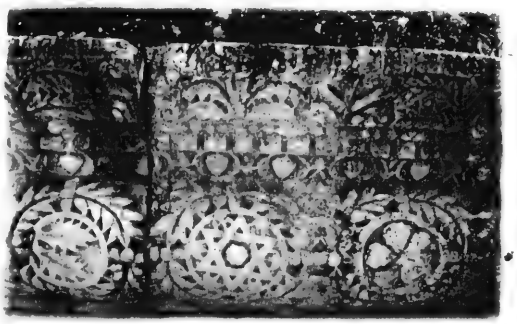
"For Jews, the Bible is the story of their family, and they have a much more immediate relationship with the story. For Christians, when they sit down in a Bible session — I swear, they sit and wait for someone to tell them authoritatively what it means, and then they move on to the next passage. That's a bit of a caricature, perhaps, but it's not too far from the truth.

"Jews, on the other hand, approach the Bible, not with less reverence, but more informally, and they don't expect in any one sitting or session to come to the ultimate truth of a passage. Because of that, there's much more give and take, and there's much more elbow room for everyone."

Cahill says he is trying to make history accessible to modern readers. His envisioned series is not like Will and Ariel Durant's encyclopedic retelling of history which was "much more intellectual than what I'm doing. I think of myself as doing a history of the development of a sensibility, which is a word that combines both thinking and feeling. It's not just cerebral. I'm telling the story of the evolution of Western sensibility, and I'd like to tell it as simply as possible.

"There's no point in writing 500-page books since no one has time for them any more. Small books are better. Most of what people have to say can be said in 300 pages or less."

The Gifts of the Jews, which is 291 pages long, is published by Doubleday with a cover price of $32.95.



Carved in Stone by Jordana Michaele documents a people who have survived to celebrate many millenia.

Photography exhibit documents history of a 'First Nation'

TORONTO — Carved in Stone is an exhibition of photographs taken by artist Michaele Jordana when she travelled to the Middle East for the first time last summer.

The exhibit documents a people – a "First Nation" – who have survived to celebrate several millennia. The photographs depict the ancient culture of the Israelites, ancestors of the modern Jewish people, whose beliefs remain "carved in stone," the same today as they were millennia ago.

"I felt completely humbled in a land so sacred to so many people," Jordana said of her trip to the Middle East. "In Israel the air is heavy with a sense of Divine Presence, as if there is a molecular hookup at this particular point on earth with eternity.

"My whole being was jarred by ancient memories that seemed to affect virtually everyone. And yet these images exist alongside and within a contemporary and vital society."

The exhibit is running until June 15 at the Beach Hebrew Institute, 109 Kenilworth Ave. Toronto. Call 694-7942 for information.

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STRUB'S Pickle Corner STRUB'S

Vol. 1, No. 3 • June 4, 1998

Hello! How are ya? A special welcome to our new readers in Buffalo, Rochester and Western New York State. Thanks to all of you who took the time to write me. I am looking for your **funniest pickle moment**, and your **happiest pickle memory** to print in upcoming editions of "Pickle Corner". Keep the e-mail, letters and pictures coming!

Question of the Month

Dear Pickle Guy:

Seeing your "Pickle Corner" in the *Buffalo Jewish Review* brought back nice memories of my growing up in Hamilton. The biggest treat was going over to Strub's and sampling pickles right out of the barrel. Whenever my family came to visit me in Buffalo, they brought my favourite "Strub's" pickles. I'm glad that I can now find "Strub's" with the same homemade flavour, right here in Buffalo. Thanks!

— *Sincerely, E.G.R., Williamsville, New York*

The Pickle Guy Replies

Dear E.G.R.:

You'll be glad to know that after 70 years of pickle making, **we still barrel cure and cold pack** our full sour pickles in their original brine, according to my great-grandmother's recipe. Have you tried our other family recipes for Homestyle pickles? Our **Bread & Butter** and our **Baby Dill** pickles are also **"just like Bubie used to make"**. All your favourite "Strub's" pickles are now available at your local supermarket, in the refrigerated section. If you don't see them, ask your store manager for "Strub's" pickles, by name. Thank you for your wonderful letter. I'm pleased that you and your family will continue to have many Simchas with "Strub's" pickles.

Remember, send your letters, pictures, and postcards to me:

Pickle Guy
c/o Strub's Pickle Corner
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e-mail: STRUBPICKL@AOL.COM

I answer **ALL** my mail, and if I use your letter in "Pickle Corner", I'll send you one of my "Pickle Guy" T-shirts and Hats. Thanks, and talk to you next month in the July 2 issue of the CJN, BJR and JL.

Got a question? Write to me, the Pickle Guy — I answer ALL my mail!

Business Profile

Apartments realtor takes up the cause of Reena

BY ADAM BELLO
Special to The CJN

MARKHAM — As a result of their volunteer work, Ira Sack and Danny Iannuzziello share a unique perspective of the Jewish community.

Iannuzziello, an apartment building realtor who formed Skyview Realty in 1989, and his sales associate Ira Sack have taken up the cause of Reena, an organization dedicated to helping people with developmental disabilities and integrating them into the community as much as possible.

As chair of Batay Reena (literally the homes of Reena), the organization's non-profit housing board, Iannuzziello's job is to match housing to the needs of Reena clients.

The two men have drawn on the chemistry they discovered between them in volunteering as the foundation for their business success since Sack became a sales associate with Skyview in January 1997.

"A healthy business starts with having the right team dynamic, and I have been fortunate to share that on two levels with Ira," says Iannuzziello.

"If you work with people who complement your skills, your business will work as a whole greater than the sum of its parts."

One of the few real estate brokers in Toronto specializing in selling apartment complexes, the Markham-based businessman of Italian descent has not only built a cross-cultural bridge through his experiences with Reena, but volunteering has also provided him with professional insights that have shaped the course of his business.

"I didn't know it at the time, but there was this parallel between building up Skyview and the undertakings in Reena that I felt very strongly about," he says.

"Over time, the projects I had worked on in Batay Reena became experience-builders that I took into my own work."

The sentiments are echoed by Sack, chair of the Reena Foundation's fundraising board. When they met through Reena, Sack says, the rapport they shared in volunteering readily carried over into Skyview.

"It was a natural coming together, in that Danny and I complement each other and admire qualities the other possesses," Sack says.

"In Reena and Skyview, we have seen how the other excels and sparkles. His style is more serious because he approaches the situation from a management and strategy perspective. Mine lies in the people skills, and keeping situations from getting too intense.

"We take on different roles and even try to be a little like the other, but we go into it each day knowing that our primary goal is satisfying the client, not our individual egos. That is the only important thing."

Iannuzziello's start in apartment building realty came in the early 1980s. After receiving his real estate licence, he learned the business of building management by running a triplex his father had entrusted to him and his sister Angela. Having thus learned about the business, he entered the realty profession full time. Working as a real estate agent, Iannuzziello gained skills in assembling groups of investors together while assessing building management needs.

He formed Skyview in 1989, entering the building marketplace during a slump. But by using Skyview's early days as a learning experience, Iannuzziello was able to be persistent about finding opportunities.

He developed the business based on a track record of effective marketing strategies and quick turnarounds in the sale of buildings across Toronto. Skyview has had "non stop success" since 1993, he says.

"The key in apartment brokerage is knowing the needs and wants of the buyers," Iannuzziello says. "Jewish investors have a strong presence in this marketplace, and working with an organization tied as closely to this community as Reena not only lets me do something worthwhile within it, but gives me professional and cultural insights that became assets in doing business."

Skyview Realty's Danny Iannuzziello (left) and Ira Sack (right) have drawn on their leadership in Reena as a foundation for success in apartment building realty.

Iannuzziello has not only seen his business evolve, he has also gained some admirers within the real estate industry and the Jewish community.

George Friedmann, an apartment building manager and current developer of the Windsor Arms Hotel in Toronto, spoke of his previous dealings with Iannuzziello and Sack. "I could see [during the sale of apartments under my management,] how they put attention on ethics and providing planning options, and you need to work from those fundamentals to be in this area of realty in the long run," he says.

"Danny and Ira are more than salesmen, because they understand how to bridge the gap between the buyer's needs and the seller's wants."

While the relationship with Reena has been fruitful for Skyview, Iannuzziello's work with Reena came out of a personal situation. His involvement with the organization and the Toronto Jewish community began 14 years ago when he and Angela sought programming for their brother Franco. They were unable to find suitable help in the Italian community, but they discovered what they were looking for through Reena.

Franco, 32, now lives in a Reena apartment unit and participates in a workshop to develop job placement skills.

Today, all three Reena chairs work out of the same building. Angela Iannuzziello, who is chair of the Reena board, shares professional office space with Skyview as an engineer in transportation planning.

"Reena has been very supportive of our family, giving us the opportunity to participate in creating individualized programming for Franco and others facing similar situations," she says.

Iannuzziello says he and Sack are purchasing a home at Bathurst Street and Steeles Avenue to be used as a Reena seniors' residence. It is expected to be in operation by 1999. The average age of Reena clients is projected to be 55 by 2005.

Iannuzziello says they are currently developing a similar model for families of clients-in-waiting to purchase apartment units.

Reflecting on their relationship, Sack says the interaction of Jewish and Italian culture in the daily operation of Skyview has created a healthy exchange of ideas ... and possibly life choices.

"By the time we are ready to retire, I will probably live at Villa Columbo and Danny will stay at Baycrest Terrace."

Sonny Goldstein, CLU,CH.F.C.
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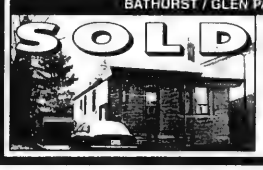

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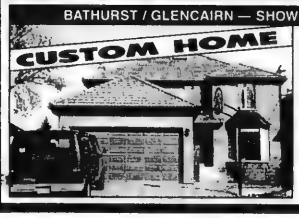

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330 OBITUARIES

330 OBITUARIES

SAUNDERS, Lawrence - on May 14, 1998, late of 70 Macklin North.
SOROKIN, Susan - on May 14, 1998, late of 49 St. Clair Ave.W., #503.
LEITNER, Rose - on May 15, 1998, late of 205 Cummer Ave.
BARASCH, Samuel Leo - on May 16, 1998, late of 74 Harrison Rd.
DENNIS, Louis - on May 16, 1998, late of 5 Fisherville Rd., #1604.
SOCKEN, Adele - on May 16, 1998, late of 98 Brighton Ave.
HALBERSTADT, Joan - on May 17, 1998, late of 704 Conacher Dr.
LEWAR, Richard - on May 17, 1998, late of 36 Nanton Ave.
ROSS, David - on May 17, 1998, late of 260 Heath St. W., #1405.
GRANER, Harry - on May 18, 1998, late of 645 Castlefield Ave., #523.
KIRSH, Sheldon - on May 18, 1998, late of 10 Longwood Dr.
MOSCOE, Ruth - on May 18, 1998, late of 4415 Bathurst St., #1203.
RIFE, Sam - on May 18, 1998, late of 6200 Bathurst St., #906.
SHEHORI, Jack - on May 18, 1998, late of 56 Brumwell St.
SIEGEL, Louis - on May 18, 1998, late of 85 Skymark Dr., #2802.
ABRAMOWICZ, Louis - on May 19, 1998, late of 21 Madoc Dr.
GODFREY, Joseph - on May 19, 1998, late of 27 Misty Cres.
BLOOM, Jerry - on May 20, 1998, late of 33 Huntington Park Dr.
MENDELSOHN, Leah - on May 20, 1998, late of 105 Balmoral Ave.
EBER, Betti - on May 21, 1998, late of 205 Cummer Ave.
GOLDSTONE, Sidney - on May 21, 1998, late of 2075 Bayview Ave.

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BORODA, Yevsey - on May 19, 1998, late of 4455 Bathurst St.
WISE, Freda - on May 19, 1998, late of 282 Wilmington Ave.
ROTMAN, Molly - on May 21, 1998, late of 550 Cummer Ave.
SHULMAN, Gordon - on May 22, 1998, late of 8 Godstone Rd.
TCHMOUKH, Maria - on May 22, 1998, late of 5935 Bathurst St.
FERGUS, Rae - on May 24, 1998.
HARKAVI, Maria - on May 25, 1998, late of 6030 Bathurst St.
HONICKMAN, Irving - on May 26, 1998, late of 22 Invermay Ave.

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335 UNVEILING

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Mount Sinai Memorial Park
986 Wilson Avenue
Beth Sholom Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
SOLOMON BURKE ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, June 7th, 10:30 a.m.
Pardes Shalom Cemetery
Community 3 Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
BERNARD MIDANIK ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, June 7th, 11:00 a.m.
Mount Sinai Memorial Park
Sunnyside Lodge Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
SALA GRANKOWICZ ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, June 7th, 11:00 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Bathurst, South of Steeles
Zaglembier Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
FLORENCE ORTOFSKY ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, June 7th, 11:30 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Warsaw-Lodzer Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
MAX AND MOLLY GROSBERG ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, June 7th, 11:00 a.m.
Mount Sinai Memorial Park
Oddfellows Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument in loving memory of the late
GERRY PENCER ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, June 14th, 11:00 a.m.
Pardes Shalom Cemetery
Dufferin St., N. of Major Mackenzie
Holy Blossom Section
Friends and relatives are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
RACHEL KOTZER ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, June 7th, 11:30 a.m.
Mount Sinai Memorial Park
Pride of Israel Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
GOLDIE ROSEN ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, June 7th, 12:00 noon
Mount Sinai Memorial Park
986 Wilson Avenue
Shaarei Tefillah Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
CHARLES LEA, Q.C. ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, June 7th, 12:45 p.m.
Mount Sinai Memorial Park
986 Wilson Avenue
Beth Sholom Synagogue (Old)
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
Ester Sendrovich ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, June 7th, 1:00 p.m.
Pardes Shalom Cemetery
Beth Emeth Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

335 UNVEILINGS

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
DAVID SMITHER ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, June 14th, 11:00 a.m.
Dawes Road Cemetery
Beth David Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

TO PLACE AN UNVEILING NOTICE PLEASE CALL AT LEAST 14 DAYS PRIOR TO THE DATE OF THE UNVEILING

338 SHIVA CATERING

335 UNVEILINGS

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
JOHN UNTERMAN ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, June 7th, 1:30 p.m.
Roselawn Cemetery
Agudas Achim Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

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Soccer squad a cosmopolitan collection of players

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

Members of the Kadimah soccer club (top row, from left): Henry Charles Cowen, Ayal Cohen, Ron Ijack and David Kotkowsky. Kneeling (from left): Fred Cowen and David Hapier. [Paul Lungen photo]

TORONTO — David Hapier may be typical of the kind of player who represents Kadimah in the Hispano-America Soccer League.

Born in Kiev in the former Soviet Union, Hapier and his family emigrated to Italy when he was a youngster. In Italy, he started kicking the ball around and after the family moved to Toronto when he was nine, he played for a number of local teams including Toronto Italia, Azzuri and North York Cosmos.

A member of the Canadian national program at 16, at 18 he laced up his cleats for the North York Rockets in the Canadian Soccer League.

For a few years he lived in one of the world's soccer hotbeds, Buenos Aires, where he played for the Rangers in the country's second division. He represented Canada at the Maccabi Youth Games in 1987, winning a bronze medal and he was on the national team at the 1989 Maccabiah Games in Israel.

All in all, a pretty cosmopolitan CV for a guy who's only 28 years old. But compared to his teammates, it's not all that unusual as most of the members of Kadimah hail from somewhere other than "The Manor."

Drawn from players from Israel, the former Soviet Union and even a few Canadians, Kadimah recently opened its inaugural season in the Hispano-America Soccer League with a 2-1 loss to Cocha Bamba, a team consisting of Chilean expatriates.

Henry Charles Cowen, the team's feisty general manager, said Kadimah could have won that game but for a couple of near-misses at the opposition's goal post. He said the team's play was satisfactory — but it will have to be at least that considering the high calibre of the opposition they'll face this year.

The league, made up of teams representing Latin American countries like Chile, Argentina and Uruguay, is considered an international "B Division," the equivalent of a European country's "B Division." Short of a professional league, it's the best soccer that's played in Toronto, he said.

Although he was born in Israel, Tamir Bar-On learned the game with teams from Armourdale (now called the North York Hearts). At 12 or 13, he was on the community's premier team and in his late teens, he played midfield for McGill's Varsity team.

The Hispano-America league "is a very good league...the top level amateur soccer." A veteran of the 1987 Youth Games bronze medal team, Bar-On said Kadimah's strength is hard work and discipline. As for the team's cosmopolitan makeup, he quoted an old Hungarian saying: "You need guys who can carry the piano and you need guys who can play the piano."

Boris Ladizhinsky, 22, is the team's captain and secretary. Born in Kishinev, Moldova, he plays sweeper and left fullback. Last season, he played with about six of his current Kadimah teammates for Toronto Maccabi in the Hispano-America League, but they decided to form their own squad this season.

"I think we're (Kadimah) better. We have a lot better chemistry this year. We're a lot better disciplined and we have more talent," he said. Last year, Toronto Maccabi finished ninth out of 12 teams.

Ayal Cohen, 29, is a veteran of the Israeli second division where he played for Hapoel Ashkelon as halfback/striker. Used to playing before sizable crowds, Cohen said the biggest difference between soccer in Canada and in Israel is that in Israel it's "a religion, here it's a pastime."

Roma Ijack, 23, was born in Kishinev, grew up in Israel but moved to Toronto during his high school years. He played for Newtonbrook and like Ladizhinsky went to the OFSAA championships.

David Kotkowsky, 25, was born in Jerusalem and at 17 played for Jerusalem United in the country's second division. He moved to Canada two years ago.

Fred Cowen, 25, plays left midfield for Kadimah and was an alternate for Toronto Maccabi last year. Cowen played high school soccer for South Nepean in Ottawa's first division but "this league is more competitive," he said.

"It's very technical. They play very aggressively. They go in hard so you have to play with all your heart."

Playing with guts and determination is his father, Henry's, credo when it comes to soccer. It's the way he played when he was on Hakoach Toronto, a team supported by the Hungarian community in the 1960s. Back then, the team played in the city's "ethnic league," Cowen said, and "we experienced lots of anti-Semitism."

There was so much tension at the games that police cruisers were dispatched to the games and they were parked next to the field to serve as a deterrent and to be on hand to break up any fights.

"A lot of dirty words were exchanged back then. Now, it's improved. You don't hear a dirty word now and there's no roughness. Now things usually go smoothly."

Cowen, who's vice-president of the Canadian Transplant Association, Ontario region and an ardent proponent of carrying organ donation cards, said Kadimah is open to sponsors wishing to assist the team.

For more information, Cowen can be reached at 905-669-4277.

Kadimah's full roster includes: Ladizhinsky, Ijack, Cowen, Bar-On, Cohen, Kotkowsky, Hafier, Yaron Napastek, Iouri Gordon, Ran Leshen, Misgav Shram, Stan Afriat, Igor Zaslawsky, Luis Aguiar, Nadav Keinigstein, Yariv Sharon, Amir Cohen, Boris Caledonio and Ziv Fishman. The team is coached by David Rumack.

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The Inside Back

Spirituality in the Workplace

As I was saying...

By RON CSILLAG

Among the positive aspects of having the United States as a neighbor is the luxury of having the latest social trend or fad tested before it lands here. We have a cushion of months, sometimes years, before the newest straw in the wind is proven, or not, in the United States.

Canadians should gird for the latest development, because, with a little luck and a change in attitudes, it will take hold here.

It revolves around a buzz word – spirituality – not the New Age wind-chimes and whale-sounds wafting out of California or New Mexico – but a whole new way in which we regard work and the workplace.

Those of us who work in the Jewish community encounter spirituality, or closeness with God, or some identification with Judaism, almost every day. But for the rest of the labor force, work can be a dreary, barren place where our hopes are dashed and our souls are starved.

Spirituality in the workplace is roaring across the United States like a tidal wave, spawning a cottage industry of books, tapes, retreats and consultants, and it's certain to crash here in some form or another. There's a hunger for workplace spirituality, Americans have been told, for a host of reasons: the approaching end of the millennium, baby boomers who have discovered religion because they're now realizing they are mortal; people working longer hours, despite predictions the opposite would happen; and an inward reaction to a corporate world that reaps billions while "downsizing" (read ruining the lives of) loyal employees.

A portent for Canada was gauged last week with the attendance of more than 200 senior managers, human resource experts and assorted labor mavens at a three-day conference in Toronto on Spirituality in the Workplace. There, they heard some 75 diverse and multi-faith speakers, including several rabbis, expound on how to take a grassroots groundswell into the heart of corporate Canada.

It was the first major conference in Canada to explore this emerging trend. Notable too, was that it was sponsored by an improbable alliance of blue-chip companies and various faith groups.

This had all the makings of a touchy-feely exercise, but it wasn't. Clearly, something's afoot. The workplace used to represent life-long security, a sense of purpose, and a decent wage. Now, it is bound up with outsourcing, "rightsizing," anxiety, overwork and underachievement.

For Martin Rutte, one of the conference's keynote speakers, all these issues are issues of the spirit. Rutte is the co-author of *Chicken Soup for the Soul at Work*, which has sold over 600,000 copies in North America. A Hamilton native, his own spirituality is rooted in that city's Orthodox Beth Jacob Synagogue. Now based in Santa Fe, N.M., Rutte, after much initial resistance, has been exploring workplace spirituality for 15 years, and has been a consultant to several high-profile companies.

He noticed serious morale problems in the corporate world due to weakened and dispirited work forces. Today, there's a "festering cynicism," he said, due, in part, to the fact that 60 percent of the thousands of new jobs created in the United States pay less than $10 an hour.

But spurred by socially conscious companies like The Body Shop, Ben & Jerry's and even the World Bank, which recently grew a conscience, more and more workplaces are going spiritual: creating environments where talk of God is not frowned on; advocating worship or meditation; conducting business ethically; and imbuing work practices with spiritual components.

More tangibly, some companies are allowing their employees to volunteer at homeless shelters or for religious causes – on company time.

Rutte says it's paid off in the United States with skyrocketing creativity, the unleashing of employees' potential and more evidence of moral and ethical behavior. Workers are taking fewer sick days and managers are less stressed.

As Rutte put it, the past 20 years of business have been driven by information technology. The next 20, he predicts, will be driven by the application of consciousness.

Unlike Pet Rocks or disco, this is a trend to watch and welcome.

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STRAWBERRY COFFEECAKE

Cake:
1 cup all purpose flour
2 tblsp. butter or margarine, melted
1 1/2 cups sliced strawberries
2 tsp. baking powder
1/2 cup sugar
1/2 cup milk
1 egg

Topping:
1/2 cup all purpose flour
1/2 cup sugar
1/4 cup butter or margarine, softened
1/4 cup chopped walnuts or pecans

Preheat oven to 375°F. Grease an 8" square pan; set aside. In large mixer bowl, combine all cake ingredients except strawberries. With electric mixer on medium, beat 2 mins. until well blended. Pour batter into prepared pan, and arrange strawberries evenly over batter.

To prepare topping, in medium bowl, combine flour and sugar. With pastry blender or two knives in scissor fashion, cut in butter until mixture resembles coarse crumbs. Stir in nuts. Sprinkle topping evenly over strawberries. Bake 35-40 mins. or until golden brown. Cool on wire rack 15 mins. Serve warm, or cool completely.

About Seniors

Dear Jesse,

I don't know where to turn. My mother is presently in the hospital recovering from hip surgery. She fell in the bathroom while taking a shower. Now, she can no longer walk by herself and is extremely fearful of falling again. Although she is elderly and somewhat frail, before this happened she lived alone and was very independent. I'm afraid that they will be sending her home soon even though she cannot take care of herself. I work fulltime and have no siblings with whom to share this overwhelming responsibility. When I suggested to my mother she stay with me for a while she stubbornly refuses. What can I do?

Worried Daughter

Dear Worried,

I suggest you speak with the hospital social worker who has assessed your mother, in order to clarify her limitations as well as her capabilities. The social worker will devise a discharge plan accordingly, making any necessary referrals. This might include a doctor's recommendation for rehabilitation and physiotherapy. Other community services such as Meals on Wheels and homecare services can be set up to assist your mother at home for as long as necessary. Additionally, it would be advisable to have her bathroom assessed by an occupational therapist in order to ensure the necessary bathroom aids are in place. These can include a proper non-skid mat, grab-bars, bathchair and adjustable telephone shower. These aids will reduce the risk for falls in the future.

As for yourself, being the sole caregiver can be exhausting, stressful and overwhelming at times. You might want to seek out a caregiver support group where you can find mutual support, information and suggestions as to how to care for an elderly relative while still looking after your own needs. These groups are often offered by local community groups and social service agencies.

Readers are invited to send any questions they have for Jesse to The CJN. *Jesse is the executive director of Jewish Support Services for the Elderly (JSSE) in Montreal.*

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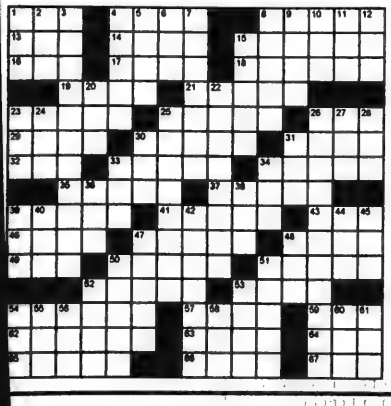
CROSSWORD PUZZLE



Across
1. Yiddish disdain
4. Writer Irving
8. Plague?
13. Long before
14. Methuselah
15. Anakim giant
16. Israelite city
17. Developed
18. Marrano language
19. Hillel
21. Moses' bush
23. Son of Gad
25. Imitated Mauri Rose
26. Used his tuches
29. Ache
30. Kol ___
31. Inheritor
32. Not on Pesach?
33. Western Israeli border
34. Singer Simon
35. Mezuzot sites
37. Emma Lazarus gift
39. One Supreme ___
41. Beg
43. Biblical fishing device
46. Seder manner
47. Prepare Seder bone
48. Seder drink
49. Last degree
50. Shofarot
51. Made aliyah
52. Israelite
53. Found in Charoset
54. Talmud component
57. Israeli Mountain
59. Tis, to Nelly Sachs
62. Retail great
63. Circumcision
64. Stooge
65. Breathes
66. Ran quickly
67. Vote yes

Down
1. Rage
2. Freud invention
3. Chrain
4. Gad's son
5. Golem?
6. K'tonton
7. Teller and Koch
8. Tzedakah
9. Zaftig (Eng.)?
10. "Friend" to Wiesel
11. Copeland on track
12. Alphabet run
15. Breathing
20. Shikker's choice?
22. Jericho
23. Egyptian snake
24. Lox starters
25. Out of Israel
26. Erica Jong novel
27. Need chicken soup?
28. Nizer pleasure
30. ___ 'easter
31. Brother to Japheth
33. Sprocket
34. Charisse
36. Shema ender
38. Streimel
39. Joe's bro
40. Ess (Eng.)
42. Dear Abby's sister
44. Tel-Aviv to Bet She'an (dir.)
45. Plagues
47. Vishniac
48. Dorothy Parker specialty
50. Dances
51. Like Solomon
52. Item on Schindler's list
53. Sharansky to friends?
54. Olympiad Friedman
55. Ithamar high priest
56. Cable TV
58. Marceau character
60. Dreidel
61. Prophesize

These puzzles are the work of Kathi Handler of Waterbury, Connecticut.

(Last week's answers are on page 33.)

Are You Dressed For Dinner Yet?

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"The Reena ElderHomes project lets us step forward on behalf of Reena clients, something we're proud to do," says Faye Mintz. Besides their moral support, the Mintz family has made a generous contribution toward Reena's first ElderHome.

The Al and Faye Mintz Reena ElderHome
Our campaign goal is $1.5 million

Reena ElderHomes

Reena's first ElderHome, which will house up to 16 Reena residents, aged 55 years and older, will fill an immediate and increasingly significant void in our community for seniors with a developmental disability. It will also free up space in other Reena homes for some of the 200 plus potential residents on our wait list.

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This Week

National

Montreal consulate gets a temporary reprieve. *Page 3*

Poland honors Jewish activist Louis Lenkinski. *Page 14*

Three exhibits open at Winnipeg museum. *Page 26*

Health

Taking the pain out of hip and knee surgery. *Page 28*

Arts

Rivka Golani prepares to perform with Toronto Symphony Orchestra. *Page 35*

Centre Spotlight may be forced to close its doors unless it gets grant. *Page 36*

Sports

Ju-jitsu titelist Joel Gerson defeats Japanese champion. *Page 42*

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BRING THE BOYS BACK HOME

Mothers of Israeli soldiers in south Lebanon demonstrate outside the Israeli Defence Ministry in Tel Aviv last week. They were demanding that Israel bring its troops home. The protest coincided with the 16th anniversary of Israel's 1982 incursion into Lebanon. The women held paper doves aloft and wore T-shirts with the slogan "Stop the war" in Hebrew. *[RNS/Reuters photo]*

Rabin's lingering wounds

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Leah Rabin smiles often – a wide, sincere smile. But there's a darkness in her eyes, almost a void.

When speaking of her slain husband, she gazes out a hotel window, as if directly addressing him. But there are no more tears. The anguish she feels, the wounds ripped open by her husband's assassination on Nov. 4, 1995, mirror those of a nation still trying to make sense of that convulsive moment.

Like many Israelis, Leah Rabin is blunt, not the least bit shy about wading right into the swirling wake left by her husband's murder. And murder she calls it, straight up.

"He didn't die," she says flatly. "You cannot refer to any kind of fate or God's will. He was just murdered."

And she doesn't like speaking of society's lingering wounds. "If there are wounds, they are mine, my family's, my friends' and maybe a rather large circle. But to wider circles who wish to see peace, it's not wounds. It's more in terms of the void [Yitzhak Rabin] left as a leader."

She returns to the theme several times, barely able to conceal her disdain for the present government and leadership of Benjamin Netanyahu. (There's little love lost between her and the prime minister. At her husband's funeral, she shook Netanyahu's hand, but quickly turned away, making her views about him well known.)

Exclusive

Treading carefully, she confesses to being "disenchanted" with the Likud coalition, and "wishing for a totally different kind of leadership. Hopefully, it is going to happen when there will be new elections."

In an hour-long interview with *The CJN* prior to her appearance at a gala dinner here for the Canada-Israel Children's Centres (see page 7), a still stoic Rabin, a grandmother of four, sounded alternately bitter and hopeful.

She "regrettably" concedes that she had "a very hard time" celebrating Israel's 50th birthday, partly because her husband did not live to see the day, but also because the current power structure, she charges, is deliberately playing down, even ignoring, the late leader's place in history.

At the big 50th jubilee bash in Jerusalem, "his name was hardly mentioned. There were pictures portraying [Israel's] history. The picture of the handshake with Yasser Arafat on the White House lawn was definitely missing. In other words, they do anything to conceal his role in history and the place he has in people's hearts and minds."

But "not for a minute" does she blame the far right or the Orthodox camps for the inflamed and often ugly anti-Rabin rhetoric in the months leading up the murder. The heated atmosphere "was conducted by the central leadership of the Likud to discredit the one leader that could have pulled through the peace process…the one man who enjoyed the faith of the great majority of the people of Israel."

The loss of her husband has manifested itself in a variety of ways, Rabin feels.

Continued on page 7

Spector leaves Post

CJN Wire Services

JERUSALEM — Less than two weeks after he participated in the 25th triennial plenary of the Canadian Jewish Congress in Winnipeg as the publisher of the *Jerusalem Post*, Dr. Norman Spector last Sunday announced his resignation as president and publisher of that newspaper.

He will be returning to Canada as a columnist for the *Globe and Mail*, based in Victoria, writing on provincial, national, and Middle East affairs. The *Globe and Mail* announced his appointment as its columnist in its Saturday edition on June 6.

The new management structure of the *Post* will include publisher Tom Rose, president Paul Staszewski, vice-chairman Avi Golan, and vice-chairman Hirsh Goodman, all of whom will be reporting directly to the chairman of the board, F. David Radler.

INSIDE

There are absolute standards. Please see *Perspectives* page 9.

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Third pullback last major obstacle — p

The News in Brief

CANADA

JCC Wins Award

TORONTO — The Bloor Jewish Community Centre (JCC) received an award in recognition of its 25th anniversary, at the JCCs of North America's 1998 biennial convention, held recently in Houston, Tex.

The convention was organized by the Jewish Community Centres Association of North America, which presented the award to JCCs that are celebrating significant anniversaries during the group's biennial year or the following year.

Richler To Address Club

TORONTO — Author Mordecai Richler is being honored by the Canadian Club of Toronto for his outstanding contribution to the world of contemporary writing.

The club has named the Montreal-born Richler its Canadian of the Year. He will address the group's final meeting of the season on June 16 at the Royal York Hotel.

U of T Grants Degree

TORONTO — Businessman Joseph Tanenbaum, a University of Toronto (U of T) graduate, and a benefactor of Canadian culture and the U of T, has received an honorary doctor of engineering degree from the university.

BBC Sends Condolences

TORONTO — B'nai Brith Canada (BBC) expressed its regrets to the family of Telford Taylor, former U.S. chief prosecutor at the Nuremberg War Crimes Trials. Taylor, 90, died recently in New York.

David Matas, honorary senior legal counsel for BBC said, "Telford Taylor was deeply committed to the values and lessons of Nuremberg. He recognized that these lessons were not of momentary or fleeting importance, and tried to communicate them throughout his life."

ISRAEL

Vote Passed

JERUSALEM — A no-confidence vote against Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu passed in the Knesset by a vote of 41-6, but it fell short of the 61-vote majority needed to bring the government down. Two parties belonging to the governing coalition, the National Religious Party and the Third Way, boycotted the vote, sending a warning message to the prime minister about their disagreements with his policies.

El Al on Stock Exchange

TEL AVIV — A committee of Israeli ministers approved the sale of 49 percent of El Al Airlines on the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange. The decision must still be approved by the cabinet and the Knesset Finance Committee. The sale would become part of the government's plan to privatize a large portion of government-owned businesses.

Bar-Ilan Expands

RAMAT GAN — Bar-Ilan University president, Prof. Moshe Kafeh, and director-general of Bar-Ilan, Dr. Shabtai Lubel, recently announced plans to begin construction this summer of a 70-acre campus extension which will double the size of the existing main campus and make Bar-Ilan the largest university in Israel.

Slated for construction on the new campus is the Nagel Jewish Heritage House – the first in a group of buildings to form the complex to house the International Centre for Jewish Identity. Subsequent structures will include a psychology building, music department complex and a students' administrative services building.

Shrine to be Dismantled

JERUSALEM — The Knesset has voted to dismantle a shrine at the grave of Baruch Goldstein, the Jewish settler who killed 29 Muslim worshippers at the Tomb of the Patriarchs and was then killed by Arab survivors at the February 1994 massacre. Goldstein's grave has become a pilgrimage site for Jewish extremists.

WORLD

Bishops Meet Leaders

SYDNEY — A delegation representing the official organization of Catholic bishops met for the first time with leaders of the country's Jewish umbrella group. The two groups met in Sydney's Great Synagogue to discuss ways in which the recently released Vatican document *We Remember: A Reflection on the Shoah* could be used to further Catholic-Jewish understanding in Australia.

Germany to Pay Survivors

BONN — Germany has agreed to pay reparations to Holocaust survivors in eastern Europe who have not received compensation. According to an agreement reportedly reached between the German government and the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany last week, these survivors will receive $150 monthly.

Survivors who were forced laborers in mines in countries under Nazi occupation will also receive a stipend under the accord, which must still be ratified by the claims conference.

JIAS Announces Scholarships

TORONTO — Jewish Immigrant Aid Services of Canada (JIAS) has used funds received from an anonymous donor to set up a scholarship fund for students pursuing general post-secondary studies at the university or college level. This year's winners are:

From Ottawa: Dalibor Breznan, Irina Guilman, Ernest Marbar.

From Toronto: Alexandr Cherpel, Daniel Finchelstein, Yuri Gwinta, Anna Khelborob, Iliya Khramov, Olga Maidanik, Ludmila Stephanoff, Sergey Stephanoff.

From Winnipeg: Inna Fradkov, Elena Gomon, Bella Iomdina, Valerie Lyubetska, Eduard Ryabinov.

From Calgary:Alexander Gubnizki, Inna Kouperman, Sebastian Sztabzyb.

From Edmonton: Milana Levin.

From Vancouver: Ivana Mirkovic, Marina Tchepel.

John Hirsch Awards for the performing arts were awarded to Anna Iomdina of Winnipeg and Ilona Karan of Hamilton.

The Michael and Marta Herling Award scholarship was given to Anatoli Freiman.

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Consulate gets reprieve

By DAVID LAZARUS
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — Israel last week "suspended" plans to close its consulates in Montreal and at several other overseas sites, including Philadelphia, Atlanta and Marseille.

But despite renewed local hopes, Israeli Foreign Ministry spokesperson Aviv Shiron, speaking to *The CJN*, made it clear that the closures, first disclosed publicly in the May 27 issue of the Israeli daily *Ma'ariv*, could still occur at some unspecified time in the "near future."

That's because, he said, the ministry remains under pressure from Finance Minister Ya'acov Ne'eman to implement stiff budget cuts.

Local community leaders last week expressed a degree of relief at the reprieve and continued optimism that the consulate will not close.

But they vowed to keep on pressing Israel to keep it open – for now and forever.

"I would like to have this decision made with a degree of finality," Canada-Israel Committee, Quebec region (CIC-Q) chair Thomas Hecht said last week, after hearing news of the reprieve.

"Progress has been made, but we will have to try to influence Israel's political decision-makers that closing this consulate, in particular, is contrary to Israel's interests."

Similarly, FEDERATION CJA president Stanley Plotnick last week stated that the community planned to "solidify" its position in the coming weeks.

Already, he said, the community has sent an "enormous amount of documentation" to Israel to support the case for keeping the consulate open permanently, and "we are fairly well-assured that the documentation will be reviewed."

[Cont'd. on page 27]

Messianic Times returns

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Toronto's Jewish community should brace itself for a new offensive by Christian proselytizers: A slick and professionally produced newspaper exhorting Jews to accept Jesus as their messiah is about to return.

Over 6,000 copies of the summer edition of *The Messianic Times* will be distributed free to Jewish areas in Toronto and York Region next month, says the paper's founder and managing editor, Zev Isaacs.

The papers will be delivered by hand to homes in Willowdale, Downsview and Thornhill because "we believe it is our responsibility to let Jewish people know that Yeshua [Jesus] is their messiah," Isaacs told *The CJN* in a telephone interview from the publication's head office in Bryn Mawr, PA.

The summer edition, he said, will be distributed in Miami, Los Angeles, New Jersey and Toronto.

The quarterly bills itself as the world's only international messianic Jewish newspaper. Isaacs founded it in Toronto in 1990, and it was immediately denounced as a tool to convert Jews, especially new Russian immigrants, to Christianity. Isaacs moved the operation to the United States in 1995.

He says the paper's circulation is 50,000 worldwide.

There are stories about Israel and Jewish issues. But it enjoins belief in "Yeshua" (Jesus), and proudly describes what it says are successful efforts around the world, including Canada, at converting Jews to so-called messianic Judaism, which accepts Christ as the Jewish messiah.

Over 1,000 issues of the paper's spring edition were distributed recently in Toronto, mainly in and around Bathurst Manor, which has a high Jewish population.

The CJN fielded a few calls from recipients, complaining about an ad on the back page.

The full-color, full-page ad contains one of the names for God in large English letters, as well as the same word in Hebrew in a border around the page. Callers said that according to Jewish law, they can never throw the paper out because God's name appears in it in print.

Told of the controversy, Isaacs at first sounded apologetic.

He said he does "not go over every ad," but added that had he known this ad would offend some Jews, he would have "reconsidered" running it.

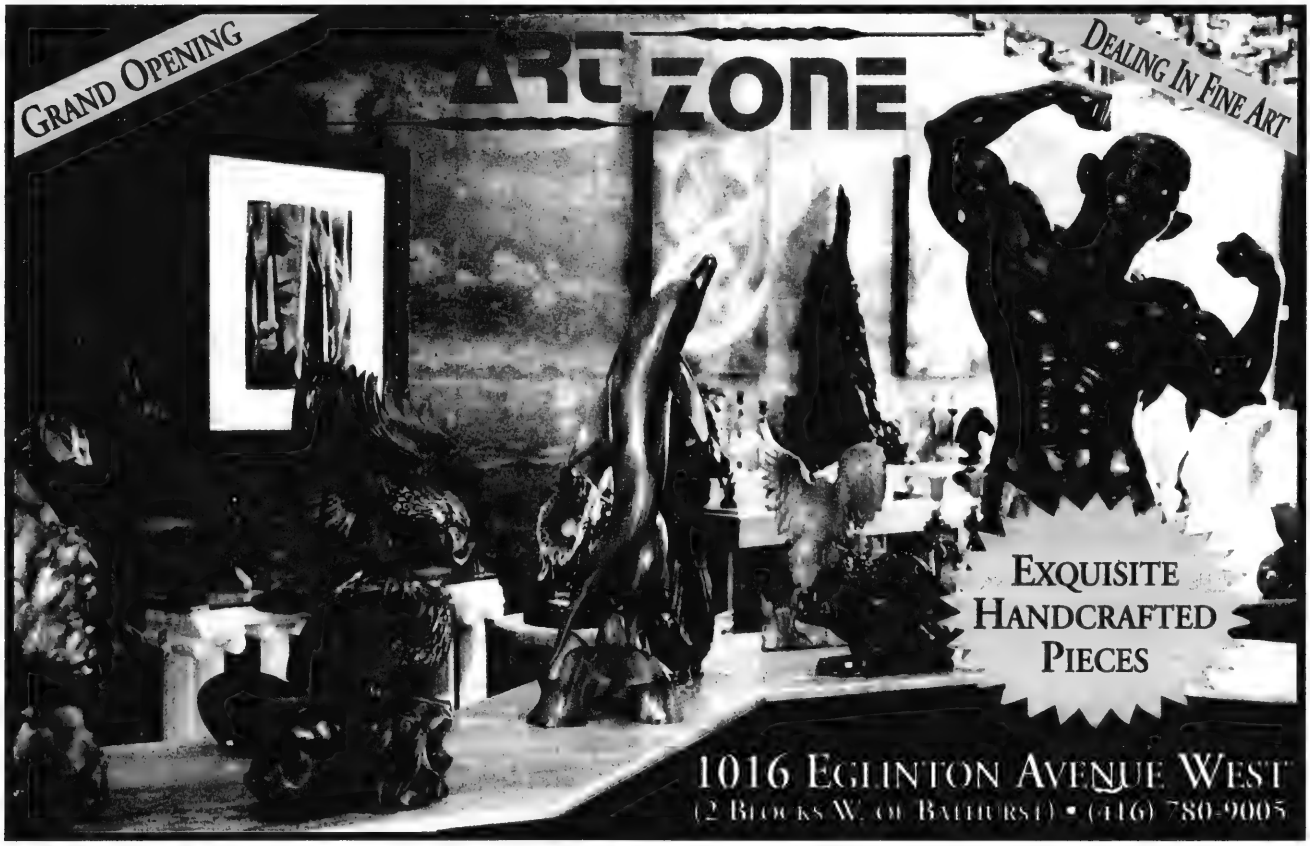
But he called *The CJN* a few days later, and sounded a different tone.

"If people feel compelled to keep it, that's wonderful. I have absolutely no regrets. If we had to do it again, we would.

"The name of the Lord should be known and praised."

Rabbi Michael Skobac, education director for Jews for Judaism, the counter-missionary organization, said the newspaper can be thrown away because "there is nothing holy about it."

Rabbi Skobac said it's "good to know" that 6,000 future editions are coming to Toronto. "We can build antibodies and strengthen our immune systems. Ultimately, a strong Jewish community has nothing to fear from 6,000 copies of *The Messianic Times*."



Greater Toronto Area

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From the editor's desk

Some plenary highlights

Last week in this space, I recorded some observations of the 25th triennial plenary of the Canadian Jewish Congress that was held in Winnipeg on May 24 through 26.

I noted that the format of the program departed radically from previous plenaries. The chief point of departure was the decision to adopt a talk-show format for what in former conventions would have been the main working sessions. The conference room was converted into a television studio in which six one-hour panel discussions were videotaped.

I described it as the "Oprah Winfreyization" of the plenary, a celebration of soundbite over analysis and of form over substance.

Judging by the reactions of most of the delegates who enjoyed the opportunity to "participate" in the sessions, the decision was a popular one.

In this column, I will record what I considered to be the highlights of three of those sessions.

* * *

The first videotaping dealt with Jewish Continuity. The panel members were: Norman Spector, the former publisher of the *Jerusalem Post*; Israel Singer, the secretary general of the World Jewish Congress; Rabbi Alan Green of Winnipeg; and Dr. Norma Baumel Joseph of Montreal.

The most engaging, most impassioned comments were spoken, by far, from Joseph.

She urged the audience to be optimistic about the Jewish future and insisted that the only way such optimism about the future could be legitimate is by each person individually exploring and embracing, *now, in the present,* the limitless enrichments and rewards of being Jewish.

"Do Judaism," she emphasized in the colloquialism of the younger generation, "because [you] care about being a Jew, and not only for the sake of the grandchildren.

"Judaism must be enjoyed in the *now* to be experienced in its own right. And in this way, we work to a future that is present and we are Jewish not simply for the arrival *[namely towards a destination that tries to ensure that our grandchildren will be Jewish – my interpretation]* but for the journey too *[for all there is to be experienced, understood, learned and lived]*."

To underline the fact that she was not advocating any specific stream of Judaism, she confidently told the audience that there are many roads to being Jewish.

This point by Joseph responded to the main assertion by Spector, that "we need a much more secular definition of Judaism. It should be more inclusive," he said, obviously predicating his view on a narrow concept of religious Judaism. He returned to this theme in the following day's session on Jewish identity.

* * *

The second session dealt with the Prosecution of War Criminals. The panel members were Spector, Singer, Irving Abella, Edith Kimelman, a survivor, an educator, linguist and specialist in Judaic studies, and Neal Sher, recently appointed by the federal government as a special consultant to the War Crimes Unit.

The question was immediately asked of the panelists: "Why did it take so long?" For the entire session, it hung in the room like a gray cloud, threatening storm.

None of the speakers could answer the question directly. Abella tried to provide a historical context for the efforts of the community over the past 50 years. But it fell to Sher to sum up. He spoke emphatically. "There is still time to do something," he said. "People in Ottawa are interested in doing a good job, but the [war crimes] unit has a history of being on the defensive."

"Don't forget the frustrations; but there can never be, nor will there ever be, perfect justice."

* * *

The session entitled Issues Dividing and Uniting Israel and the Diaspora was the least satisfying to this observer. The panelists were Spector, Singer, Yoram East, a journalist living in Winnipeg, and Rhonda Spivak, a Winnipeg lawyer.

The key message from the panel, primarily articulated by Spector, was that "North American Jews have a responsibility to import the lessons of democracy to Israel." He later defined those key lessons as being, inter alia, "constitutionalism, free speech, and pluralism." His sentiments were echoed by Spivak.

Except for Singer, it was a display of high conceit and condescension by the members of the panel, who effortlessly prescribed their own long distance treatments for the ailments they expertly diagnosed as endemic to Israel's body politic.

Later in the day, at the celebrations at the Asper Jewish Community Campus, Israel's Ambassador to Canada, David Sultan felt compelled to answer the panel. "Lest anyone lament the fact that we [in Israel] do not conduct ourselves like North Americans, let me remind you that we do not live in North America." Sultan expressed the hope that "Israel's democracy [would] be a source of pride not of disdain or disrespect."

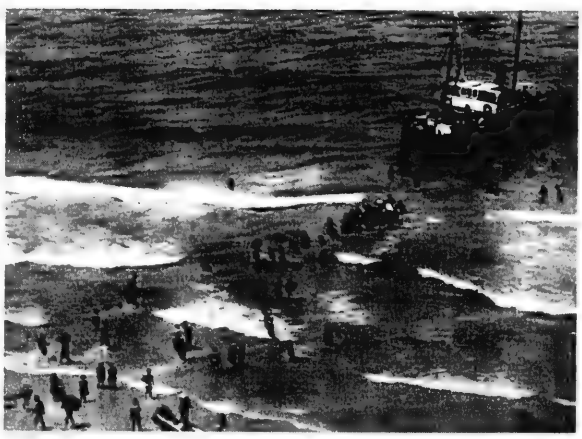
One need not be blind to the severe social problems besetting Israel. But having regard to Israel's neighborhood, to its need to live in constant readiness for war, and to its relatively young stage of development, Sultan's hope should be requited.

MBD

Israel's Jubilee 50 — *from the archives*

SOME OF THE LUCKY ONES

A boat with "illegal" immigrants that bypassed the British blockade, reaches the shores of Eretz Yisrael.



[Keren Hayesod – UIA Communications photo]

* * *

For the latest in *Israel at 50* news, check out the *Israel at 50* Web site: [www.feduja.org] or call the *Israel at 50* hotline 416-635-2883 ext. 706.

Greater Toronto Area

CJC urges govt. to aid vets interned at Buchenwald

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO —Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) is calling on the federal government to push the cause of Canadian servicemen who were interned in Buchenwald during World War II.

Canada should use its influence with the German government to ensure that Canadian veterans receive pensions as compensation "for their improper incarceration in the horror that was the Buchenwald camp," said CJC president Moshe Ronen.

Congress has written to Minister of Veterans Affairs Fred Mifflin urging the government to intervene on behalf of the servicemen. Although veterans can apply for compensation on their own, Germany "is usually slow in these matters... We've seen that when local governments intervene, things move a lot faster," Ronen said.

Allied servicemen from Britain, the United States, Australia and New Zealand have received compensation in the past two years. "Canadian veterans played a role in the defeat of the Nazi horror and the honorable thing would be to treat them with equity compared to other servicemen," Ronen said.

The fate of captured Canadian servicemen imprisoned in Buchenwald has been well known for some time, Ronen said. A National Film Board documentary, *The Lucky Ones: Allied Airmen and Buchenwald* was broadcast on the Arts & Entertainment Network in January and a Senate subcommittee on veterans' affairs heard submissions on the topic in 1990. Twenty-six Canadian soldiers were sent to Buchenwald.

Because of the Jewish community's experience during the war, it is in a position to speak out with some moral force on the fate of the Canadian servicemen, he added.

Landy is concerned over TV broadcasts

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Keith Landy, new Ontario Region chair, Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC), has expressed concern that messianic TV broadcasts will attempt to convert Jews to Christianity.

"It appears that the American model will also happen here," said Landy at a breakfast meeting of CJC's community relations committee.

His comment followed a review of the situation in the United States by Ottawa-born Rabbi Yechiel Eckstein of Chicago, an expert on the Christian evangelical movement.

Rabbi Eckstein visited Toronto to discuss with Congress officials the recent granting of a Canadian licence for a Christian TV station.

As founder and president of the International Fellowship of Christians and Jews, Rabbi Eckstein defended the right of the evangelicals to air their views on TV, but said he would draw the line at those who target Jews for conversion.

He said he was not able to get agreement that these TV evangelical shows would not allow messianic Jews on air, but did get agreement that such Jews would not urge others to follow in their wake.

One group who violated this rule apologized to him that the TV host did not know that this would happen.

Evangelical membership in the United States has grown to one-third of the total Christian community, he said. But the factions who target Jews for conversion represent only one-half of one percent.

Speaking of the controversy over the City of David messianic synagogue in the north Bathurst Street area, he said, "We faced this situation 15 or 20 years ago in Chicago and other cities."

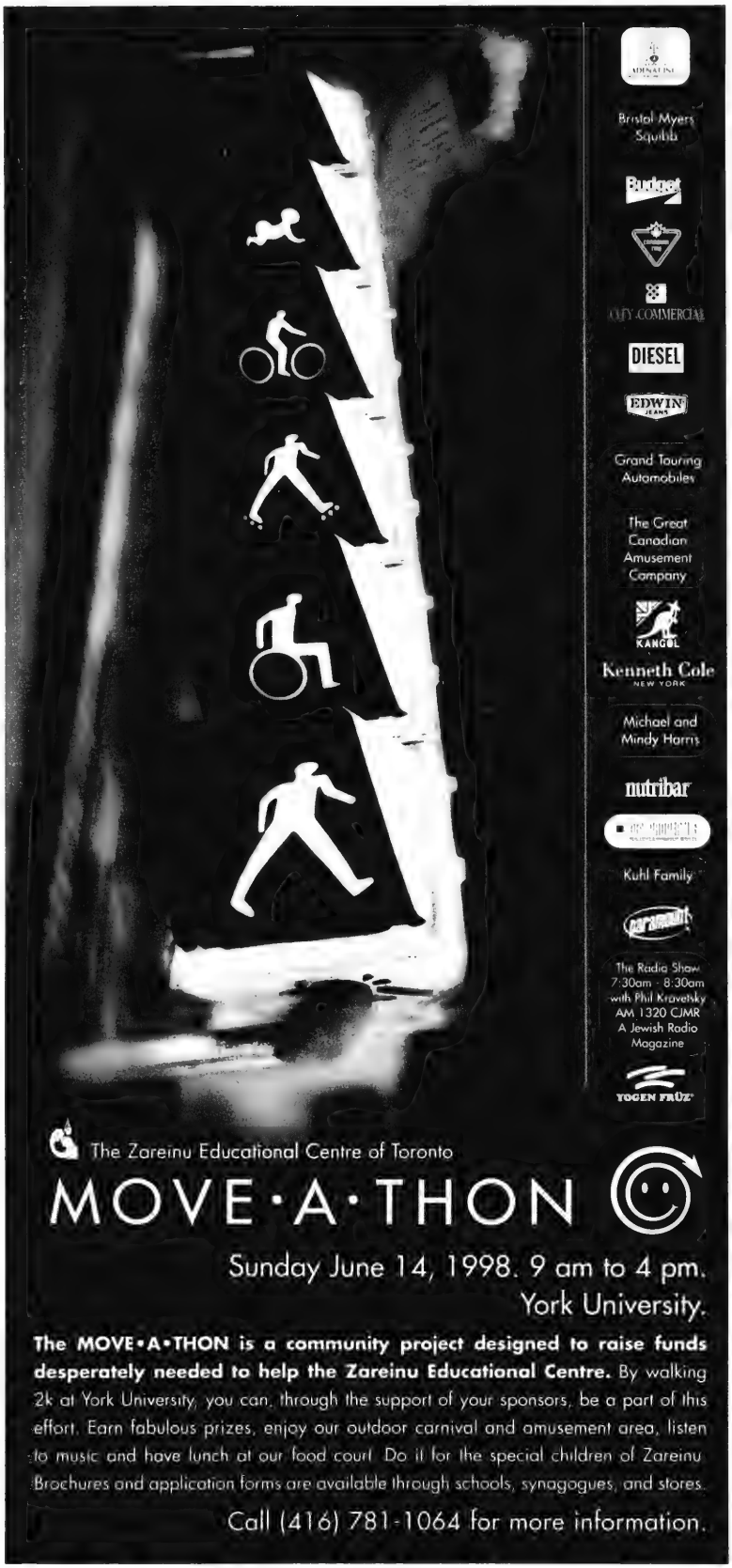
Prayer program

More than 42 percent of the U.S. population watch TV evangelical preachers such as Jerry Falwell, Billy Graham, Pat Robertson, Jim Dobson and Gary Power, he said.

Though there were some attempts on the part of right-wing religious Jews and evangelical fundamentalists in the United States to cooperate in promoting a school prayer program, these attempts petered out, he said.

Rabbi Eckstein said he supports the evangelical groups Bridges for Peace and the Christian Embassy. The latter raised $12 million to transport Jews from the former Soviet Union to Israel, or to help elderly Jews there.

Tolerance of the evangelical community by Jews is required considering the number of Righteous Gentiles who saved Jewish lives, he said.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Ontario govt. accused of age discrimination

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The Ontario government has adopted a discriminatory "ageism" policy denying the services of an attendant to people over 70, while granting it to younger disabled and accident victims, charged Patricia Spindel, a professor of social services at Humber College.

"If you were being told that you were not entitled to the level of attendant care that many other people are getting because you are Jewish, or East Indian, or because you are a woman, there would be outrage. But it can be denied you because you are over 70, and that too is an outrage. Ageism is just as insidious and destructive as anti-Semitism, racism and misogyny," Spindel told some 150 people attending a seminar sponsored by the Association of Jewish Seniors (AJS) and the Ontario Coalition of Senior Citizens' Organizations (OSCO).

In response, the group meeting at Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue adopted a report calling for attendant care to allow a home-bound older adult to go shopping or to a park, as a replacement for the present home care program in which nurses will visit, but only for medical reasons.

The group also called for non-profit nursing homes to be given equal privileges with private nursing homes run for profit, and for a reversal of the policy of privatizing health services.

It asked the Ontario government to avoid "managed care" for seniors based on models in the United States.

The root of the problems, Spindel said, is that aging has been redefined as a disease, putting older people in what she called the industrial-medical complex.

This has led to corporations building or acquiring nursing homes as a business. "Nursing home licences, once awarded, can be sold to the highest bidder, usually at a rate of $35,000 to $50,000 per bed; so a 200-bed nursing home licence can be sold for $10 million," Spindel said.

The government should build an attendant care system for seniors from money in its health budget, a system which is not biomedical in nature, to be delivered to their own homes, non-profit apartments or small, six-bed or less, non-profit group homes, she suggested.

Also the government should fund 400 new adult protective services worker positions for seniors.

She asked the seminar to file a complaint with the Ontario Human Rights Commission that old people are being warehoused in Ontario because of ageist stereotypes. The Ministry of Health should be asked under freedom of information legislation, how nursing home bed licences are awarded and how much they go for on the open market.

Jewish youth explain how JF&CS helped in their lives

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Shannon, who sports magenta hair, has spent over one third of her 15 years in foster care, four of those as a Crown ward. She was four or five when her mother became addicted to crack and cocaine, and eight when her mother took off, leaving Shannon with a cousin. For the next seven years, the girl was shunted from her mother to the cousin, to a foster mother, who used to be her volunteer Big Sister.

Today, Shannon is a poised, articulate young woman, who is completing high school and leads a stable life. She is proud of having had a bat mitzvah. And she owes it all to Jewish Family & Child Service (JF&CS), whose care she is under. "The best part of JF&CS," she says, "is how secure it makes me feel."

Rob grew up amid drug dealers and thugs in a Toronto housing project. Bounced from foster homes to group homes, he wound up in a shelter after running away, and then, in youth detention after he threatened his foster mother. Now a confident 20, he's "connected" with a new JF&CS social worker, is finishing high school and living on his own. Recently, he was chosen to go to Israel on a student trip. "JF&CS helped me make it in life," he says.

Tali came under the care of JF&CS three years ago, when she was 15 – "wild and ready to shock." But with support and loving foster parents, she now lives independently, works full time and is completing school. "You gave me a chance to be all I can be," she says of the agency. "You made me feel wanted."

The three Jewish youths recounted their stories at JF&CS's recent annual meeting, as a way of showcasing the agency's work with youth in its care.

According to the JF&CS annual report, Shannon, Rob and Tali were among 114 Jewish youths and children in the agency's care over the past year, for a total of 28,000 days.

JF&CS became an accredited Children's Aid Society in 1980.

Agency president Richard Cummings cited a recent Ontario study which found that fully 33 percent of adult males and 20 percent of adult females report having experienced childhood physical abuse. The same study found that four percent of men and 13 percent of women report childhood sexual abuse.

Over the past year, JF&CS investigated 445 allegations of child abuse or neglect.

Also over the past year, the agency served 2,760 individuals or families; distributed $1.37 million in financial assistance to Jews in poverty; and aided 300 abused women, who received crisis services, counselling, support, and advocacy.

JF&CS reported a balanced budget, at just over $8.8 million.

But the agency says that due to government cutbacks, it is "unlikely" there will be any major spending increases.

While funding from governments and the United Way may stay constant, recent cutbacks and rising demand for services "will result in our inability to meet our clients' needs and to maintain the quality of services. The fact that our funding may at best stay steady does not bring a great deal of comfort to us.

"We need to find new sources of revenue to meet the increasing demand for services."

JF&CS executive director Gordon Wolfe paid tribute to Avraham Friedman for his 25 years of service as a social worker at the agency.

The unveiling of a monument in loving memory of the late
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Greater Toronto Area

Children's centres honor 19 Toronto couples

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Dvora, 14, came to Israel from Ethiopia on Operation Solomon. Erez, also 14, is a sabra whose father lost a leg in Operation Lebanon. Margarita, 9, came from Moldavia, and now lives in Ashdod. Abudi, 11 is a Bedouin who lives in Rahat, near Beersheva.

What they have in common is their love for tennis and their time spent at the Canada-Israel Children's Centres, formerly known as the Israel Tennis Centres.

The centres, which were founded 21 years ago, not only teach Jewish, Arab and Christian youngsters how to play tennis, but give those from less-than-ideal home situations, and those who are mentally and physically challenged, a place to meet other kids, "that little bit of extra, a chance to relax and enjoy fresh air, where people understand that your life is difficult," according to Leah Rabin, widow of assassinated Israeli prime minister Yitzhak Rabin.

Leah Rabin was the keynote speaker at a gala tribute evening of the Canada-Israel Children's Centres, held last week at Inn on the Park. The centres were a particular interest of both her and her husband, and she has continued the association.

She cut the ribbon at the opening of the first centre, at Ramot Hasharon. (There are now nine centres from Kiryat Shmonah in the north, down to Beersheva, Ofakim and Arad in the Negev.)

The word "tennis" in the original name of the organization had a negative connotation, Rabin said. "People thought, 'You've solved all your problems, so I need to give my money for *tennis*?'"

In fact, she said, Israeli children need it more than others, because of the enormous pressure the society is under.

When they are bused to the centres, she said, they experience equality "of uniform, rackets, and the opportunity of maybe becoming a tennis star."

This is not a luxury or a frivolity, Rabin insisted, adding that "in Israel, nothing is a luxury."

Coming to the centres helps the children integrate into Israeli culture and develop self esteem, pride, loyalty and comradeship, she said.

On a more sombre note, she said she is worried that "today's young people, who grew up with a State of Israel, don't understand the meaning of a Jewish homeland – how important, how vital, how significant a change it is."

Since the United Nations passed the resolution accepting the establishment of a Jewish state in 1947, "we have worked hard, building a country and fighting for survival."

But survival, she said, is not enough. "We want to live significant, interesting lives."

This includes, she said, fulfilling the "moral target and moral code" of *Ki MiTzion Tetsay Torah* (from out of Zion shall come the Torah) and the Ten Commandments.

At the event, the Canada-Israel Children's Centre Peace Prize was presented to 19 couples who have been active in the cause for many years. Each couple received a sculpture cast in Israel by Toronto developer and sculptor Al Green. Rabin received the artist's proof copy.

Master of ceremonies Monty Hall told the nearly 1,000 people at the dinner that the $1 million goal had been reached. The proceeds will establish five new programs, dealing with Arab-Jewish coexistence; hearing impaired, developmentally challenged and autistic children; computer learning; a science museum project; and art learning programs.

Hall also praised Joe Frieberg, one of the honorees, for being a founder of the organization and a mainstay of its continued operation in Canada.

Rabin's lingering wounds

[Cont'd. from page 1]

"This crisis really expresses itself on various levels. There's the economic crisis: the economy is in recession and unemployment is constantly rising. Of course, you are aware of the polarization [between] the extreme religious and the secular." And there's a prevailing tension – "the tension of not knowing where we are actually going with the peace process. So altogether, these aren't easy days."

The seeds of peace planted by her husband and others have taken root, however.

"The reality of peace is already there to a large extent. I mean, we are not back to point one. There are all kinds of dialogues between Israelis and Palestinians. There is something going on all the time. It is not a total stalemate."

For two years, hopes of peace and cooperation were high. Now, Rabin blames the government for promoting "suspicion" against Palestinians.

"It seems not to trust, not to have faith, telling the people of Israel, 'Don't trust the Palestinians. They don't want peace.' We are being told how dangerous the Palestinians are.

"My answer is that Israel has proven its military strength against the mighty powers of the Middle East. Having proven our military might time and again, and shown we are indestructible on the battlefield, how can anybody tell us that Palestinians are a threat?"

But in the meantime, Netanyahu – "in a very demagogic way" – is stuck on percentages of the West Bank to cede to the Palestinian Authority. "Two percent here or there have no meaning whatsoever," Rabin states. "It is much more a question of principle. What are we doing? Are we on our way to solving the conflict, or are we struggling with every percentage in order to…what? To defend Israel? From whom?"

She does not discount acts of terror. "But terror belongs to fundamentalist groups. You will never convince me that Arafat was interested in [suicide bombs]. He wants peace. Is he interested in the disruption of it and the destruction of it?"

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Tragic irony

There was a detached almost dulled sense of ennui to the story that came across the news wire services last week. "Aid agencies ferried casualties from devastated villages in northern Afghanistan and appealed for more aircraft and fuel to rescue uncounted others," read the first paragraph of a two-paragraph item.

The story was a short follow-up to the important but underreported news of the two previous days. An earthquake had struck a remote region of northeastern Afghanistan. The initial quake and the aftershocks killed perhaps as many as 5,000 people. As of this writing, the final toll is unknown and international aid agencies were still struggling to bring out all the wounded, most of whom were small children and the elderly, and to bring in sufficient emergency supplies.

It should be noted that Canada and Israel have both contributed to the international aid effort. It is especially noteworthy that Israel has done so in light of the fact that it has no official ties with Afghanistan, a Muslim state.

Little reported about the tragedy, if not little noticed, is the fact that the shifting of the rock plates deep inside the inner earth of Afghanistan occurred merely days after Pakistan tested six underground nuclear devices. And of course, Pakistan tested its devices merely days after India had tested five underground nuclear bombs.

Afghanistan, Pakistan and India are neighbors; they share borders, and a common geography.

Is it not conceivable therefore, in the same way that effect is tied to cause, that the earthquake in Afghanistan was tied to the underground explosion of 11 nuclear devices within a two-week period inside the same geographic region?

Afghanistan and Pakistan though, share more than geography; they also share a religion.

If indeed, the earthquake resulted from the nuclear testing, how tragically ironic and pitiably sad that a matter of hours after the crowds in the street, the minions in their offices, and the decision-makers in high government places celebrated the successful testing of an "Islamic bomb," thousands of their co-religionists were crushed and smothered under the suffocating, crumbling clay. Scores more were injured, displaced from their homes, searching for food, medicine and shelter, truly, the wretched of a quaking earth.

And if the deaths and the misery were caused by the acts of man, what a terrible price man's vanity demanded.

A strange display

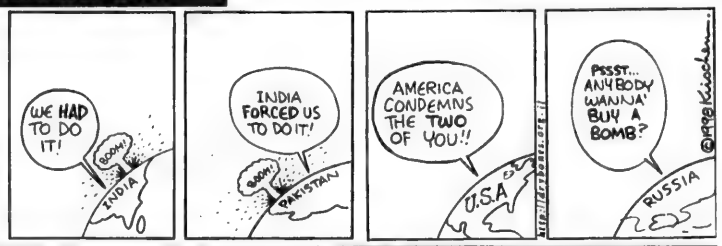
Canadians last week witnessed a strange display of political expedience. On two consecutive evenings, first in Quebec City and then in Edmonton, the Reform party and the Bloc Québécois held public dialogues on the future of the country. The parties were ostensibly exchanging views as a result of the Reform party's public announcement the week before that it was searching for a united alternative to the ruling Liberal government.

The meetings were arranged with the full blessings of Preston Manning, Gilles Duceppe and Lucien Bouchard, the acknowledged real leader of the separatist forces. For the separatists the meetings were a success. They demonstrated their willingness to negotiate the break-up of the country with anyone who will meet with them.

For the Reformers, on the other hand, the meetings represent something of a low-water mark. So desperate is their desire to oust the governing federal Liberals, that they seek common ground with the party whose first principle, first cause and first loyalty is the dismantling of Canada. We were heartened to read that many Reform stalwarts themselves were also bothered by the meetings.

WISDOM OF THE AGES
"If you are unwilling to suffer your studies, you will suffer your ignorance."
Moshe Ibn Ezra

Dry Bones



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Navy officer did not experience anti-Jewish bias

Re: your story on Andrew Liebmann (*CJN*, April 30). I am Jewish, and I retired from the Canadian Forces in 1983 after 26 years of service, both in the ranks and as an officer. During my tenure in the Forces (Navy), I never experienced any anti-Jewish bias of any sort.

If anything, the Forces often went out of their way to ensure that I did not suffer any problems arising from religious concerns.

I fully support the Forces' decision not to let Liebmann serve in a sensitive area because of his religious background. If a Jewish serviceman were to fall into the hands of an enemy known to be anti-Jewish for whatever reason, the pressures on that person's superiors would be unduly increased, as compared to the case where it is a serviceman of any other religion. In order words, allowing the Jewish serviceman to serve in the Middle East *might have* brought undue pressures, both military and political upon others who did not deserve it. It is not religious discrimination or bias; it is sheer common sense.

I myself was restricted from serving in a Middle East posting, and fully concurred with this decision, which was discussed freely with me.

Irving M. Finkleman, CD2 RCN (Retired)
Calgary

Levine appointment violated democracy

Your editorial of May 28 shows ignorance of the situation and hypocrisy. Although David Levine's support of the separatists is a factor, the basic issue is democracy. The selection committee did not follow the procedure laid out in their rules. The final group of candidates were, according to their rules, to be submitted to the whole board. They were not. The board has infuriated the populace by the way it treated them after inviting them to a meeting for a dialogue. The board never responded to any questions, and that infuriated everyone.

The residents of the Ottawa area welcome on average 50,000 Quebecers daily to work in Ontario, even though Quebec has many restrictions on our working there. Many of them are separatists and work here with impunity. It is easy for you to make comments from Toronto when we are on the firing line. We have tongue troopers running around all our hospitals in the area to ensure there is adequate French available. These tongue troopers have a budget of $715,000 that could have been used by a health care system that is so short of funding.

The hypocrisy in your words, "betraying Canada," is your failure to condemn real human rights situations, such as Jean-Louis Roux being forced to resign as lieutenant governor of Quebec, even though his flirtation with the fascists occurred over 50 years ago. It is pathetic to see you spouting "freedoms and the law" when it suits you and ignoring it when it does not. That is hypocrisy.

Marvin Jason
Ottawa

Help survivors before it's too late

Since 1993, Holocaust survivors who have not received any compensation from the German government, and who are facing financial hardship, have been and still are being encouraged to apply for restitution under Article 2 of the Hardship Fund. The German government set up this fund following the unification of East and West Germany.

While appearing to be caring and willing to help needy survivors, the criteria for eligibility eliminate most of them from receiving it. Hungarian survivors are especially discriminated against because Hungary was not occupied by the Germans for more than 11 months, March 1944 to April 1945. During those 11 months, most of the Jews in Hungary were sent off to the concentration camps for extermination, and hardship was inflicted on those who were in hiding and survived. This is not taken into consideration by the German government. The criteria stipulate that only those who were under direct occupation for 18 months qualify. This formula for eligibility is wrong and must be changed. All survivors, because of their suffering, should be entitled to restitution regardless of time under occupation or financial circumstances.

These changes must be brought about while survivors are still alive. Most of them are old and sick, and soon it may be too late to help them.

Leizer Hoffer
Weyburn, Sask.

Israel not cause of Arab problems

As a Holocaust survivor, I, better than many, understand the meaning of cruelty and deprivation. I can commiserate with the suffering of fellow human beings, regardless of their religious or political affiliations.

The Arabs of former Palestine should and will eventually obtain some kind of self-dependence and self-government, but first they must show that they can live in peace with Israel and can control the violent element. As for the charges that Israel is the cause of their displacement and that Israel seized their lands unjustly, the facts do not bear these charges out.

The 1948 partition of Palestine was accepted by Israel and rejected by the Arabs. The Arab population was encouraged to leave their homes on the promise that they would return in triumph and enrich themselves at the cost of the defeated Jewish population. The combined Arab armies attacked Israel and failed to "drive them into the seas" as promised, thus creating a "new" status quo. All the misfortunes faced by the Palestinians were therefore self-inflicted. The creation of the refugee camps followed, and no meaningful assistance was given to the Palestinians by their allies and brethren. No amount of rhetoric can change these facts.

Both parties to the conflict must pragmatically resolve the conflict, alleviating a situation which is potentially very dangerous.

Peace *now* is the only viable solution. A secure Israel and a peaceful Palestine living side by side could thrive and prosper, thus defusing this Middle East tinder box.

P. Getzler
Toronto

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures. Letters sent by E-Mail must also include the sender's municipal address.

There are absolute standards

By RABBI MARVIN B. PACHINO

The face of North American society, not to speak of the face of the world, is very different today from what it was 40 years ago. Indeed, the morals and mores of society today are different from what they were five or 10 years ago. Working and interacting with teenagers day in and day out for the last 25 years, have brought this home very forcefully. Teenagers are on the cutting edge of social change and are ready, and generally uncritical, customers of that which is new or different.

Someone once observed that the young generally tend to extol that which is new and modern, simply because it is new and modern. The older generation, on the other hand, leans to the other extreme, inclines towards more conservative views, and is not comfortable with change or new socio-cultural phenomena.

The challenge is to somehow bridge the extremes and create a balance. We have to recognize that everything new or modern is not necessarily good or virtuous. At the same time, the good old days and the good old ways do not merit our unquestioning homage. We have to know when, and how, to refresh and revitalize the old, but we have to be able, as well, to root the new in the soil of history and tradition from which it can draw abiding meaning and significance.

This is what authentic Jewish education in its broadest sense is about: blending the old and the new, synthesizing past and present, to fashion a meaningful future that bespeaks a genuine Jewish world view.

This is by no means an easy task, because the value system that informed North American society 40 or 50 years ago has virtually collapsed and the Jewish educational system, both formal and informal, in the school and within the family, must confront that collapse head-on. That means we have to be judgmental at times, in an era and in a culture where that is frowned upon.

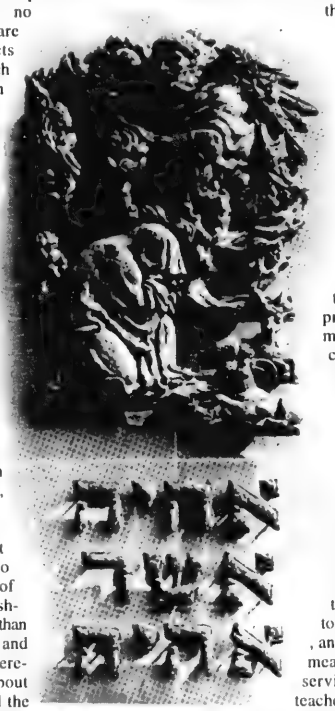
The modern culture discourages strong convictions about what is right or what is wrong, what is good or what is evil. It is maintained that all such concepts are relative, at best, and irrelevant at worst. Yet this is precisely what Judaism is all about: having strong beliefs, making value judgments and acting upon them.

And this is what Jewish education is all about: inculcating a value system, teaching that there are absolute standards, and transmitting the knowledge and the skills required to distinguish between right and wrong, good and evil.

In this context, Jewish education must be seen as not exclusively the province of the Jewish school and its professionals. Rather, it is the domain and sacred responsibility of every Jewish family and all of the legitimate institutions of a Jewish community. If Jewish education is not seen from this perspective, it will lose its relevance, and authentic Jewish living will be consigned to the dustbin of history.

Simply stated, parents who send their children to Jewish schools with the expectation that the schools will "make their children Jewish," and will instil in them commitments and loyalties to Jewish values and Jewish communal duties, are deluding themselves.

Children must witness in the lives of their parents the creative tension of honestly reconciling the old and the new, tradition and modernity. They must be involved in that struggle themselves and perceive it as a noble privilege, worthy of the dilemmas and the conflicts that it produces.



The author's call for our adherence to absolute standards finds powerful visual expression in the famous rendition of Moses with the Tablets of the Law by Rembrandt, above, and in Milton Horn's depiction of Moses before the Burning Bush.

And make no mistake! There are serious conflicts because there is much about the society in which we live that runs counter to the values of Judaism. The coarse and vulgar are accepted as fashionable today. Refinements of language and behavior appear to have been abandoned to the point where we have lost the ability to discriminate between that which is proper or improper, right or wrong.

This is more than a clash between the old and the new, the conservative and the liberal, although many view it just that way. This goes to the very core of Judaism and Jewishness, which is more than simply folkways and customs and ceremonies. This is about God and man, and the meaning of life. It is about the Jew and the duties that being Jewish impose upon us. It is about being moral and ethical human beings as defined by the absolute principles of God's Torah, and being a "light unto the nations," an example of godly living for others to emulate.

Today, these kinds of statements cause people to be uncomfortable because they imply the surrender of autonomy, which is the god of hedonistic culture, and because they imply the need to allow Judaism to shape and guide our lives. But what is the alternative? To paraphrase: "To exchange one's birthright for a mess of pottage may not be the most honorable thing to do. But to exchange one's birthright just for a mess is far more reprehensible."

These have to be the concerns of Jewish education. Not only must our students be inspired not to exchange their Jewishness for the moral mess that characterizes society today, they must be imbued with the mission to contribute to cleaning up the mess.

Not that it was ever easy, but the task is quite a bit different today from what it was when I began my career. The collapse of the moral consensus, which I mentioned above, has altered the field. In a book on ecological economics entitled *Small is Beautiful*, by E.F. Schumacher, the following passage appears: "Call a thing immoral or ugly, soul-destroying or a degradation of man, a peril to the peace of the world or to the well-being of future generations. As long as you have not shown it to be 'uneconomic,' you have not really questioned its right to exist, grow and prosper."

This is the climate in which we have to educate Jews today and help them find their authenticity as Jews by infusing their lives with authentic Jewish content. To achieve this, we need teachers who are steeped in Jewish learning, who possess the skills to relate to the realities of their students' lives, and who are able to guide them towards an enthusiastic identification with the values of our heritage.

Unfortunately, the community is producing very few men and women who can fill this bill and, what is worse, the community does not seem to care. Every major industry allocates funds and engages personnel to do research, but the Jewish community is not allocating the resources for the development of effective curricula, the training of personnel to deliver the curricula, and the organization of meaningful, ongoing in-service programs for teachers in the classroom. Quite the contrary, the Jewish community is seeking ways to reduce its financial commitments to Jewish education.

Furthermore, the community has made sure that an independent advocacy voice for Jewish education will not exist, so that it will not have to answer the tough questions that would otherwise be raised as it goes along its merry, imperialistic way.

We assiduously avoid confronting the fact that if the Jewish community and its communal institutions are mere imitations of the general culture and mores, then they too will be Jewishly irrelevant and will have no claim upon Jews for their support and their perpetuation.

The manner in which the Jewish community musters its intellectual and material resources to preserve its birthright and to define itself by the true principles of our heritage will determine its face 40 years from now. Or will it become faceless as it assimilates into the crass culture of the majority?

Rabbi Pachino is retiring this summer after 40 years of professional activity in the Jewish community, the last 19 years as headmaster of the Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto.

Opinions

On the move — again

Before I begin this week's column, I'd like to clear something up. The column in which I said my "goodbye" was a "goodbye" from Halifax, not from this column space. Today's column is the last column that will appear in this space, which is reserved for student writers. Having graduated, I no longer qualify. So, here goes...

By Viva Press in Halifax

I'm doing the Europe thing... well, sort of. During my four years at university, I put off seeing Europe (except for England and Italy), because I didn't have the time I felt was needed to see the different countries. I still don't.

When I say the "Europe thing," I'm referring to the many students and/or recent graduates who travel throughout Europe for approximately six weeks, stopping in at least 10 places. These pit stops don't interest me. That's not saying this way of travel is bad – it's just not for me.

I like to spend some time in a place and get a feel for the local way of life. When I went to Italy three years ago, I spent four weeks in Florence alone. I really got a sense of the way of life: I had my favorite fruit and vegetable market; I had my favourite ice cream store. I felt like more than just a tourist passing through.

Because of time restrictions, I realize that I won't get to know Budapest, Prague and Amsterdam the way I knew Florence, but I hope the week I've allotted to each place will at least leave me with a feel of what local life is like. I admit that even this plan is a little rushed, but as the often over-quoted saying goes: If not now, when?

It's funny how people, upon hearing where I'm off to, feel the need to tell me stories of being robbed in each of the places. I sometimes wonder if these people expect me to change my travel plans because of an incident their sister's friend's brother experienced on his travels. Okay, perhaps I'm being a little too harsh. I know these people are just trying to alert me to the dangers that exist out there, but sometimes it is done too well. I have my "hidden" money belt, my travellers cheques, my plane ticket, and my Ventolin (I'm asthmatic). I'm ready to travel.

Oh yeah, I'm going alone. Travelling solo isn't for everyone. I prefer it because I only have to compromise with myself as to what I want to do and see. Also, there's no need to wait for someone else to take time off from work or school. And as for meeting people, there is almost never a problem; summer in Europe guarantees other packers.

So, I'm off to Europe. I'm going to photograph and check out three new places. And I'm pretty excited.

When I began writing for *The CJN*, I had just made the move from Toronto to Halifax. It is only fitting, then, that as I relinquish this space to another student, I'm on the move again.

I hope everyone has a great summer. Thanks again for reading this column.

STOPPING TO PRAY

Carrying his son on his back, a young man stops to pray at the Western Wall. In his hand is a bag on which appears a drawing of the face of a woman, whose expression is so poignant, as if to be conveying its own message. [Jacob El-Baz photo]

Holocaust memorial in Berlin

For many Jews, it is hard to acknowledge the fact that the Germany of today is vastly different from the land that systematically murdered six million of our people. But fortunately it is a fact that the nation that produced Hitler and his madness has also squarely confronted its past and is anxious to present a new face, not only to the outside world, but to its own citizens.

By Rabbi Gunther Plaut in Toronto

Still, many Jews are dubious, and very often I am asked whether, in fact, the pronouncements of German leaders are nothing more than statements expected from them, rather than true and tested signs of a new direction. They point to the discovery of neo-Nazis in the German army or to the debacle of the Holocaust memorial that was planned for Berlin. The project provided for a cement slab the size of a football field, on which millions of names were to be inscribed.

As I reported in a column some time ago, this plan was dropped, not because it represented the Holocaust presence in Berlin, but because a slab of stone however large was by itself not expressive of the idea of memory and repentance.

Even such a vocal advocate for a suitable memorial as Nobel prize winner Guenter Grass wrote an open letter to the committee in charge. He thought Berlin was too anonymous a city, and instead suggested places such as Sachsenhausen, where one of Germany's concentration camps was located, or Wannsee in Berlin's suburban area where Rudolf Heydrich conducted the infamous Wannsee Conference on Jan. 20, 1942. That was the place where the Holocaust achieved official approval and thereafter was systematically carried out.

I happen to agree that the original plan for a memorial was mistaken, but I think Grass and company are in error as well. Berlin is going to be the new unified capital of Germany where all government operations will take place, and it is a city of worldwide cultural and historic interest. It is in the capital that a memorial should be erected.

If the original design was inappropriate, the place that was set aside for it is the best that one can hope for – between Berlin's landmark (the Brandenburger Tor) and its major square (Potstamer Platz). As I understand it, the new memorial competition has come down to a short list and sometime soon a final decision should be made.

I respect the integrity of Guenter Grass, but I'm afraid that by suggesting that the Berlin location be scrapped altogether and a new location found, he has given unwitting support to those who would like nothing better than to have the memorial either abandoned altogether or moved to a place where relatively few people would visit it.

Holocaust denial is a crime in Germany, but that does not mean that privately there are no Holocaust deniers around. Further delay would only give them more room to raise their objections, and therefore, I for one think that the sooner a design is approved and located in the centre of Berlin, the better for the memory of those that are no more.

It's time to say goodbye

The other day I went for a walk with my pal Ringo. As we enjoyed the warming heat of the summer sun, Ringo encouraged me to ponder the intrinsic value of team work. I realized that walking together made us, in a sense, a team, and by virtue of the fact that we were a team, we each reaped benefits that would have been lacking had we been by ourselves.

By Justin Korda in Montreal

In any goal we strive towards or any activity we undertake, team work can exponentially increase our productivity. The success of the accomplishment of a team may be greater than that of an individual, and the satisfaction may also be increased, because celebrating as a team is obviously more meaningful – and fun – than celebrating alone.

Over the past year and half I have had the amazing opportunity of sharing my views with you in *The Canadian Jewish News*. I have attempted to raise many issues, ranging from Jewish student activism to U2's Pop Mart tour. With every experience I have recounted, I have been fortunate to be part of a team of people who subscribed to the beliefs being advocated and were intent on living them.

As this is my final article for the student voice column of the paper, I would like to acknowledge and thank the members of the teams that I have been a part of, for they are the ones who have inspired me in countless ways.

I am grateful to have been part of many different projects. I was privileged to have had the opportunity of networking with a broad range of students. Together we toiled and then celebrated the realization of shared dreams. I was honored to meet people who demonstrated their belief in students. Together we successfully created a relationship based on mutual experience and enthusiasm. I have been energized by my peers to pursue many ventures, and I thank my friends for sharing with me.

We all seek the attainment of our own personal missions, sometimes paying little attention to the procedure we use to reach our goals. In our pursuits, the real accomplishment comes when we stumble across other individuals who are on the same path, striving towards the same mission. This opens the door for people to join forces and interact with each other, using overlapping and shared interests to bring their dreams closer to realization. This applies to the smallest and most mundane interests as well as to the largest most monstrous concepts.

As a university student with somewhat irregular study habits, I have at times made it quite difficult for myself to learn certain lessons, but it has become obvious to me that with the end of every chapter, a new one begins, and that this can be seen on a symbolic level. Just as a good book seems never ending, so it is with the accomplishment of a goal or the asking of a question. The realization of any dream gives birth to new dreams, and the answer to a question will always lead to more questions. We must therefore continue to be challenged by our questions and charged by our dreams.

I submit my farewell to this great forum, and I look forward to joining forces with future teams, and striving towards new and higher endeavors.

The Kirshner File

Israeli insider dissects the Oslo negotiations

Five years ago in May, Uri Savir, then the director of Israel's Foreign Ministry, joined informal talks that had begun

By Sheldon Kirshner

several months earlier in Norway between two Israeli academics – Yair Hirschfeld and Ron Pundak – and three members of the PLO.

The talks had been arranged by Yossi Beilin, Israel's deputy foreign minister, and Terje Larsen, a Norwegian social scientist.

With Savir on board, the negotiations took a serious turn, culminating four months later with the historic Declaration of Principles (DoP), a document which changed the complexion of politics in Israel and the Middle East.

Signed and sealed at an internationally televised ceremony in Washington, the DoP officially launched a process that enabled Israel and its heretofore enemy, the PLO, to enter a new, albeit flawed, era of peacemaking.

Savir, a relatively young diplomat who had been press attache in Israel's embassy in Ottawa in the early 1970s, devoted the next three years to the talks, which yielded further agreements in 1994 and 1995, but also produced a degree of internal discord which rocked Israel to its core.

Savir, a fluent writer, describes these events in *The Process* (Random House), an intriguing book bound to take its place in the historiography of Arab-Israeli peace negotiations.

Savir's boss, Shimon Peres, then foreign minister, believed that Israel had no alternative but to deal directly with the PLO. As a result of the 1991 Madrid conference, Israel had started negotiations with a "non-PLO" Palestinian delegation consisting of Palestinians from the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. But, as Israel learned, the Palestinians lacked a mandate to negotiate, and referred every point to the PLO leadership.

"We were engaged in a charade," Savir observes. "In Washington, we were actually negotiating with Yasser Arafat by fax!"

Fed up with the pace of the negotiations, Yitzhak Rabin, the prime minister, authorized Peres to bring Savir into the secret talks in Norway and to raise them to a higher and more practical level.

Facing Savir from the other side of the table was a Palestinian banker named Ahmed Qurei (Abu Ala), who instinctively understood the essence of the talks. "We have learned that our rejection (of Israel) will not bring us freedom," he said. "You can see that your control of us will not bring you security."

Savir agreed with Abu Ala's analysis, but realized that both sides, given the acrimonious past, would have to wage "bitter internal battles" for peace to succeed.

Rabin was initially skeptical of the Palestinian track, being more drawn to the concurrent peace process with Syria. But as time went on, he became a convert. Savir adds that Israel could not have attempted so controversial an undertaking had Rabin and Peres not put their strained relationship on a new footing.

For a long while, the talks were conducted clandestinely, virtually without the knowledge of the Israeli cabinet. A leak to the press would have sabotaged them, Savir claims. Eventually, about 100 people – 75 Israelis and Palestinians and 25 Americans, Egyptians, Moroccans, Tunisians and Russians – found out, faithfully keeping the secret until Kol Israel broke the story on Aug. 29, 1993.

The negotiations that climaxed with the DoP were like marathon chess games fraught with feints, bluffs and diversions, Savir notes. "The confrontations were often brutal, the crises close to shattering."

Each side made demands unpalatable to the other. Rabin insisted that Israel had to have overall security control, but herein lay a paradox. As Savir puts it: "Our problem was how to unburden ourselves of the occupation while continuing to protect our citizens..."

By contrast, the Palestinians fought for an acknowledgement of their national rights, some kind of status in east Jerusalem, a mechanism for the return of their refugees, a share in controlling the bridge joining the West Bank with Jordan, and the right to turn to outside arbitration. In methodical fashion, Savir explains how these obstacles were overcome.

During the first seven months of the process, the United States – the co-sponsor of the Madrid conference – placed little stock in the Oslo talks, Savir reveals. Washington hewed to the view that a breakthrough with Syria would be more likely, and strategically speaking, more valuable.

He claims that Arafat, whom Rabin reviled, misrepresented the DoP as a guarantee of Palestinian statehood according to a fixed timetable, ignored its details whenever possible, and was in no rush to implement it.

In any event, Savir discloses, the DoP was subjected to criticism by Gen. Ehud Barak, the chief of staff, who claimed that its security provisions were "riddled with holes."

No sooner had the DoP passed into history than Israel and the PLO commenced a fresh round of talks designed to push the process still further. According to Savir, the discussions began with a great gap in mutual perceptions. "For Israel the critical issue was security; for the Palestinians it was political and national pride."

The terrorism unleashed by the DoP prompted Israel and the Palestinians to commit repeated mistakes. Arafat failed to establish his authority by crushing Hamas, while Israel's closure policy punished the Palestinians rather than the purveyors of violence.

The rigorous talks which spawned the first Oslo accord in 1994 turned on one key matter: the dismantling of Israel's occupation of the territories under optimal conditions of security. These negotiations led Savir to the belated realization that Israel had cultivated "a self-serving myth" about the benevolency of its military occupation. "I did not know – and I think few other Israelis did – how thoroughly we had invaded the lives of our Palestinian neighbors."

To no one's surprise, the peace process generated apoplectic fits of rage among right-wing Israelis, and as the 1995 Olso 2 agreement reached its endgame, Savir was assigned a personal bodyguard. "My name," he writes coolly, "had appeared on a blacklist prepared by settlers in the territories."

Savir believes that the Israeli left, in the face of rising right-wing indignation, did not sufficiently stand up for the government.

In a further critique, Savir claims that Arafat failed to cultivate Israeli public opinion and was remiss in appreciating the dangers Islamic fundamentalism posed to Israel, the newly formed Palestine Authority and the peace process itself.

"The greatest weakness of the three-year negotiation effort was that its message did not filter enough down to the people," he concludes. "There was little talk of reconciliation, even less of the other side's predicaments."

In November 1996, Savir was appointed to head the ongoing negotiations with Syria which, until then, had been conducted by Israel's ambassador to the United Sates, Itamar Rabinovich. In *The Process*, Savir makes several telling observations about these talks.

Although Rabin never explicitly promised Hafez al-Assad the Golan Heights, he seemed ready to withdraw to the June 4, 1967 line in exchange for certain Syrian concessions. Assad, as it turned out, did not accept Rabin's demands.

Nevertheless, Israel and Syria reached a measure of progress on the nature of peace, water and economic relations. The real difficulties arose over security arrangements and the depth of a withdrawal.

Read all about it in *The Process*.

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JEWISH EDUCATION
The Next Generation

Taking pride in Judaism

By DR. ELLIOTT MALAMET

One of the most common dilemmas faced by Jews today is the tension between the claims of Judaism as a very particular and exclusive way of life, and the ethic of universal brotherhood that seems so taken for granted as the only perspective that is possible for an enlightened individual. Doesn't Judaism border on bigotry in its rhetoric about Jews as a "chosen people?" This is a serious question, and one that is especially important in contemporary Jewish education, where the ethic of relativism – that each culture is equally valid – informs the world view of many students.

The Torah's response to this issue is implied in the opening verses of Chapter 12 of Genesis. God commands Abraham to leave his "land" in Haran and move to Canaan. He is told not simply to leave his homeland, but also "his birthplace," and his "father's house," for all of these geographic areas designate a different allegiance and hence a different problem in severing connection with the past. First comes the problem of the "land," the national culture which defines much of who we are. Then there is one's "birthplace" (one's social framework, friends, associates). What will they think if I "go Jewish on them?" And, of course, "father's house" comes last of all, the Herculean task of rebelling against family traditions that may be utterly antithetical to living Judaism.

God wishes to remove Abraham from the environment in which he has been living and to place him in an entirely different reality, one where he can serve God free from the opposing value systems and ideas of his idol worshipping neighbors. And what is to be the result of this aggressively "anti-social" gesture, this flight by Abraham into a very particular way of life? We are told that God will make for Abraham a great nation, and that all who bless Abraham will be blessed, and all that curse him shall be cursed. But the truly striking part of God's promise follows directly after this, when Abraham is assured that as a result of this decision to flee his milieu, "*all the families of the earth* shall be blessed."

This is a seemingly odd comment by the text; after all, what is the connection between Abraham's pursuit of a very specific and non-universal lifestyle and the accumulation of blessing for all people, everywhere? Yet precisely here we see revealed Judaism's central teaching about the relationship between the particular and the universal, that is, that nothing can be accomplished in life without coming from a particular vantage point. No successful relationship with another human being is achievable unless one relates to the other from a specific and even different (but hopefully compatible) point of view. God tells Abraham that the pursuit of a particular way of life – given that it is carried out with intelligence, dignity and respect for others – ensures that not only will he benefit, but also that the world as a whole gains from this situation.

Judaism teaches that to take pride and actively engage in our tradition need not be a ticket to prejudice, but is rather a moral imperative. As we develop a solid identity as Jews, we can then meaningfully encounter other people, Jews and gentiles alike. In this way, we help to contribute to the diverse fabric of the world and give substance to the term universalism, which should not be a synonym for conformity, but rather a dialogue between rich and different points of view.

Roots & Remembrance

'It ain't necessarily so'

By ZE'EV GLICENSTEIN

A little more than a decade ago, I invested $4 at a local Mormon family history library for a microfilmed reel of Jewish records (1846-1853) from my paternal ancestral town of Konin, Poland. It turned out to be one of the most rewarding investments I ever made.

It took a few years, but eventually I inspected all of Konin's Jewish civil records from 1808 to 1884. The microfilms yielded approximately 330 documents pertaining to my family. More family documents awaited in microfilms from neighboring towns.

The 19th-century civil registrations of Congress Poland were handwritten in Polish until 1867, and in Russian thereafter. The documents were largely standard and formulaic in their composition, varying minimally from town to town and from year to year.

As anyone knows who has ever compiled a 19th-century Polish-Jewish family tree, such documents are pieces of a complex jigsaw puzzle that can be fitted together to present a larger picture. Only through rigorous scrutiny do some of these documents relinquish their secrets and mysteries. The task of translation requires the genealogist to be a linguist, but the larger task of interpretation requires that he or she be a skilled detective.

In recent years, I have gone over my documents with the proverbial fine-tooth comb. I have translated them afresh, put them in chronological order, and carefully studied Hebrew signatures, discrepancies in ages, naming patterns and other elements. Amazingly, even after a decade, I can still labor through a midnight dreary, poring over these antique papers, and emerge with new insights, interrelationships and enigmas.

How, for example, does one account for the puzzling anomaly of a duplicated death record? The Konin record books contain two documents, dated some three weeks apart in February and March of 1852, that each purports to describe the death of a 6-year-old girl, Rodesz Hahn.

Mourners in 19th-century Poland were apparently spared the legal responsibility of appearing at the town hall within a set period of time to register a death. Fathers did indeed occasionally report the deaths of their own children and then sign the register, but such a painful duty was apparently not obligatory. The only requirement seemed to be that the death had to be reported by someone, and whoever reported it – family representative, neighbor, community official – had to declare that he was convinced "with one's own eyes" that the death had occurred.

If the girl's father, Ber Hahn, was present while one of the duplicated entries was made, he was almost certainly not present for both. How could he, as well as the clerk, have forgotten his earlier visit? Further, how could he claim to be 36 years old in one document and 40 in the other? From this instance, we may surmise that official registrars were not above freely "guesstimating" ages and otherwise fabricating information.

Apparently our ancestors often purposely mixed up the facts in the civil records. Their reasons? In some cases they wanted to confound the civil authorities responsible for the military draft. They were also superstitious and may have sought to confound the lurking angel of death by being inexact about their names, ages and number of children.

Age discrepancies are common in the civil records. Just like today, people then had egotistical reasons for lying about their ages. It's also probable that many people resented the onus of reporting on their domestic affairs and sought to intentionally mislead the powers that be. Telling little white lies might have been a sort of comic subterfuge, in an attempt to hoodwink a government administration that was not exactly benign in its dealings with them.

Experienced genealogists acknowledge that even when a "fact" is recorded in an official document, "it ain't necessarily so." Biographical details need to be corroborated and reinforced through multiple sources before they can be considered trustworthy.

* * *

Next month at this time I expect to be among the roughly 700 people attending the 18th annual Seminar on Jewish Genealogy at the Century Plaza Hotel in Los Angeles. For details contact Scott Groll, 818-786-3239 or e-mail [sgroll@ix.netcom.com].

Books

By Bernard Baskin

***From Generation To Generation.* A History of Toronto's Mount Sinai Hospital (Lesley Marrus Barsky, $40).**

Now in its 75th year, Toronto's Mount Sinai Hospital is a world leader in research and in compassionate and high-quality care of the sick. But questions abound. How was so much achieved in so short a time? How did a largely struggling and immigrant community overcome multiple barriers to create so outstanding an institution? Who were some of the prime players in the ongoing drama of creative planning and accomplishment? What was happening in Toronto over three-quarters of a century ago – in government and in academic life – to influence and make possible the birth and growth of Mount Sinai?

These are some of the questions that Lesley Marrus Barsky probes in this informative, well-written, superbly researched and copiously illustrated account.

From 1900 to 1921, the Jewish population of Toronto jumped from 3,000 to almost 35,000. These largely Eastern European newcomers cried out for medical care and attention. The health facilities open to them and catering to their specialized needs were meagre. Moreover Jewish doctors, victims of anti-Semitism, could not intern or attend patients in Toronto.

The author makes clear that Jews were not excluded during the years 1910 to 1940 from the University of Toronto medical school. "In fact, records show that the number of Jewish students at Toronto's medical school began to grow at an extraordinary rate once large-scale immigration got under way. In 1910, only two percent, and by 1932, over one-quarter of all medical students were Jewish, an astonishing figure at a time when Jews made up only seven percent of the city's population. As well, the academic performance of Jewish students during this period was exemplary, and thus gave little cause for systemic prejudice within the medical faculty."

The major problem, however, was that there were few or no internships available to Jews. Specialty training was also closed to them. A Jewish doctor who desired further medical education, had to go to Europe or the United States, an option few could afford.

What resulted was the establishment of a 33-bed maternity and convalescent hospital on Yorkville Avenue, largely through the incentives of a Jewish charitable women's group. A larger facility followed in 1953, and the new and impressive Mount Sinai Hospital of today in 1973. The Research Institute (later renamed the Samuel Lunenfeld Research Institute) was created in 1992.

The men and women who over the years made Mount Sinai possible, displayed dogged perseverance, unselfish concern for others and unusual and creative fundraising ability.

As to be expected in a history of this kind, there are numerous brief biographies of prominent physicians and their accomplishments, as well as descriptions of the innovative improvements over the years in the treatment and care of patients.

From the beginning, though Jewish in spirit, the hospital has been open to patients of all religions. Kosher and non-kosher kitchens have always been available for patients and staff.

A small jewel of a synagogue, capable of seating 40, flanked by stained-glass panels and tucked into the southeast corner of the main floor, was dedicated in October 1975. It contains a holy ark whose magnificent bronze sculptured doors, executed by Sorel Etrog, bear the Hebrew inscription from Jeremiah, "Heal us, O Lord and We Will Be Healed."

In 1995 the hospital was listed in the book, *The Best Hospitals in America*, as probably the best all around hospital in the country.

What about the future? The author is confident that despite attempts at government restructuring, it is certain that "the long tradition of optimism and determination that once drove the rugged individualists who began Mount Sinai Hospital will not soon be dispatched to the dust of history." Dedicated to uncompromising excellence and the will to prosper and flourish, Mount Sinai will remain a bastion of hope and healing.

Free graphics on the Internet

By MARK MIETKIEWICZ

It's 2 a.m. The big essay is due tomorrow. And you're done.

Then you realize, you don't have that satellite photo of Israel and the Middle East. No need to panic! Just download the photo you need **[ftp://ftp.virtual.co.il/pub1/graphics/clipart/mideast.gif]**.

There are hundreds of photos and pictures of Judaic symbols, portraits of Jewish leaders, maps and photographs available to you online. And best of all, many of these images are free. Today, I'll tell you where to find them. Then you can use them in a school project, spruce up your own Web site or create a coloring book for kids. And if you have a program like Print Shop, you can incorporate these Jewish images into greeting cards, newsletters, welcome home posters, brochures, calendars and much more.

While practically every graphics library has some stunning images, there definitely is garbage out there. So don't get discouraged if your hunt takes a while. For example, at CompuJudaica's Jewish Graphics area **[http://www.zoots.com/cj/graphic.htm]** you'll find photos of ancient Ketubot, sheet music for Havah Nagilah, a Chagall painting, some nice Star of David designs, and a (not very good) picture of Jerry Seinfeld and ex-girlfriend Shoshana Lonstein.

Still looking for that perfect graphic? The Gallery of Free Jewish Clip Art presents a simple yet stylish display of over 40 Judaic images **[http://www.geocities.com/SoHo/Gallery/6844/]**. Sometimes free Jewish art will appear in the most surprising places. A Norwegian site has over a dozen black and white images including a dreidel and five menorahs **[http://www.stud.ntnu.no/studorg/laget/clipart/jewish/joedisk.html]**. And don't miss Shamash: The Jewish Internet Consortium Graphics Library **[http://www.shamash.org/computers/graphics/]** or Virtual Jerusalem which boasts the largest collection of Hebrew and Jewish software on the Internet **[http://www.software.virtual.co.il]**. You can download free Windows and Macintosh software in addition to a generous supply of clip art, pictures of famous rabbis and Israeli photos such as the famous Rabin-Arafat handshake.

Some times the best things *aren't* free. If you can't find what you need at the free sites, you can purchase high quality commercial Judaic clips.

The large software creator and vendor Davka has several graphic collections for sale **[http://www.davka.com/fntgraph.html]**. YidPix **[http://www.poplarsoft.com/dav_y1.htm#yidpix]** is a Judaic add-on to the very popular graphics program Kid Pix.

If ever there was a master of truth in advertising it is Vladmir Pertsel. Pertsel has created a colorful map of Israel that you can download **[ftp://www.zoots.com/library/jewh&i/ISRA_MAP.GIF]**. But it seems he doesn't seem to want to vouch for its accuracy. He signs his work "Copyleft 1994. No Rights Reserved. No Responsibility Taken."

Next week, more Jewish Internet freebies.

* * *

Mark Mietkiewicz is a television producer in Toronto with an interest in the Internet. He can be reached at [mdm@inforamp.net].

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Akim on the move, says world campaign chair

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Akim Israel, the National Association for the Habilitation of the Mentally Handicapped in Israel, provides housing, sheltered workshops, work placement, day care, schooling, respite care and social clubs for Israel's mentally disabled.

And new world campaign chair Allan Marks wants to make sure that the organization can continue its work.

The key word, Marks told *The CJN* on a recent fundraising trip to Canada, is not *re*habilitation, but *ha*bilitation – "Akim starts from whatever circumstances the person is in, and gives them as regular a lifestyle as is possible.

"This may not be the same as other people have, but it is as close as we can come."

For instance, he said, even if they can't work with a computer, they can enjoy the use of one. "It is one of the few things they will keep playing with for a relatively long time."

"Every Israeli knows Akim," he said. "Twenty years ago the main pushka in Israel was for Akim."

Marks grew up in a traditional household in Leeds, England. He played rugby at university, married, and worked as a pharmacist. He opened several drugstores before he sold them and became active in Jewish welfare: United Israel Appeal (called in England Israel United Appeal) and Lubavitch, among other causes.

Ten years ago, he and his wife, his in-laws, his children "and my dog Knaidel" made aliyah. In Israel he volunteered to work in the immigrant absorption process.

Eighteen months ago, he was approached by Friends of Akim, the group that worked to supplement money and services provided by various levels of government.

"They realized that they were going backwards," he explained, forced to deal with a huge funding deficit, and an aging membership.

"We need to bring in new, younger people, and encourage them to work alongside of the older ones," he said.

The Israel Friends of Akim, he told them, "has to set the example for other Friends on the international level."

Akim's 40 million shekel budget comes from government departments of health, social welfare, education, and mental health. Still, money has to be found for furnishing, programming, transportation, and other services – some 30 percent of the budget.

"It is upsetting to me that world Jewry says that because Israel is growing financially, and progressing, that it can manage on its own. The country has a huge deficit, for facilities, absorption, universities, hospitals, and organizations – like Akim."

For instance, Akim is currently refurbishing the D. Lou Harris hostel in Tel Aviv, named for the Toronto businessman. While most of the money comes from the municipality, more is needed.

"We are also updating the one in Rehovot, that was built 15 or 20 years ago. It wasn't bad before, but it needed to be updated."

Public relations is important, Marks said. "We have to educate families so they will know what facilities are available, and the neighbors [where the hostels and other housing are located] so they will realize that they don't have to be worried."

In early 1999, he said, he plans to organize a gathering of international supporters of Akim in Israel. In June 1999 Akim has been asked to bring 16 athletes to the world handicapped games in North Carolina. "We want to bring those athletes, and make sure they get the services they need."

The Canadian Friends of Akim was founded by Olga Eisen and George Banias 30 years ago. It has the same need as its Israeli counterpart for an infusion of young volunteers.

For more information, contact Eisen at 222-7267 or 222-7220. Akim also has a Web site – [www.akim.org.il].

NEW BBYO LEADERS

B'nai Brith Youth Organization's Greater Toronto Council recently held its 1998-99 elections. Yoni Lerman (left) and Stacey Hoffer are the new Council Godol and N'Siah, respectively.

Poland honors Lenkinski

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The government of Poland recently awarded one of its highest honors to the widow of Jewish activist Louis Lenkinski, in memory of her late husband.

"He was a fighter for solidarity and the workers' movement in Poland," said Polish Consul General Wojciech Tycinski in presenting the Officer's Order of Merit of the Republic of Poland to Helen Lenkinski.

Her husband was the first president of the Polish-Jewish Heritage Foundation, which sponsored the third memorial Louis Lenkinski lecture by historian Paula Draper at the Workmen's Circle.

Her presentation was titled Poles Apart: Holocaust Survivors in Canada.

Most Holocaust survivors from Poland did not enter the mainstream of Canadian life, Draper said, drawing on her experiences as an interviewer for the Spielberg Shoah Foundation, which recorded the memories of Holocaust survivors.

Because they were met by hostility, "Canadians didn't want to hear stories about the war," Draper said, and the Polish survivors tended to remain together. As an example, she cited the case of 10 couples who were friends; six of the couples bought cottages on the same lake and five of them wintered in Florida at the same place.

Estimating that 40,000 Holocaust survivors ended up in Canada, Draper said many of them were anxious to get away from eastern Europe, "not realizing how well memories travel."

She spoke of survivors who, in some cases, were rescued by Poles, embraced Catholicism and were reluctant to return to their Jewish families when they were discovered.

Draper interviewed Jews who married non-Jewish Poles and subsequently came to Canada. They had both Jewish and non-Jewish friends, she said.

Catholicism was so important to one Jewish survivor Draper interviewed that the survivor prayed to a Catholic saint for her father's safe return.

"This survivor was afraid of being Jewish and she brought this confusion with her to Canada."

Many survivors hid their Jewish identities in order to live. Some have maintained their links with Polish rescuers.

"The Shoah immigrants who came to Canada were a unique people and Canada had never seen anything like them," she said.

Promoting good relations between Polish Canadians and Holocaust survivors is a "difficult" task, said foundation president Dr. John Stanley in closing the meeting.

"It's not an easy task," he said. "Some events shed more heat than light, but this bridge-building has to be done."

MINYANIM IN THE GTA
WEEK OF JUNE 12-19/'98

Synagogue	Address & Tel.	Fri. Night	Shabbat	Sun. A.M.	Daily A.M.	Daily P.M.
Abir Yaacob (O) (Sephardic Kehila Centre)	7026 Bathurst St. (905) 669-7654	7:00 PM	8:30 AM	8:30 AM	6:45 AM	8:50 PM
Beth Avraham Yoseph (O)	613 Clark Ave. W. (905) 886-3810	Candle-lighting	8:45 AM	6:45 AM & 7:30 AM	6:45 AM & 7:30 AM	10 minutes before sunset
Clanton Park Synagogue (O)	11 Lowesmoor Ave. (416) 633-4193	7:00 PM	8:30 AM & 9:00 AM	7:30 AM & 8:15 AM	Mon. & Thurs. 6:50 & 7:15 AM Tues., Wed., Fri. 7:00 & 7:25 AM	15 minutes before sunset
Shaarei Tefillah (O)	3600 Bathurst St. (416) 787-1631	7:00 PM	8:30 AM & 9:00 AM	8:30 AM	6:30 AM & 7:30 AM	15 minutes before sunset

This is not a comprehensive listing of the synagogues in the Greater Toronto area. The information is provided by the Vaad Harabonim of Toronto. In due course we hope to receive similar information regarding non-orthodox synagogues from the Toronto Board of Rabbis. The Vaad and the Board will periodically revise the listings.

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Community Matters

SPECIAL SCHOOL NEEDS SPECIAL SUPPORT

Toronto's only Jewish day school for children with wide-ranging special needs is proud of its policy of not turning any child away. But according to Zareinu school principals Carol Goldman and Marion Goldmintz, scarce funding and overburdened resources are making the open door policy harder to maintain.

That's why UJA Federation has provided Zareinu with more than $100,000 in financial assistance over the past two years.

The Zareinu Educational Centre, established in 1986 with no funding from the federal or provincial government, provides special education, physiotherapy, music, occupational and communication therapies to children with autism, Down Syndrome, Cerebral Palsy and other disorders.

Communication Disorder Assistant Cindy Moylan with Zareinu Shai Kowan.

Zareinu's enrollment of 47 has doubled over the last two years and a waiting list grows daily. The average annual cost for each student is $22,000, but to make the school more accessible, full tuition is set at $13,500. In spite of the tuition subsidy, according to Goldmintz, fewer than 5% of parents are able to pay the full fee.

Overcrowding has also forced the school to find a new location to house nearly 100 students. "Right now, we have therapists holding sessions with students in stairwells, and computer labs in closets," says Goldman. "There's not one inch of space that isn't being used."

"That's why we have to be creative when it comes to funding," explains Goldmintz. "Otherwise we couldn't keep the school open and these very special kids would fall through the cracks."

The majority of Zareinu's funding is obtained by members of the Board of Directors and the school's Zareinu dollars program, through which community members donate to the school by purchasing groceries with Zareinu currency certificates. Zareinu dollars, which are accepted by close to 100 merchants and service providers in the community, can be purchased by calling (416) 787-8278.

"Every day that a child remains on the waiting list we lose precious time and opportunity for them to get out of a wheelchair or speak their first words," says Goldman. "We can't afford to keep them waiting any longer."

SPONSORS BACK ISRAEL AT 50

For nearly a year Toronto's Jewish community has been celebrating Israel's 50th anniversary with the passion of a people bound together by a 2000 year struggle for existence. And while countless volunteers and community leaders have been the stewards of a successful stream of events, none of this would be possible without unprecedented support from corporate and individual sponsors.

To date, more than $1.4 million dollars have been raised outside the UJA Federation Campaign to help finance community wide festivities marking Israel's 50th - among them - the April 30th Night Of A Lifetime Gala which drew a crowd of over 10,000, and the UJA Federation Israel 50 Fun Walk and the Israel at 50 Festival, which attracted a record 15,000.

"The challenge was to obtain financial support for Israel at 50 celebrations without affecting support for ongoing community agencies," explains Gerald Sheff, who spearheaded the sponsorship effort. "We approached those who have demonstrated a strong, abiding, long-term commitment to supporting the State of Israel and they in return felt privileged to play an integral role in this historic occasion," he adds. "Patrons enthusiastically offered their financial support over and above their usual donations."

Among the more than 50 corporate sponsors who committed a minimum of $25,000 throughout the jubilee year are Canadian Highways International Corporation, First Marathon Securities, Air Canada, Gee Jeffrey and Partners, Hong Kong Bank of Canada, MacDonalds Restaurants of Canada Limited, Newcourt Credit, Oshawa Group, Royal Bank, Yorkdale Shopping Centre, Mediacom, The Toronto Sun, Second Cup and El Al Israeli Airlines, which is the official airline of the Israel at Fifty Pavilion at the CNE this summer.

Corporate and individual sponsors helped make the UJA Federation Israel 50 Fun Walk and Israel at 50 Festival huge successes.

IT'S AN ISRAEL EXPERIENCE

Whether you're into admiring archeological treasures, challenging yourself to a rock climbing adventure or enjoying exotic culinary delights, the Israel at Fifty Pavilion has it all for you under one roof.

From August 21 – September 7, the CNE's National Trade Centre will house a colourful collection of Israeli goods and products, art, entertainment, food, fashion and technology profiling every segment of Israeli society to mark Israel's 50th anniversary. Special attractions include an interactive Negev desert landscape with camel rides, an historic photographic exhibit and a 5th century mosaic synagogue floor from Tzippori depicting the sacrifice of Isaac.

There will also be live entertainment for adults and kids including Israeli pop music group Yovel and Canadian children's' favorite Judy and David.

"We're offering something for everyone," says Israel at Fifty Pavilion Chair Karen Morton. CNE officials expect more than 2 million park visitors to make their way into the Pavilion, which is being sponsored by the Israel at 50 Consortium under the auspices of UJA Federation and the Consul General of Israel.

CLOTHES COMFORT

Participants on UJA Federation's upcoming Yachdav International Young Leadership Mission to Kiev and Israel, will be making a special delivery to Kiev's Jewish community next week. The group will be distributing 50 duffel bags full of new clothing items donated by local manufacturers, retailers and importers to needy Jews living in the Ukraine capital. The clothes collection effort was conducted by UJA Federation's Fashion Division Campaign spearheaded by Co-chairs Ron Prosserman and Laurie Cohen as well as Lynn Morris and Colin Lewis. Pictured with volunteer duffel stuffers are Ron Prosserman (back centre) and Laurie Cohen (middle left).

Community Matters, a supplement of the Canadian Jewish News, is sponsored and produced by UJA Federation. Website: www.feduja.org

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What's New

By Miriam Herman

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DEADLINE REMINDER

What's New and About People deadlines: Monday, June 15, is deadline for June 25 issue and Monday, June 22, is deadline for July 2. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 391-1836, fax 391-0829.

Friday, June 12

ONEG SHABBAT

Beach Hebrew Institute Oneg Shabbat, vegetarian potluck supper at 6 p.m., service at 7:30. Then at 8 p.m., **Hank Borden** leads traditional zmirot accompanied by **Ivan Zilman**. 109 Kenilworth Ave.

KELLY'S HOUSE

Repeated by popular demand, **Donia B. Clenman** again reads her story, *Kelly's House*, about a mother's unusual gift of love, art and wonder, on CJRT-FM 91.1, *Stories and Music for Children* (ages five to 99), 6 p.m.

Saturday, June 13

EMUNAH WOMEN

Third annual Emunah Shabbat at Orthodox synagogues across Toronto. All women invited to participate. Check your shul schedules for details.

Sunday, June 14

ABOUT CIRCUMCISION

Public Controversy Over Circumcision by **Prof. David Novak,** director, Jewish Studies Program, University of Toronto, presented by the Entertainment and Cultural Connection and Shaarei Shomayim Brotherhood , 8 p.m. at Shaarei Shomayim. Guests $2. Coordinators **Jerry and Sandra Genesove**.

SHUL PICNIC

Everyone is invited to the annual BAYT (Beth Avraham Yoseph of Toronto) picnic and extravaganza, noon to 5 p.m. at Camp Reena. Barbecue, games, races, prizes. Indoor activities in case of rain. 905-707-0620.

ZAREINU MOVE-A-THON

A recreational event for the whole family. Food, music, games, rides. Collect pledges from sponsors and walk a two-kilometre path at York University. Money raised benefits the children with special needs at Zareinu. **Shaindy** 781-1064.

CONCERT

A concert in celebration of Israel's 50th birthday by Lachan Jewish Chamber Choir, 8 p.m. Beach Hebrew Institute, 109 Kenilworth Ave. $5. Reserve 694-7942.

BODY AND SOUL

Aish HaTorah and The Women's Fitness Club of Canada present Body and Soul, a night at the health club (for women), 8 p.m., in Promenade Mall. Free exercise class, use of club facilities, class with **Evelyn Kleslassy**, associate director, student development at Aish HaTorah, who presents ideas about the soul.

GARAGE SALES

Thornhill Study Group, a branch of the National Council of Jewish Women, multi-family garage sale 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., 44 Bluffwood Dr., (Bayview/Steeles area). All proceeds to NCJW.

Na'amat Canada, Club Simcha/Kadimah mega-garage sale fundraiser. Household articles, clothing, books and more, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., 355 York Hill Blvd. at Hilda, Thornhill.

Orah chapter, Jewish Women International, garage sale fundraiser, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., 338 Mullen Dr., (Bathurst/Milner Gate), Thornhill. 905-709-2675.

Monday, June 15

A WAR STORY

Canadian Friends of the Hebrew University, New Leadership Division, presents *Underdogs: A War Story*, an award-winning documentary film about a small-town Israeli soccer team (film in Hebrew with English subtitles), 7 p.m., Cinema 7, Cineplex Odeon Theatre, Canada Square at Yonge and Eglinton, followed by a get-together at Spacco's Billiard Bar and Eatery, 2415 Yonge St. $18. For tickets, 485-8000.

[Cont'd. on page 17]

IGA Kosher
Clark & Hilda Celebrates Israel's 50th Anniversary with an ISRAELI FOODFEST - Come Join the Fun!
Sun. June 7th to Sat. June 13th
IGA brings down the cost of keeping kosher

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Kraft Peanut Butter or Pure Jam
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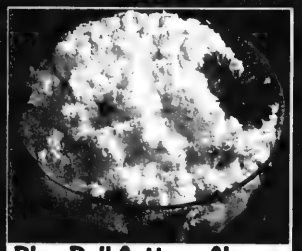
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From The Deli,
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499 lb.

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No. 1 Grade, 4.54 kg/10 lb. bag
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Apple Pie
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249

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300 g
319

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What's New

[Cont'd. from page 16]

KLEZMER MUSIC
Cranbrooke Friendship Club afternoon of Klezmer music with accordionist **Sasha Luminsky**, 12:30 p.m., Winchevsky Centre, 585 Cranbrooke Ave. Preceded by light lunch; $4 for lunch and program. 789-5502.

FOOD SHARE
Join Atid chapter of Toronto Hadassah-WIZO, 7-9 p.m., for an information session at Food Share and to help with packing of Good Food Boxes, a non-profit produce distribution program for needy families. **Shayla** 447-2537.

SUPPORT GROUP
Jewish Parents and Families of Gays and Lesbians meets 7:30 p.m., Jewish Family & Child Service, 6th floor, Lipa Green Building, 4600 Bathurst St. Phone in confidence, **Ruth** 763-9111.

Tuesday, June 16

ANNUAL AUCTION
Aquarius chapter, Jewish Women International (JWI), annual auction at Adath Sholom Synagogue, 864 Sheppard Ave. W. Silent auction and merchandise tables 6:30 p.m. Live auction begins 8 p.m. sharp. Proceeds to support community services and JWI events.

I AM HOME
Rick Kardonne composed the original music for the sound track of **Cayle Chernin's** film *I Am Home*, which opened the Capetown, South Africa, film festival last November. It is being screened on Vision TV at 9 p.m. The film, in which Cayle discovers her long-lost Russian relatives, is to be shown on WTN-TV this coming fall.

TALMUDIC LAW
Rabbi Moshe Stern discusses Talmudic Law and its Relationship to Society, 7:30-8:30 p.m., Shaarei Tefillah Synagogue. This is part of the Halacha and Topics of Current Interest series.

CONCERT
Festival Wind Orchestra concert, 8 p.m., Ford Centre for Performing Arts Studio Theatre. Adults $10, seniors/students $7. Ticketmaster or **Shelley** 491-1683.

Wednesday, June 17

MUSICAL LEGACY AWARD
Temple Sinai Congregation presents in recital **Elina Kelebeev**, winner of the 1998 Ben Steinberg Musical Legacy Award, 8 p.m. Program will be taped for future broadcast by CJRT FM.

Thursday, June 18

PLAY READING
Medina Theatre Ensemble stages reading of an original Canadian play, *There Comes a Time*, about family relationships, written by **Fran Elliot** and **Roselle Stone**, directed by **Reva Stern**, 7:30 p.m., B'nai Brith Building, 15 Hove St. Members $4, non-members $6. 633-2057.

LIZZIES OLD TIMERS
Celebration of the 85th anniversary of the Elizabeth Street Playground, birthplace of **Bob Abate's** Lizzies, and the 15th anniversary of Lizzies Old Timers Association, at Bob Abate Community Recreation Centre; cocktails 5:30 p.m., dinner 7 p.m. $35. **Norm Cornack** 749-6735 or **Harvey Bronstine** 905-886-6580.

And What Else Is New

CANTORIAL CONCERT
Gala Cantorial Concert featuring **Cantor Marshall Loomer,** Adath Sholom Synagogue; **Cantor Eric Moses,** Shaare Zion Synagogue, Montreal; and **Cantor Noam Goodman,** Toronto; Sunday, June 21, 7:30 p.m., at Adath Sholom, 864 Sheppard Ave. W. Tickets $10. Synagogue 635-0131.

JERUSALEM PAVILION
Visit the Jerusalem Pavilion of the Toronto International Festival Caravan. Celebrate Israel's 50th anniversary in song and dance June 13-20 (closed Friday) at the Bloor Jewish Community Centre, 750 Spadina Ave. Featuring spectacular stage entertainment and live Klezmer bands.

CAMP SOMAYACH
Ohr Somayach Toronto's Camp Somayach in Thornhill for women and children, July 6-31: The Soul and Reincarnation, Why Me? – Understanding Suffering, Judaism and Christianity and Redemption: What Are We Waiting For? with **Rabbi Eliezer Breitowitz**; and The Secret to Happiness and The Spirituality of the Sabbath: An Introduction with **Rabbi Avram Rothman** and **Rabbi Elie Karfunkel**. Also instruction in self-defence and first-aid for women. Preschoolers' concurrent activities: arts 'n crafts, storytime, water fun, playground.
Women's classes 9:15 a.m. to noon, Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays. Preschoolers 9 a.m. to noon, Mondays to Fridays. **Karen** 905-886-5730

BEREAVEMENT GROUP
Beth Tzedec chesed committee's support group for widows and widowers continues. New participants welcome. Pre-register. Chesed Confidential Line 781-3514, ext. 61, or **Dorothy Pullan** 781-2568.

NEW HADASSAH CHAPTER
Toronto Hadassah-WIZO invites young women to a newly formed chapter. Members are between 15 and 18 years old and are all in high school. The group has chosen the chapter name of Ruach Yovel (Spirit and Celebration). Goal is to work for Israel from the 50th to the 100th anniversary. Next meeting is a barbecue at the end of August. **Bonnie Wagman** 630-8373.

HEBREW ACADEMY
Beth Israel Hebrew Academy Sunday and/or weekdays Hebrew school in Thornhill and Richmond Hill for ages five to bar/bat mitzvah. 905-770-1082.

KENTON TINY TOTS
Co-op program for children 2½-4 years, five mornings a week, 9:15-11:45 a.m. Weekly themes, Jewish holidays, arts and crafts, stories, outdoor play, music and drama, ABC recognition, special events, kosher snacks. $1,600 for the school year. Sponsored by City of Toronto Parks and Recreation. **Rosie** 663-1830 or **Ann** 630-6324.

TRADITIONAL MINYAN
Shomer Israel Congregation traditional heimish minyan welcomes all non-affiliated. No dues. Shabbat 9 a.m. Shabbat Minchah study class with **Rabbi Sheldon Schwartz**. Sunday morning minyan 8:30 a.m. 60 Rockford Rd. (behind Rockford School). **David** 256-1600.

ART EXHIBIT
In celebration of Seniors Week, Forest Hill Art Group (seniors) art works, painting, paper mache, sculpture, are on exhibit at Toronto Board of Education, 155 College St., until June 17.

VENDORS TAKE NOTE
Sell your arts and crafts at the annual Earl Bales Arts in the Park Celebration, Sunday, July 26, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. **Brian Waterman** 395-7873.

MINCHAH SERVICES
Mount Sinai Hospital offers Minchah services Monday through Friday at 1 p.m., followed by a 15-minute class, in the hospital synagogue, main floor. Public welcome.

JF&CS GROUPS
Jewish Family & Child Service Groups. **Pat Lieberman** 638-7800, ext. 215.
Parenting Teens: Who Is This Stranger In My House?, begins July 8.
Looking Ahead: for recently separated individuals, begins July 14.
The Challenge of Anger: For Women, begins July; daytime and evening groups available.

FOR SENIORS

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). June 11, bingo and games; June 13, dance party, 50 Years of Israel, Teddy Music Band, singer **Dalia Dahary**, greetings from **Shula Ofir**, regional director, Israel Aliyah Centre; June 18, Casino Rama (register with **Rina Alexander** 783-5761); June 25, comedy film *Fishke Bmilium*; June 30, picnic, Earl Bales Park. **Jerry Bengall** 633-6360 or **Malka Cola** 630-5771.

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: June 29, Cullen Gardens; July 6, Thornhill Square Mall; July 13-19, Catskills; July 23, Casino Niagara; Aug. 10, Shuffle off to Buffalo; Aug. 16, barbecue party; Aug. 24-27, Leelanau Casino, Magic of Michigan, $399/person. 395-7362.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club: June 16, Oak Creek Boat Farm cruise; July 14, Kingston cruise; Aug. 19, cruise and music *Little Shop of Horrors*; Oct. 27, *Man of La Mancha* at Stratford. **Lena** 785-5773. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel.**Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

LZA Seniors Club: Reserve for *Man of La Mancha* at Stratford, Sept. 10. **Libby** 782-2059 or Borochov office 630-9444. Ladies Folk-dancing Thursdays 1:30 p.m. Cultural Discussion Group Tuesdays 10 a.m. at Borochov Centre, 272 Codsell Ave. Centre open Monday to Friday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE
Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. 225-2112.
Pharmacist **Esther Mandelbaum** discusses Vitamins – Should They Be Kosher?, Monday, June 15, 1:15-2:15 p.m.
Father's Day dance dessert party with **Margarita Maslov** and **Michael Khinkis**, Wednesday, June 17, 1-3 p.m. Tickets at Information Desk.
Hearing Assistance Clinic with **Brenda Vernon** of the Canadian Hearing Society, Thursday, June 18, 1:15-4 p.m. Book appointment.
Israeli Club Etrog meets 7 p.m. Tuesdays for movies, sing-alongs, lectures, bingo, dances. June 16, Vivaldi Concertos. **Anna.**
Movie, *Everyone Says I Love You* , Sunday, June 14, 2:30 p.m.
Sunday dance, June 14, 7:30-10:30 p.m.

BLOOR JCC

Bloor Jewish Community Centre, 750 Spadina Ave. 924-6211.
Seniors Club: Thursday, June 11, 2 p.m. Sounds of Summer Sing-along by Jewish Camp Council of Toronto. **Laraine Polevoy** talks about the summer camp for seniors at Maple Lake Resort. **Ella Krylov** leads a sing-along of Yiddish and international music. Thursday, June 18, 2 p.m., Spring Afternoon Tea with concert of cantorial music by **David Nemtzov**. Call **Judy**.

SINGLES EVENTS CAN BE FOUND ON PAGE 18

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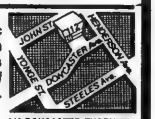

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Among those at Camp Shalom in 1954 were (from left) Chuck Schwartz, Claire Jacobson, Marvin Elkind, Evie Korson, Gershon Gross and Jerry Grafstein.

Camp Shalom marks its 50th

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — In honor of its 50th anniversary, Camp Shalom is dedicating a new gate to the camp's founders at a ceremony to be held June 14 at the campsite on Lake Muskoka near Gravenhurst.

Part of the family of Young Judaea camps, Camp Shalom was founded by Harris Gulko and purchased by the Toronto Zionist Council in 1948, which coincided with the establishment of the State of Israel.

In its first summer, 25 campers and several volunteer counsellors, under the direction of Gulko, stayed at the camp's 17-acre site, which the council had bought from Silver Birch Lodge for about $20,000. In 1954, 37 acres of land were purchased adjacent to the original site.

Today, there are 235 campers and 95 staff in each of July and August. Facilities include two large sports fields, tennis and basketball courts and a 100-foot waterfront.

'Campers, staff can enjoy freshly baked bread'

Yossi Winter, president of the Toronto Zionist Council, said that to celebrate the camp's anniversary, the council has expanded the kosher kitchen by 30 percent and has added a bakery that will be in operation all night, "so campers and staff can enjoy freshly baked bread and pastries."

As well, the camp's water supply has been hooked up to Gravenhurst so that the tap water will be drinkable, he said.

A commemorative 50th anniversary watch has been designed in styles for children and adults.

The "traditional Zionist camp was created with the intent of instilling the campers with a love of Israel," said Malka Klein, the camp administrator.

Each year, she said, the camp's activities revolve around a specific theme. "Last year, the theme was the 100th anniversary of the first Zionist conference, and this year, of course, it will be Israel's 50th anniversary. Some special activities such as arts and crafts will relate to that theme, and the cook will create some Israeli dishes."

Judaic values are presented to the campers "in an informal, fun way," Klein said. "We are not an academic camp. Kids need a break from studying. We present a Hebrew word of the day, and all our buildings and many activities are given Hebrew names. Campers do not even know they are learning. We hold Shabbat services and a havdalah service. On a particularly hot day, we may hold the service at the lake."

For the fifth year, the camp is sponsoring 10 Israeli children who have reached bar or bat mitzvah age. The youth, chosen by the Israeli Victims of War committee are flown in by the committee.

"We are one of many camps across North America who do this. It gives campers here a chance to get to know Israeli youth, and it gives the Israelis a chance to enjoy camp. It works well all around," Klein said.

She acknowledges that the camp could expand, "but we would lose our special, intimate atmosphere. By the end of camp, most kids know each other and the staff know most of the campers."

Past alumni of Camp Shalom include Michelle Landsberg, Senator Jerry Grafstein, Eddie and Brian Greenspan, and Garth Drabinsky.

Klein says that at the day-long celebration, she expects several past and present campers and staff, as well as members of the community "who want to see what the camp is all about. Catering will be provided by Abe Levy Caterers, and entertainment by the Mickey Lewin Band. Bob Betts, mayor of Gravenhurst, will be at the dedication ceremony.

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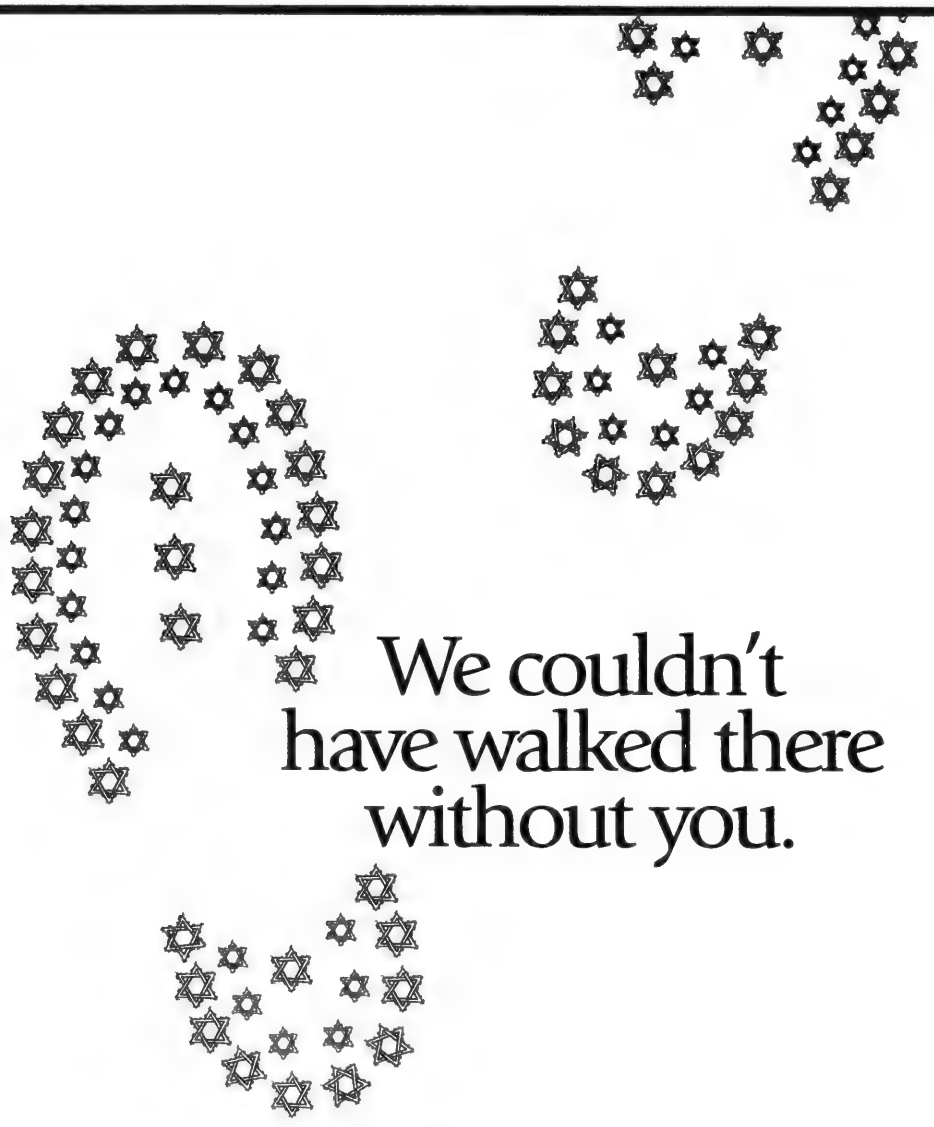

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ISRAEL 50

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On Campus

Eating disorders examined

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Although some aspects of Jewish culture may predispose young women to eating disorders, Judaism can also play a healing role for those who already suffer them.

"I want to emphasize that," said Esther Kane in a recent interview at the kitchen table of her mother's Toronto home.

Kane, 27, is completing her master of social work degree at the University of British Columbia (UBC). Her thesis, which she is to defend this month, is entitled *Not Just A Pretty Face: Exploring Jewish Women's Experiences of Eating Problems*.

There are very few papers on eating disorders within the Jewish community. Kane's is likely the first to be completed in Canada.

An eating disorder survivor herself, Kane, who earned a bachelor of social work from Ryerson Polytechnic University in 1996, profiled three Jewish women who have struggled with food issues and body image.

Their struggles are "intimately linked to their experiences of being Jewish," Kane wrote. "Implications for practice suggest the need for a culturally-sensitive approach."

Kane regained her equilibrium five years ago after a decade-long battle with debilitating bulimia. She credits her recovery to determination, therapy and a lot of support.

Her research on Jewish women, as well as a placement as a therapist intern at Jewish Family Services in Vancouver, proved to be both painful and healing.

Her next project is to compile stories of women with eating disorders, for eventual publication. (She can be contacted by e-mail until the end of the summer at [ekane@unixg.ubc.ca].)

The granddaughter of socialists, Kane was born to Jewish parents who "believed in diversity and everyone being the same... I hardly ever knew any Jewish kids. I didn't have the typical Jewish experience... but ethnicity and culture are such a big part of who you are, it's got to have an impact."

Esther Kane

Food was always an issue in her family, she recalls. It seemed, wrote Kane in her thesis, that her elders were consumed with what they ate or forbade themselves to eat, and were vigilant about maintaining a certain body size.

Kane's mother Marion, who is food editor of the *Toronto Star*, no longer refers to "our Russian peasant bodies," noted Esther. Her mother has become "a role model of a strong Jewish woman who loves herself."

"It goes with self-esteem," explained Marion in a separate interview.

Esther, after years of thinking she was too dark, too short and too round, now revels in visiting art galleries to see the depictions of full-figured women who once set a standard for beauty.

For the interview, she wore her own artwork – earrings and a necklace depicting a full-figured woman balancing the sun in upraised arms, her feet planted firmly on the Earth.

"I look at Jewish women now, and think we're so beautiful," said Esther. Glamorous role models like Bette Midler and Barbra Streisand have helped, she noted.

Hearing the stories of other Jewish women who had eating disorders, she felt for the first time "a sense of belonging to a people... outside of my own family."

All the women she interviewed contextualize their eating problems within a Jewish context, Kane said. "Their first memories of binging or thinking they were fat were... at a Passover dinner or in their bubbie's kitchen. I found myself having to translate Yiddish words a lot. They all felt there was a strong connection [between being Jewish and having an eating disorder]."

Although Marion Kane thinks food is sometimes too important in Jewish families, food and mealtimes have positive associations for her, dating back to her childhood.

Among the themes that emerged in Esther's research was one called "family hold back," in which special food would be prepared for guests. A woman Kane called Rachael – who relied on spiritual aspects of Judaism to help her recover – said, "Of course when the guests leave... it's saved for something else. Other people coming into our home had better treatment than we did."

Other interlinked themes were a focus on intellectual achievement, an undue focus on looks, and a lack of acknowledgment of sexuality.

Although Kane believes a Jewish woman therapist might have an advantage in treating Jewish women ("there's a certain understanding"), she cautions that just because one is Jewish doesn't mean she will have anything in common with her Jewish clients.

Over the past few years, Kane has re-connected to the Jewish community, most recently through her involvement with Vancouver Hillel. An undergraduate course in Jewish history at UBC helped put into context things she had understood only vaguely, she said.

In her own family, one grandparent had escaped the Holocaust, another had escaped pogroms. Kane's eating disorder reflected, in part, anti-Semitism she had internalized, she explained.

For Kane, her thesis and this article mark the first time she is going public about having had an eating disorder. "To break out of the silence and to be heard without judgment is the most healing thing."

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שמעון דובנאָוו, דער גרויסער ייִדישער היסטאָריקער, האָט זיך געשטעלט אַ מיסיע אין לעבן: צו פֿאָרשן די געשיכטע פון עם ישראל. ער האָט די מיסיע אויסגעפֿירט בשלימות.

ווי אַ זון פון גרויסן ישוב אין רוסלאַנד האָט דובנאָוו שטאַרק געפֿילט די שוועָרע דעספּאָטישע הערשאַפֿט פון צאָרס. ווי אַ רעזולטאַט פון אַנטיסעמיטישע גזירות ווערט אים נישט דער-לויבט אָפּצוגעבן עקזאַמענס צו שטודירן אין מאָסקווע אָדער פּע-טערסבורג. זײַן ערשט בוך געשיכטע אין דורך דער צענזור פון אויבער־פֿראָקוראָר פון דער קריסטלעכער קירך פֿאַר־משפט געווארן פֿאַרברענט צו ווערן.

דובנאָוו האָט באַשריבן די געשיכטע פון די ייִדן אין פוילן, ליטע און וויסרוסלאַנד. ער האָט אין זײַנע העכסט־אָריגינעלע אַר-בעטן געשילדערט די קהילה אין פאַר־מלחמה־זײַקן פוילן, וואָס האָט געשפּילט די ראָל פון אַ ייִדישער אַדמיניסטראַציע, אַ „גמינע".

דובנאָוו האָט באַטראַכט ייִדישע געשיכטע ווי היסטאָריאָגרא-פיע, וואָס געהערט צום גאַנצן פֿאָלק אין אַלע צייטן. ער איז נישט מסכים געווען מיט זײַנע פֿאָרגייער, די גרויסע היסטאָריאָגראָפן מאַרקוס יאָסט און הינריך גרעץ. לויט זייער אויספֿאָסונג קומט אויס, אַז דאָס פֿאָלקס־לעבן איז אַ ליטעראַרישע געשיכטע, אָנגעפֿאָפּט מיט אַ מאַרטיראָלאָגיע פון טויזנטער יאָרן. זייערע וויסנ-שאַפֿטלעך־היסטאָרישע פֿאַרשונגען האָבן זיי געווידמעט גע-שעענישן, וועלכע זיי האָבן פערזענלעך נישט געקענט, נאָר בלויז געהערט אָדער געלייענט וועגן זיי.

מאַרקוס יאָסט איז געווען אַן אַסימילירטער ייִד. ער האָט נישט אָנערקענט דאָס ייִדנטום אלס אַ פֿאָלק, נאָר ווי אַ „ייִדישע עדה", פֿאַרבונדן דורך אַ געמיינזאַמער אמונה. ער האָט זיי באַטראַכט אלס אַ סעקטע פון „דויטשן פון מאַזעס גלויבן". ער איז געווען דער מחבר פון דער ערשטער אַלגעמיינער ייִדישער געשיכטע „פון די חשמונאים ביזן 19־טן יאָרהונדערט" (9 בענד), און פון די „נייעסטע געשיכטע", וואָס נעמט אָריין די תקופה פון 1815 ביז 1845. דער נאָמען פון דעם גרויסן וועלק אין דער דייטשער שפּראַך איז „די *געשיכטע דער אידאַליזם*".

היינריך גרעץ, יאָסט׳ס גרויסער נאָכפֿאָלגער, האָט אים איבער-געשטיגן סיי וויסנשאַפֿטלעך־ליטעראַריש, סיי ווי אַ היסטאָריקער. ער האָט זיך אויך שאַרף אָפּגעגרענעצט פון יאָסטן דעם אַסימילא-טאָר, וואָס לויט אים האָט עס דערנידעריקט געשיכטלעך און פּא-ליטיש דעם כבוד פון ייִדישן פֿאָלק. גרעץ האָט געזען די ייִדישע געשיכטע אַלס היסטאָריע פון פֿאָלקס־שטאַם, וואָס ציט זיך שורש פון די מלכים, נביאים, מאַקאַביער, דורך פֿאַרפֿאָלגונגען איך מיטל-אַלטער ביז די ניע צייטן. פֿאַר גרעצן איז די ייִדישע געשיכטע אַן עפּאָפּיע פון ליידן, מאַרטירערטום און וויכטיקע פערזענלעכקייטן, אַבער אויך נישט אַלס אַ פֿאָלק. ער קען נישט דאָס פֿאָלק. ער קען נישט דעם טראַדיציאָנעלן מזרח־אייראָפּעאישן ייִד, וואָס איז געווען קאָנצענטרירט אין קאָמפּאקטע מאַסן און גרויס אין צאָל.

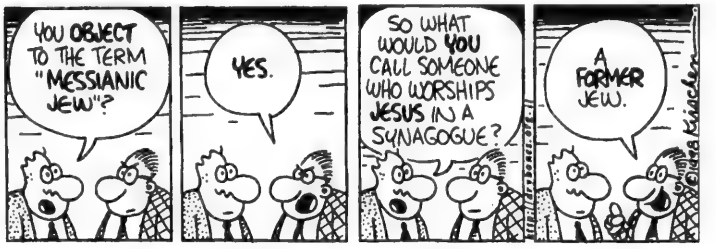
אויף דעם מאָנומענטאַלן ווערק, וואָס איז אים האָט דובנאָו רעקאָנסטרויאירט די 4־טויזנט יאָריקע געשיכטע פון ייִדישן פֿאָלק, האָבן זיך געלערנט און דערצויגן גאַנצע דורות.

דובנאָוו וועגדט אַן דעם עוואָלוציע מעטאָד ביים פֿאָרשן און שילדערן די געשיכטלעכע אַנטוויקלונג פון ייִדישן פֿאָלק, וואָס האָט במשך אַ רייַ יאָרהונדערטער זיך אויסגעשילט פון דער אָרומיקער פעלקער־סביבה. ער זעט דאָס נאָציאָנאַלע געשטאַלט פון פֿאָלק און ער אָנערקענט דאָס ייִדנטום אלס פֿאָלק, וואָס איז פייאיק צו שאַפן מלוכה־שאַפט, צו קענען אויפנעמען קולטור געשיכטלעכע דערשיי-נונגען.

אויב ביי גרעצן זײַנען אַלע משחישע באַוועגונגען ביי ייִדן (שבתי צבי, די פראַנקיסטן און אַנדערע) געווען פֿאַלשע פאַנטא-זיאָרן, פינצטערע אַוואַנטוריסטן, פון וועלכע מען דאַרף זיך אָפּגרע-נעצן מיט שפּאָט אן בושה, האָט דובנאָוו אין זיי געזען נאָציאָנאַלע, באַפרייִערישע באַוועגונגען, אויסברוכן פון אונטערדרוקטן אן גע-רודפטן ייִדישן פֿאָלק, וואָס בענקט נאָך אויסלייזונג, נאָך מענטש-לעכער פּריהייט, נאָך ווירדע און גלייכבאַרעכטיקונג מיט אַנדערע פעלקער.

לויט דובנאָוון גייט די געשיכטע פון פֿאָלק אויף אַנדערע וועגן. עס ווערט מאַסנווייז מער שעפערייש אויף אַלע געביטן. מיטן אויפ-קום פון דער רענעסאַנס באַוועגונג, מיטן אויפבלי פון פעלקער פרילינג, בײַם סוף פון מיטלאַלטערלעכער תקופה, ווערט דאָס ייִדי-שע פֿאָלק גערופן צו זײַן אַ בישפּיל פֿאַר אַנדערע פעלקער. דובנאָוו׳ס טעאָריע איז, אַז דאָס ייִדישע פֿאָלק איז אומשטערבלעך, וויל זײַן גיסט איז אומשטערבלעך.

(פֿאָרזעצונג קומט)



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From coast to coast

Former Nazi collaborator found in B.C.

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The government of France is searching its postwar records in the wake of a news report that a former Nazi collaborator sentenced to death after the war is alive and well in British Columbia.

Louis de Corail, press secretary of the French Embassy in Ottawa, said a *Globe and Mail* story that Louis Robin is a fugitive from French justice caught the embassy by surprise. The embassy was not aware that Robin, whose real name is Rene Louis Gabriel Azais, was living in Canada. He said the embassy had passed the information about Robin to Paris, but it was too early to determine whether France would request Robin's extradition, should the report about him prove true.

Last week, Estanislao Oziewicz of the *Globe and Mail* reported that Robin had been sentenced to death by a postwar French court for collaborating with the Nazis. He was on death row in prison when he cut through jail bars with a hacksaw and escaped. He found work on board a ship but developed medical problems while on a stop in Vancouver. Robin decided to remain, but he never obtained Canadian citizenship.

According to the report, Robin has no legal status in Canada, but he receives a renewable yearly minister's permit that allows him to reside in Canada. He remains a citizen of France. The report also indicated he came to the attention of Canadian authorities in 1986 – around the time the Deschenes Commission was wrapping up its investigation into Nazi war criminals.

The report also indicated that less than two years ago, an Immigration Department lawyer studying the file recommended that Robin's case be referred to the department's B.C. office for action.

Robin, 87, has denied any wrongdoing and claims he was convicted by a postwar "kangaroo court," a contention that the Immigration Department lawyer rejected.

Irving Abella, head of the Canadian Jewish Congress war crimes committee, said he had been unfamiliar with the Robin case prior to the news report. Congress has been in contact with its counterpart in France through the World Jewish Congress to determine if they have any information about Robin.

"We don't know if he's alleged to have collaborated with the Nazis against the resistance or against Jews," Abella said.

According to the *Globe and Mail*, just prior to the war Robin purchased a restaurant in the southern French town of Arles, which later came inside the Vichy-controlled area.

"He said he served Germans meals and that if they were polite to him, he responded in kind. He said the accusations against him resulted from jealous townsfolk," the *Globe* reported.

Assistant deputy attorney general John Sims declined to comment on the case, referring all inquiries to the Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration. Denis Boucher, a spokesperson for the ministry, said, "The Access to Information and Privacy Act precludes us from commenting on this case."

So far, federal authorities have commenced legal proceedings against 14 alleged Nazi war criminals. Among them were Josef Nemsila and Antanas Kenstavicius, both of whom died before their cases were completed. Like Robin, Nemsila and Kenstavicius never became Canadian citizens.

At Nemsila's Toronto hearing, the question of domicile and whether that prevented him from being deported was raised by the defence, but because of his death, no definitive ruling was ever rendered.

Zundel barred from parliament

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The House of Commons last week passed a unanimous motion barring Holocaust-denier Ernst Zundel from "parliamentary precincts" for the duration of the current Parliament.

The motion prevented the pro-Nazi propagandist from holding a previously scheduled news conference in a press conference room in Parliament, although Zundel later held a media scrum outside the banned area.

House Leader Don Boudria said he received all-party consent to the proposal that Zundel be barred from parliament. "This is the temple of tolerance and democracy. Ernst Zundel doesn't belong in the temple of understanding and tolerance and democracy," he said.

Addressing arguments pushed by advocates of free speech who have criticized the move as setting a dangerous precedent, Boudria said, "No right is absolute, even free speech. Perhaps more importantly, because someone has the right of free speech, it doesn't mean I have to give him my microphone.

"We just didn't feel comfortable with the idea of Mr. Zundel using the parliamentary press facilities to peddle his views of history," said Bill Blaikie, New Democratic Party House Leader.

He supported the motion with some reluctance, because "we were worried he'd become a martyr."

Congress applauds motion

The House motion was applauded by Moshe Ronen, newly elected president of Canadian Jewish Congress. Ronen was in Ottawa for a series of meetings with parliamentarians to introduce himself and discuss various points of his agenda. Just prior to meeting Multiculturalism Minister Heddy Fry, he learned of the Zundel news conference and brought it to the minister's attention.

She in turn discussed it with other MPs and "right across the board, there was dismay and shock," Ronen said. "We were pleased with the swiftness with which MPs worked this through... Today Canada has spoken with one voice. We found it abhorrent that Ernst Zundel would ever have been give permission to use a parliamentary facility for his hateful activities."

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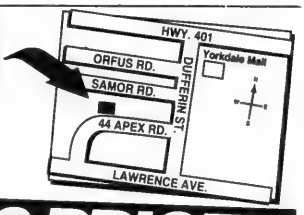

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MORE THAN ONE!

"These are the things for which no limit is prescribed – the practice of loving-kindness."
Mishna Peah 1:1

"אֵלּוּ דְבָרִים שֶׁאֵין לָהֶם שִׁעוּר – וּגְמִילוּת חֲסָדִים"
משנה פאה 1:1

A SALUTE TO OUR COMMUNITY'S VOLUNTEERS

UJA FEDERATION
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I am delighted to have this opportunity to extend my congratulations and warmest regards to all of the wonderful people who are being acknowledged in this year's Volunteer Recognition pages.

The vibrancy of our human service agencies, our schools and synagogues is the model for every Jewish community around the world. This remarkable quality of Jewish life is the direct result of the passion, commitment, talent and willingness to give - exemplified by those being recognized here - who have made the achievements of our community possible.

As President of UJA Federation of Greater Toronto, I recognize the special responsibility that UJA Federation holds in supporting the ongoing development of the volunteer community.

UJA Federation will continue to be there to support, train, place and recognize all of those who continue to give of their time and hearts to ensure the healthy continuity of our Jewish community.

Yasher Koach to this year's honourees!

Joseph M. Steiner
President

A Tradition Continues

UJA FEDERATION

by Helen Finder-Guttman
Vice-Chair, Human Resources
UJA Federation of Greater Toronto

UJA Federation of Greater Toronto is delighted once again to recognize volunteers from a broad spectrum of organizations across our community.

Encouraging collective responsibility and supporting activities which are of communal benefit have long been a tradition in our community. The men and women pictured in the following pages represent the finest within our Jewish community who are continuing that tradition. The commitment of these dedicated volunteers to their organizations and to the welfare of their brethren ensures the continuity of our community and its institutions while, at the same time, providing a much needed service.

And so - to these dedicated volunteers, we say "Thank You." Thank you for your leadership and your compassion. Thank you for your endless willingness to get involved. As a community we all take pride in your contributions and accomplishments. As individuals, we are all inspired by your timeless efforts and sense of tzedakah.

The Jewish Roots of Voluntarism

by Rabbi Dr. Jeremiah Unterman
Executive Director, Board of Jewish Education of UJA Federation
Vice-President, Jewish Education

The concept of voluntarism in Judaism is rooted in the inherent Jewish ethic of *gemilut hasadim* – bestowing loving-kindness. Such deeds, which may be understood as the practice of benevolence, are perceived in the Talmud as even superior to *tzedakah* – the obligation of charity.

> *"Our Rabbis taught: In three respects loving-kindness is greater than charity. Charity is done with one's money, while loving-kindness may be done with one's money and one's person. Charity is given to the poor, while loving-kindness may be given both to the poor and the rich. Charity is given only to the living, while loving-kindness may be shown to both the living and the dead [that is, by attending to their funeral and burial.]* (Tractate Sukkah 49b)

When we volunteer to help a friend, a neighbour, the synagogue to which we belong, the Jewish school to which we send our children, our UJA Federation, and other Jewish and communal agencies, we give of our efforts and our time. We could be relaxing instead, or attending to errands, or working longer hours at our jobs. Thus, volunteering is truly a selfless act done for the immediate benefit of others – usually of the wider Jewish and non-Jewish community.

> *"These are the things for which no limit is prescribed – the practice of loving-kindness..."* (Mishnah Peah 1:1)

The Jewish ethical philosophy of the practice of loving-kindness benefits both ourselves and the rest of the world. Volunteers are people who help others for no pay, selflessly. The story is told of the man who asked to see heaven and hell. An angel took him to the netherworld and showed him people sitting in front of delicious bowls of food, but they were crying because each person's arms were bound so that the arms extended straight in front – the elbows could not be bent, so no person was able to feed himself. The angel then took the man to heaven and showed him the exact same scene, except that everybody was laughing and happily talking with each other. The man was perplexed, "Why are they so happy? Their arms are also bound!" The angel responded, "Yes, but they are happy because they are feeding each other!"

May we always volunteer to help each other and may we do it often!

Shem Tov Award Recipients

THELMA HERMAN

Senior Care

Thelma is not only a member of the Board of Directors at Senior Care, she is chairperson for the Kosher Meals on Wheels Program and the Volunteer Escort & Transportation Service. She also assists with several in-house programs and fundraising activities. Her support and encouragement at Senior Care have touched many lives since 1990.

"Volunteering brings warmth and beautiful people into my life. I feel enriched when giving to others. I feel complete."

MICHAEL KERBEL

Bathurst Jewish Centre

President of the Bathurst Jewish Centre since 1995, Michael helped turn the agency around from its deficit situation to a thriving component of the community. His volunteer experience includes past Board membership of CHAT, Canadian Friends of Ben Gurion University and UJA Federation's Board of Jewish Education. Michael is also past Vice-President of the Executive and Chair of Bialik's Building Committee.

"Acting as a volunteer has enabled me to assist the partnership between lay and professional leadership to ensure that our community's vision and prosperity will continue to flourish."

BRAHM SEITZ

Toronto Jewish Free Loan Cassa

Brahm is currently serving a two-year term as Vice-President, Administration for the Toronto Free Loan Cassa. In his 20 year involvement with the agency, which has given thousands a fresh start, Brahm has held several positions and has made a major contribution to the Agency Policy Committee. He is a member of Shaar Shalom Synagogue.

"Being a volunteer is the best job in the world. Lots of hard work and no pay, but my 20 years at Toronto Jewish Free Loan Cassa have taught me that the feeling you get from knowing that the work you do helps make things better for one person is more than any money can buy. I feel honoured to have had the opportunity to know that my work has helped many."

GEORGE WEINBERGER

Board of Jewish Education

George is a Chartered Accountant who has dedicated seven years to the Board of Jewish Education. His widespread volunteer work extends to the Association of Hebrew Day Schools, the Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living and Canadian Jewish Congress as the new Treasurer.

"Hillel said: 'If I am for myself only, what am I?' We are one people, responsible for each other. I view my participation as fulfillment of my responsibility."

STEVEN WEINRIEB

Kehilla Residential Programme

Director of Property Management for Park Properties, Steven is the Immediate Past Vice-President of the Kehilla Residential Programme. His nine year involvement includes several leadership positions on the Board and management support for all Kehilla projects. Steven has also served on the Board of the Baycrest Hospital Capital Committee and the Leah Posluns Theatre Centre.

"Voluntarism is my outlet for giving back to the community, using my professional expertise to ensure innovative quality housing and services for the needy and seniors."

JACK ZAREK

Jewish Campus Services

Assistant Treasurer for the Oshawa Group Ltd., Jack is Acting President and Treasurer of Jewish Campus Services. For the past five years, Jack has held several significant committee positions for Associated Hebrew Schools.

"To me, voluntarism means the sharing of my skills with those organizations that keep the community vital and help it to survive and grow."

ELAINE ZIMMERMAN

Bloor Jewish Community Centre

Elaine, a volunteer at the Bloor JCC for five years, chairs the Program Evaluation Committee and is a member of the Board of Directors. She also serves as a consultant for several seniors programs. Elaine is a former executive of Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care, as well as a Board member of Jewish Vocational Service.

"I volunteer for purely selfish reasons - to make my community a better place for myself, my children and my grandchildren."

Shem Tov Awards are presented to leaders representing the highest levels of volunteer service to Toronto's Jewish community.

Leadership Development Award Winners

KAREN CHISVIN

Karen follows a long family tradition of community involvement. Her father Jack, a former UJA Federation President, was honoured with the prestigious Ben Sadowski Award of Merit two years ago. Karen is continuing the tradition through her extraordinary commitment to the community.

A UJA Federation Leadership Development graduate and former Shem Tov Award recipient, Karen has volunteered in the Jewish community for 15 years. She is Past President of the Bloor Jewish Community Centre, and serves on the UJA Federation Board of Directors.

"Volunteering is giving time and talent and getting much more back in return. It is a chance to fulfill some of the values of my parents and grandparents, and to demonstrate some of mine to my children."

CAROLE STERLING

Actively involved with UJA Federation since 1995, Carole has demonstrated outstanding leadership as a Portfolio Coordinator for Women's Campaign, past Chair of Super Sunday and the Walk for Israel, and was a chaperone on the March of the Living.

A teacher by profession, Carole is a regular at the Kolel Centre for Liberal Jewish Studies and the Jewish Women's Federation *Timeless Treasures* Learning Series. Her dedication to the community includes serving on UJA Federation's Board as well as sitting on its Action Committee for Jewish Continuity. She is also a Board member of Temple Sinai and Past President of Leo Baeck Parents' Association.

"For me, the reward is in the doing. It's also about feeling a part of something bigger than my immediate surroundings and myself. I get so much out of my involvement with community, which goes above and beyond the intellectual and spiritual rewards. Meeting and interacting with the people whose lives we touch is what makes it all worthwhile. I feel privileged to be a part of one of the most compassionate and proud Jewish communities in the world."

Leadership Development Awards are presented to individuals who demonstrate extraordinary community commitment and service.

A NEW LOOK FOR A NEW MILLENNIUM

The approach of a new century means a revitalized look for UJA Federation's Leadership Development Award, presented to deserving community leaders since 1962.

The new award (design seen here) is a creative rendition of an unrolling scroll designed by **Amy Fagin,** who has been creating ketubot for more than ten years. Her art reflects the hopes and potential of new marriages, as well as a broader representation of Jewish heritage, family and community. "Scroll" was inspired by a famous passage in the Shema: *"And you shall lay these words upon your heart and upon your soul."*

The ketubah was a gift to UJA Federation and the community by Fagin and **Michael Shapiro** of *Ketubah Ketubah*. Founded in 1966 by Shapiro, a former marketing executive who combined his business background with his love of Judaism, people and art, *Ketubah Ketubah* is an on-line gallery specializing in limited editions designed by some of the world's most accomplished ketubah artists and calligraphers.

Ketubah Ketubah can be found on the web at *www.ketubah.com* or by phone at (416) 256-0554.

I AM MORE THAN ONE!

CONGRATULATIONS to all the volunteers who form the framework of our community and who play an integral part in making the functioning of our agencies, congregations, schools and institutions available to us. Each of our volunteers represents "one" of the many volunteers who give unselfishly of their time and skills. The theme of this year's supplement **"I Am More Than One"** encompasses the true spirit of voluntarism.

Meet these dedicated men and women who were chosen by their organizations as we pay tribute to all volunteers across the broad spectrum of our Jewish community.

Paula Mittlemen
Chair
Volunteer Recognition Project

Adath Israel Congregation

Morris Adams
"I like helping Jews. My work as Chairman of Dues Review for my synagogue enables me to help members in distress maintain their dignity and continue their connection with the fellowship of synagogue life."

Aish HaTorah

Norm and Shellie Grafstein
"As a volunteer, you hope you can share with others the benefits you have gained by being involved. What could be better than helping thousands see the beauty of Jewish wisdom and the strength of our heritage."

Alpha Omega Fraternity – Toronto Alumni Chapter

Dr. Ira Schecter
"Alpha Omega Dental Fraternity was founded on the principle of combining professionalism and fraternalism in a base of Judaism. The focus of the future campaign for the Dental School at Tel Aviv University exemplifies these principles to the fullest."

Associated Hebrew Schools of Toronto *

David Posluns
"Getting involved with Associated has provided me with an opportunity to learn more about important issues facing our community. It has sensitized me to the need for our children to be exposed to Jewish education to help ensure the creation of strong future volunteer leaders."

Bathurst Jewish Centre *

Anne Haniford
"When my husband had a stroke, I cared for and worked with him for 5 years. I was able to participate in his stroke group and feel rewarded to be a part of this wonderful group."

Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care *

Micki Brudner
"Whatever good I've been able to do in my volunteer work at Baycrest has come back to me ten-fold. I love my volunteer job of telephone support worker in the Seniors Support Program."

Beit Halochem Canada

Irit Nayot
"The rehabilitation of Israel's disabled war veterans, who have made a sacrifice for the State of Israel, is the responsibility of all of us. It is a privilege to work in this organization with so many dedicated volunteers."

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living *

Sarah Falkovic
"As Chairman of our Hebrew speaking club 'Etrog,' I have derived a great deal of satisfaction helping our members share, learn and grow with each other. This has become their home away from home."

*** Denotes affiliate agencies and departments of UJA Federation**

Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Congregation

William Dunn
"My most meaningful experiences are visiting shut-ins who have very little or no contact with the outside world. Their appreciation of my visit is extremely gratifying to me."

Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue

Miriam Grunwald
"The first group visit in 1994 of ten disabled Israeli veterans of Beit Halochem is most memorable to me. The months of intense work and planning were more than rewarded by the grateful response of our guests."

Beth Radom Congregation

Sylvia Kerman
"Being an active volunteer in the life of my shul gives me the opportunity to enrich my personal life. By strengthening the bonds of my Jewish heritage, I also enhance the special ties with family and friends."

Beth Tikvah Synagogue

Maurice Kulik
"The joy of observing the benefits to the community of volunteer efforts well done is very meaningful to me. The superb work of our committees provides opportunities for fulfillment."

Beth Tzedec Congregation

Robert Holt
"By performing acts of HESED, I've grown spiritually, developed lasting, meaningful relationships with my Beth Tzedec family and have learned a great deal about how those we help appreciate our assistance and attention."

Bialik Hebrew Day School/PTA *

Susan Druck
"I feel privileged to be in a position to volunteer to help the Bialik PTA serve our children and our community."

I AM MORE THAN ONE!

Bloor Jewish Community Centre *

Carol Nitkin

"During one of my duty hours, I noticed a young family, obviously in some difficulty. By their silent hand gestures it was apparent that they were deaf. Not being conversant in sign language, I realized that this could be a real challenge for my communications skills. Amazingly with many smiles and congeniality, we were able to understand one another."

Canadian Friends of Bikur Cholim Hospital, Jerusalem

Claire Benezra

"My first meeting was full of surprises: not only by hearing all the names of volunteers in this organization, but by seeing their love, hard work, warmth, cooperation, ideas, creativity and giving of themselves, their time and money for such a worthy cause. I went in a very shy person and came out a real "Atlas," feeling that I could carry the world on my shoulders."

Canadian Friends of the Hebrew University

Karen and Stephen Diamond

"The heart of the State of Israel is its universities. The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, in particular, is Israel's oldest and most renowned institution. Israel's continuing vitality depends on its ability to develop its greatest resource - the minds of its youth. Working for the Hebrew University has given us the opportunity to contribute to Israel's fundamental growth and strength."

Canadian Friends of Tel Aviv University

Jeannie Tanenbaum and Susan Fenwick

"It is very rewarding to be involved with Tel Aviv University, an internationally recognized institution of higher education. We very much enjoyed co-chairing the TAU North American Conference with such a wonderful group of dedicated volunteers. Volunteering is an important way to give back to the community."

Canadian Society for the Weizmann Institute of Science

Sharon Zuckerman

"Being a volunteer with many different organizations has made me realize that although I have helped others in the community, I have received a great deal of personal satisfaction. My involvement with the 'Weizmann Family' has helped build support for scientific research to fight disease and hunger and bring forth new technologies."

Canadian Society for Yad Vashem

Louis Greenbaum

"I've always considered volunteering in the community an obligation we all must fulfill in order to maintain a strong, viable and sensitive Jewish community, with strong links to the State of Israel."

Chaplaincy Services of Jewish Family & Child Service *

Gershon Pick

"Enjoyment, beaming smiles and tears of joy during visits and Jewish programs at Cheltenham evoke the Talmudic dictum: '...upon three things the world stands: by the Torah, service and deeds of loving-kindness.' " [Avoth:1,2].

Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto (CHAT) *

Howard Buckstein

"I am proud to volunteer for CHAT's annual fundraiser. Many of the proceeds pay for programs, such as the arts, athletics and multimedia, which create enthusiasm among students and enhance the learning process."

Downtown Jewish Community School *

Neil Naft

"Giving of my time has proved to be much more meaningful than simply writing a cheque, as I am able to experience first hand what a difference my contribution can make."

Dr. Abraham Shore Academy/ She'arim Hebrew Day School *

Sarah Collis

"I decided to volunteer at She'arim Hebrew Day School because I was a former student. They taught me the skills I needed to overcome my own learning difficulties, and I wanted to thank them by giving something back."

Emunah Women of Toronto

Belle Rosenfield

"It gives me great pleasure to work for Emunah Women on behalf of Israel. I was brought up in Hashomer Hadati, loving the Torah and Eretz Yisrael. I enjoy what I do."

Habayit Shelanu Seniors Residences Corp.

Maurice Rotfarb

"As President of Habayit Shelanu, I feel proud to be part of an organization that is aimed at responding to the housing needs of seniors in our community."

Hadassah-WIZO, Toronto

Taube Zeifman

"On our Hadassah-WIZO tour to Israel, I saw our projects firsthand and realized the impact our work has in enriching the lives of so many while enriching my life as a volunteer."

Holy Blossom Temple

Leonard Levy and Morris Vigoda

"Volunteering at Holy Blossom Temple has provided us with the opportunity to work with dedicated, committed people, whose leadership has enabled Holy Blossom Temple to be a leader in the Reform movement in Toronto, Canada and internationally."

I AM MORE THAN ONE!

Jewish Camp Council of Toronto *

Gloria Himelstein

For over 25 years, Gloria has been involved with the Jewish Camp Council. One of the reasons she volunteered was that it is her way of giving back to the Camp Council and the community for sending her children to summer camp when she and her husband needed help.

Jewish Campus Services *

Mark Jadd

"Attending the Student Awards night organized by Jewish Campus Services filled one with a sense of pride and amazement at the incredible accomplishments and dedication of our university and college students."

Jewish Family & Child Service *

Aaron Morgan

"I hope that my 'little brother' has gotten as much out of this experience as I have, whether we're playing board games, building models or going for bicycle rides. I always enjoy my time with him."

Jewish Immigrant Aid Services of Canada (Toronto) *

Miriam Sapiro

"Volunteering with JIAS is a rewarding experience. I enjoy working in the Jewish community, using my teaching background to help recently arrived immigrants learn a new language and adapt to Canadian Jewish life."

Jewish Music Toronto

Jerry M. Nesker

"As President, I am pleased to be involved in the presentation of musical events that highlight our Jewish heritage. Each new concert program presents a new challenge and that knowledge sustains this committee."

Jewish National Fund of Toronto

Bernard Cooper, C.A.

"What has been truly satisfying has been the wonderful feeling of camaraderie and friendship that has developed, as so many of us work for a common effort to assist in building and developing a strong Israel with a decent life for all her people, for Am Yisrael."

Jewish Vocational Service of Metropolitan Toronto *

Ruth Waxman

"I find it a rewarding experience helping the clients at Jewish Vocational Service to succeed."

Jewish Women's Federation *

Joyce Rifkind

"When we moved here, a greeting from 'Shalom Toronto' was my first introduction to JWF. To be able to contribute to an organization that values every Jew and women, in particular, is both a privilege and a pleasure."

Jewish Women International of Toronto

Pam Zierler

"I have always believed in giving back to the community. My experiences with JWI have not only fulfilled this, but enriched my life, through the friendships and the development of previously unrealized skills."

Kehilla Residential Programme *

Michael Steele

"Having the opportunity to assist in the founding of the only community agency dedicated to housing issues and then, as Chair, to work with staff and volunteers in the development of unique initiatives to the housing needs of our diverse Jewish community is a privilege."

Leo Baeck Day School *

Melody Prusky

As Past President of the Parents' Association, Executive and as a Board member, Capital Campaign worker, Chair of the Financial Review Committee and Bingo "runner extraordinaire," Melody has contributed quietly but significantly to the success of our school.

Magen David Sephardic Congregation

Max Arrobas

"The most meaningful experience in volunteering at Magen David Congregation is to be part of our congregation, to serve it and to see our youth grow and be a part of its achievements."

Mazon Canada

Rabbi Arthur Bielfeld

"Helping to parent Mazon from its birth toward its Bar Mitzvah year has been one of the more satisfying aspects of my rabbinical career."

Mizrachi Organization of Toronto

Jerry Rosenfield

"It is personally gratifying for me to embrace causes that promote Jewish unity, mutual respect, and the love of Torah and Eretz Yisrael through Mizrachi and my work as Chairman of the Association of Day School Principals."

Mount Sinai Hospital

Arthur Rubinoff

"I volunteer in Emergency and other areas 3 days a week. I have a greater appreciation for the work of the staff and how together we help give very anxious patients and families compassionate, quality care."

Na'amat Canada-Toronto

Paula Schipper

"Tzedakah is part of my life. My involvement in Na'amat has been both rewarding and fulfilling. Na'amat has been serving vital social and humanitarian needs since 1925 and is the largest source of child care in Israel."

National Council of Jewish Women, Toronto Section

Barbara Greenglass

"Representing NCJW during its centennial as President and Chairman of the Board has allowed me to work with so many dynamic and intelligent women in our community and across Canada."

Netivot HaTorah Day School *

Allan Rutman

"Being involved with a school is close to the heart of anyone associated with children. The sense of accomplishment in seeing children develop from kindergarten to graduation is reward in itself. Being a volunteer is a public responsibility. 'If not I, than whom?' "

ORT Canada

Michael Simon

"The most meaningful experience of being involved in ORT is knowing that I'm an integral part of an international organization that educates and trains 270,000 people in 67 countries across the world."

Pomegranate Guild of Judaic Textiles

Janis Katz

"I enjoy speaking to other groups about the Pomegranate Guild. Our work is always met with great interest. My most meaningful experiences happen with the Guild's members - their enthusiasm and talent constantly inspire me."

We regret the omission of any organization due to publication deadlines

Reena *

Ira Sack

"Volunteering at Reena for more than 10 years has brought a deep sense of awareness and gratification to my life. It has been very rewarding to know that my efforts have helped Reena's developmentally disabled clients as they become integrated into all aspects of the community."

Sephardic Educational Centre, Toronto Chapter

Michael Benarroch

"Sephardic Educational Centre, Toronto Chapter, began a mere year and a half ago. It makes me proud as a young Sephardic Jew to be part of an organization that not only demonstrates a strong Sephardic presence but, at the same time, contributes so much to the greater Toronto community."

Senior Care/Community Services to Jewish Elderly *

Bess Good

"The work I do at Senior Care is extremely rewarding. I find it most satisfying phoning clients just to talk and let them know someone cares. The joy in their voices makes it all worthwhile. There are many lonely seniors who benefit from the contact Senior Care volunteers provide."

Shaar Shalom Synagogue

Lillian and David Bader

Lillian and David are ready, willing and more than able to take on any task whenever asked. For many years now, "Auntie Lil" and "Uncle Dave" have attended to the organization and delivery of Yahrtzeit notices to the membership, the mailing of the monthly bulletin, and the special yearly cleaning of the synagogue's silver before the High Holidays. Their dedication is the foundation of our synagogue' s volunteer organization.

State of Israel Bonds

Varda Feines

"Since I believe that the land of Israel is the birthplace of the Jewish people, it is important to me as an Israeli to work for an organization like State of Israel Bonds that connects Jews in Israel with Jews in the Diaspora."

Temple Har Zion

Arthur Benjamin

"I don't think of myself as a 'volunteer.' I think of myself as someone working with many other people in my shul to build a comfortable, caring and spiritual community. And we're accomplishing just that."

The Village Shul

Wendy Zinner

"The most meaningful experiences for me have been working with people from all different backgrounds who start a project as individuals then come together, build friendships, family relationships, and a community evolves."

Toronto Jewish Free Loan Cassa *

Cathie Smith-Friedman

"Throughout the years, I have enjoyed working with other dedicated volunteers and staff to develop the agency's growth, represent its mission and most importantly, directly affect the clientele it serves - to help people help themselves."

UJA Federation Campaign *

Laurie Cohen

"Being involved in UJA Federation provides me with a great sense of community, which is something I feel very passionate about. My involvement started off as something small and now it is an extremely important part of my life and my family's life as well."

United Synagogue Day School *

Michael Flatt

"My ongoing participation with the Executive Board of Directors and the Administration is a valuable learning experience. The opportunity to assist in the operation of the school is very rewarding."

Israel At 50 Volunteers Indispensable

Zion is an Israeli university student who organized a group of young men and women to volunteer as ushers for the Night Of A Lifetime, the extravaganza celebrating Israel's 50th anniversary on April 30. When their responsibilities were over at the end of the show, they joined the festivities.

Sol, a retired senior, works tirelessly for a number of charities. At the Night Of A Lifetime, he welcomed guests and enjoyed himself so much that he volunteered to do the same at the Israel at 50 Festival at Ontario Place.

Heather, an 11 year old student follows her family's example of getting involved with community. At the Israel at 50 Festival, she spent the morning running errands at Volunteer Headquarters and the afternoon dressed up in a character costume greeting children.

These volunteers and hundreds like them have been an integral part of the Israel at 50 community-wide events held to date.

"The success of these events was due in large part to the commitment and hard work of these individuals. We simply couldn't have done it without them," notes Terri Weintraub, Chair,Volunteer Recruitment & Development for Israel at 50. "The value of this volunteer effort would translate into thousands of dollars," she adds.

Israel at 50 is a consortium of over 170 organizations under the auspices of UJA Federation and the Israeli Consulate.

CHAT a Leader in Community Service

You can find them all over the city: visiting residents in a nursing home, handling the phones at a charity telethon, inputting computer codes for a community web site, reading to the blind, coaching a junior hockey team, running a synagogue nursery, and serving meals at a homeless shelter.

They are the grade nine and ten students of the Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto (CHAT) and, as part of their school requirement, they are each contributing a minimum of 18 hours of community service to non-profit agencies across the city.

The idea for a Community Service Program surfaced during CHAT staff meetings early in the 1995-96 school year. Should the core Jewish value of helping others -*gemilut hasadim*- not be an essential element of a Jewish education?

In preparing the program for incoming grade nine students in September 1996, the school contacted more than 100 non-profit and charity organizations and prepared lists of available volunteer assignments. It is anticipated that, by the end of the next school year, more than 13,000 hours of CHAT volunteer work will have been performed in the community.

The organizations, both Jewish and non-Jewish, which the students are serving, express overwhelming praise for the program and the mature involvement of the CHAT students. Many have come to think of CHAT as the first place to turn when looking for volunteer help.

"We are very proud of our students," says CHAT Headmaster Rabbi Marvin Pachino. They have taken to the Community Service Program with real dedication and enthusiasm. We have also had tremendous support from our parents, as well as from the community agencies we are serving. This program has helped introduce our students to the roles that Jewish men and women are expected to play as part of their community."

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(416) 635-2883 ext. 706.

Historic Conference for Young Volunteers

Every year, more and more schools are building volunteer experience into their curriculum, requiring students to devote significant hours to community work.

This increasing interest by young people obligates service agencies, schools and synagogues to find more creative approaches to developing useful volunteer placements. UJA Federation's Department for Human Resources Development is supporting this effort by holding the community's first-ever conference focused on youth voluntarism.

Scheduled for June 16, 1998 at Camp Reena, the conference will bring together the volunteer coordinators of all community service agencies to explore new approaches to absorbing larger numbers of young people into meaningful volunteer experiences. Cyrelle Bernstein, Director of Volunteer Services at Baycrest will serve as conference facilitator.

"All of our agencies are delighted that more young people are seeking volunteer opportunities. The challenge to us is to ensure that young people are engaged in activities that have educational validity and that encourage participants to maintain their interest as they mature into adulthood," says Shelly Rotman, conference convenor.

Information on the conference is available by calling (416) 635-2883 ext. 137.

YOU Can Be More Than One!

YOU CAN ... share your expertise or talents ... offer your time to someone who needs you ...gain experience or develop new skills ... make new friends and contacts ...experience the satisfaction that comes from helping others ...develop a stronger connection to our Jewish community.

The Volunteer Referral Service of UJA Federation's Department for Human Resources Development can connect **YOU** to a meaningful volunteer placement. Here are some:

- **CARE TO DRIVE?** Volunteers are needed to provide escort/transportation to appointments, programs, social activities, or delivering meals to seniors.
- **BE A SPECIAL FRIEND.** Provide regular social contact to homebound seniors or to seniors in institutional settings.
- **OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH** available in schools, shuls, day care centres, hospitals and in various community agencies. All talents and skills welcome.

To explore these and other community opportunities for volunteers of ALL ages, call Shelly Rotman at UJA Federation (416) 635-2883 ext. 137 or visit our web site at *Jewish Toronto* www.feduja.org

What's "HOT" at UJA Federation

Hands-On Toronto (HOT) is an exciting new UJA Federation initiative, providing its young members, aged 23-39, with the opportunity to perform mitzvot by taking a pro-active "hands-on" approach.

Sponsored by UJA Federation's Young Leadership Cabinet, its goal is to match the interests and talents of its volunteers with the needs of the community. To date, nine community projects have been held with Jewish Family & Child Service, the Holocaust Education and Memorial Centre of Toronto, Jewish Vocational Service, Mount Sinai Hospital, and BBYO.

Marcie Sommers, who co-chairs HOT with Cory Gurevitz, notes, "I am proud to be representing HOT. I take great satisfaction in seeing faces light up when a young person lends a hand to someone in need."

Fall programs are now in the initial stages of development. If you are interested in participating, call Elana Carr at UJA Federation (416) 631-5736.

We gratefully acknowledge the support and generosity of
The Canadian Jewish News
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Israel — Savour Jerusalem on Israel's 50th Birthday. Get recharged by our history, culture and the people whose love and determination re-built this land. Or, make it a short visit to relatives not seen for a while.

The Pyramids — No dusty caravans, biting camels. Rather, sail across the Suez Canal to visit the Land of Egypt. This is where we built cities for Raamses, suffered slavery and prospered from time to time as distinguished scholars, doctors, merchants or even as the current (Shomer Shabbat) U.S. Ambassador to Egypt.

Petra — Like our forefathers, we leave Egypt through the Red Sea to Aqaba. Visit Petra, the fascinating Nabatean city carved into red rock and hidden deep in the desert.

Djibouti — The land of the Afars and Issas and the largest refueling port on the Red Sea has a mix of African, Arab and French cultures, an exotic market and good duty-free shopping.

Mombasa — Gateway to Kenya has been a trading centre for centuries - Persians, Turks, Indians, Portuguese and Jews have all left their mark. Ancient forts, museums and temples abound. Bargain for brightly coloured kangas and custom woodcarvings. Spend Shabbat in a lovely beach resort with candlelighting to herald sunset over the Indian Ocean.

Tsavo National Park — Set up your camera for crocodiles, elephants, baboons, antelope, giraffes, hippos and colourful butterflies within sight of Mt. Kilimanjaro. The terrain is dotted with baobab trees (some up to 1,000 years old) and red termite mounts (5 ft. tall).

Amboseli National Park — In the shadow of Mt. Kilimanjaro catch the most dramatic settings in the morning before the clouds set in. There is nothing as majestic as a parade of elephants emerging from dawn darkness, or the graceful flight of an impala fawn.

Throughout the journey we learn from our expert local guides and gain a Jewish perspective with the help of Rabbi Moshe Stern. We dine on fine Kosher cuisine and live in casual elegance while discovering intriguing and exotic countries and visiting Jewish communities living in strange lands.

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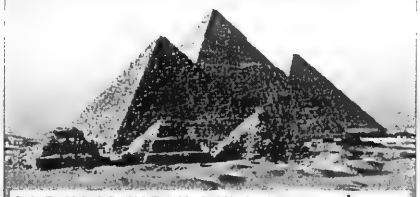

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Midnight – a fictional account

By SONIA SHVARTS

It seems as if the world were breaking a promise, a promise that encouraged me to live every day of my life. What has become of this gleaming promise of hope that would have let me live my little luminous and lighthearted life?

Guest Voices

I could never forget that day. It was the Thursday morning of Jan. 17, 1940. Mother was preparing for Shabbat and Father was cleaning the house. He had recently been fired from work. Ever since Hitler came to power, every Jewish man, woman, and even child was banned from working and going to school.

Life really changed when Hitler came to power. No one expected that his power would have so much impact that it could make our lives turn right around and head straight for a cliff.

My sister Jenny and I were gazing out the window, enjoying what could only be seen. The sun's golden rays shone down onto the clean, pure,white snow. Then that scene of the outdoors changed unexpectedly. Large trucks appeared, and a whole row of soldiers stood abreast. Holding their guns, they split up, and marched and marched and marched.

I swept down the stairs to inform Mother and Father, but it was too late. Armed soldiers were knocking viciously at the door. Without waiting for a reply, they tore down the door. They grabbed us and forced us into the trucks.

I was confused, unaware of what was going on. Every face around me was either confused or shocked, but mostly scared. I guess I was scared, too, but shocked, as well. All those emotions were too much for me to handle. I began to shed a tear.

The trucks took us to cattle cars. It seemed unreal that all these men, women and children would just be thrown into them, impossible. Yet, it *was* possible. The soldiers threw us into the cattle cars as if we were animals or sacks of wheat. Some children were crying, others were shocked and still confused. Parents were comforting distressed children, but with such pale faces that their warm parental touch of love could not soothe the children. My mother would not show her real feelings, but I could tell she was not well.

Mother had history of heart problems. She had recently recovered from a stroke that she had had when she found out that the Germans had invaded Hungary. Hungary was where my grandparents aunts, and uncles once lived. Now only G-d knew where they were.

Once everybody had gotten onto the trains, the trains began to move. The sharp sounds of the wheels moving swiftly on the tracks were drowned out by the beautiful prayers the rabbis began to utter. I suddenly found myself cherishing those words, for they might be the last prayers I would ever hear.

That night I awakened in fear and denial. It was midnight. Midnight was such a scary place. I wished the night would end, so I could live in daylight, which was full of joy, laughter, and sunlight. But midnight was dark and quiet. All that could be heard were the owls calling. Midnight was full of dreams that were rich in ambition and faith, and nightmares that haunted you forever. When would this dark, lonesome, scary place disappear? Would I ever be able to feel daylight again, not just see it?

I did not sleep well through that night, but I guessed I wasn't the only one. Beside me lay Mother, with Father by her side. Jenny tried to break off icicles for Mother to drink. Mother had suffered a stroke. She looked so dreadfully pale and her hands shook. The sight of my beautiful mother unable to open big, dark blue eyes made me feel numbness in my legs.

I knelt down beside her, took her cold hands and said, "Mama, Mama…"

"Don't speak, my child. I know, and you know, that I will not make it. Remember, there will always be a star shining down on you at midnight. It is true, I will not make it, but my soul, my faith, will live on forever, to help you and Jenny survive." Those were the last words she managed to say.

My heart thumped. The train stopped. It seemed as if we had been in the train for years, but in reality it was only three days. Three days of hunger, thirst and death. The wide doors opened. A cold chill entered the stuffed cattle car. As Jenny, Father and I walked out, we realized that we were in Auschwitz. This would be it. Smoke came from tall chimneys, children and old people ran in the snow, pencil thin in striped outfits. Children yelled for parents, brothers and sisters. Parents yelled for their children.

The dreadful sight, the terror, but why? What did innocent people do to deserve this? We weren't thieves or criminals. What, were we guilty of being Jews? Was that a crime?

Sitting on the porch with my youngest daughter on a late summery evening, recalling bitter times in my past life, she interrupted in an excited voice, "Mommy, Mommy, look up at the big blue midnight sky! Look at the big star shining above us…"

Sonia Shvarts is a Grade 8 student at She'arim Hebrew Day School in Toronto.

Three exhibits open at Winnipeg museum

By MYRON LOVE
Prairie Correspondent

WINNIPEG — More than 500 people came out recently for the official opening of three new exhibits at the Ed and Marion Vickar Jewish Museum of Western Canada.

Opening were the permanent display, Diversity and Vitality: The Jewish Experience in Western Canada; a temporary display, A Seed in the Pocket of Their Blood, a tribute to Israel's 50th birthday; and the new Holocaust Education Centre.

The museum is housed in the Asper Jewish Community Campus. The Holocaust Education Centre will have exhibits depicting life before, during and after the war, and will feature a multimedia presentation for school groups.

Museum spokesperson Faye Rosenberg-Cohen says efforts are also being made to put together a portable version of the program for Hersh Zentner and other Holocaust educators to take to schools.

The permanent exhibit is built around a number of themes that depict the Jewish experience in western Canada.

"We are showing different facets of Jewish urban and rural life, Jewish organizational life and Jewish contributions to the wider community," Rosenberg-Cohen says.

"Considering we are small in numbers in the west, it is amazing what we have accomplished."

One of the museum's treasures is a menorah made in 1896 for the Jewish community that was then in the southern Manitoba town of Morden.

"We are always looking for more artifacts," says Rosenberg-Cohen. "We expect to be reconfiguring our permanent collection over the years to make room for travelling exhibits and present different aspects of our history. For the summer of 1999, for example, we are planning an exhibit highlighting Jewish athletes in conjunction with the Pan-American Games being held here."

A highlight of the A Seed in the Pocket of Their Blood exhibit was the presence of creator Rafi Aaron at the opening. Aaron is a poet and photographer living in Toronto. The exhibit is based on his book of the same name which combines photos of Israel and related poems.

Rosenberg-Cohen notes that Aaron's 99-year-old zayde, Benjamin Feinstein, to whom the book is dedicated, started life in Canada in Winkler in southern Manitoba.

Two Jewish families were particularly helpful to him, Aaron says. He was able to meet with Percy Goldberg and Paula Mitchell, members of those two families, at the opening.

From coast to coast

Tamir opens group home

By DIANE KOVEN
Ottawa Correspondent

OTTAWA – The Tamir Foundation recently held an open house to introduce its latest group home to the community here.

Every detail of the extensively renovated double house is proof of the planning, forethought and caring that make the building a home.

Founded in 1980, the Tamir Foundation provides residential care for Jewish adults with developmental disabilities. The foundation maintains several residences, in addition to the newest addition.

Located directly across the street from the Jewish Community Centre now under construction, the new home is in an ideal situation to fulfil its mandate of integrating the residents into the Jewish community, according to Tamir Foundation president Gilda Good.

Former Ottawa mayor, Jacquelin Holzman, cuts ribbon as president, Gilda Good, board members, residents and guests look on. [Randy Stille photo]

"This is the first time we know of that an organization serving people with developmental disabilities will be tied into a JCC. It is unique in North America," Good says.

Residents will be able to participate in a wide variety of social, cultural and athletic activities at the JCC and will get to know, and be known by, members of the Jewish community.

Tamir's executive director, Mark Palmer, says the home "is on the cutting edge. Other agencies are coming to see this house because it is a model; it is an unusual, innovative partnership.

"Funded by the Ministry of Community and Social Services, the Ottawa Vaad Ha'Ir and the Tamir Foundation, this is the next wave of partnership between government and community, and the Jewish community is showing leadership in this regard," Palmer says.

Tamir has brought residents out of institutions, out of isolation and back into their community. Jay Greenblatt, for example, has been away from his family for decades, but the home has allowed him to be reunited with them. Family members are welcome to join in holiday celebrations, Shabbat dinners or just to visit.

Lesley and Jack Cramer's son Michael has been a Tamir resident for the past year. "This place has a warm, homey feeling. The staff are so very caring," Lesley says.

Founding president Lily Penso marvels at what Tamir Foundation has achieved. "I never dreamed that it would expand to this extent and help so many families," she says.

The new home is esthetically beautiful and has the most modern equipment It is both functional and attractive and blends perfectly into the neighborhood. However, the most important aspect of the home, those involved believe, is the caring and dedication of the board, the staff, the volunteers and the families of residents who all have the same goals: integration into the community in general and the Jewish community in particular.

With the proximity of the new JCC, the Hillel Academy day school and the future possibility of Hillel Lodge seniors residence, there will be ample opportunity for the Tamir residents to fulfil that goal.

Consulate gets reprieve

[Cont'd. from page 3]

Plotnick added that a small delegation from Montreal, including Hecht, would meet this week in Israel "with the appropriate people, to reinforce, verbally and face-to-face, some of the issues we have outlined in our presentations."

Shiron said that suspending the decision was due to "some reconsideration" within the Foreign Ministry. But he acknowledged that the storm of protest coming from the Jewish community here, led by Plotnick and Hecht, and from the other sites, may have played a part in the ministry reviewing its decision.

But he said that while such reactions are taken into account, they are not the overriding factor.

Shiron indicated a final decision will be made after "consultations" involving Israel's top Foreign Ministry bureaucrat, director-general Eytan Ben-Tsur, and the acting foreign minister, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

For the time being, however, "the whole thing has been put on ice," Shiron said.

In Montreal, Israeli Consul General Daniel Gal said that suspending the decision to close the consulate was "good, not for me personally, but for the Jewish community.

"I am a civil servant," he said, "but I am very pleased for the Jewish community and for this region of Quebec."

Hecht said he hoped to have the chance during his trip to meet with Netanyahu personally to obtain guarantees, "once and for all and unequivocally, to keep the consulate permanently open."

Plotnick said the issue should become a "permanent one for non-discussion. I think we'll be able to achieve that."

Rabbi says goodbye

By SUZANNE KORT
Pacific Correspondent

VICTORIA — Vancouver Island's only rabbi and his family are saying good bye.

Rabbi Victor Reinstein, his wife, author Susan Berrin, and their three children are leaving Victoria this summer after 16 years of dedicated involvement in Jewish life here.

The family will be moving to Boston, Mass., where the couple feel their children will be better able to pursue their Jewish education.

Victorians were invited to say good bye at two special events – the kiddush meal following Shabbat morning services at Congregation Emanu-El on June 6, and a formal tea at the synagogue on June 7.

Laurel Craig, organizer of the kiddush, invited everyone to bring something to share at the festive meal.

"That's the way we started; that's the way we should end," Craig said, referring to the bar mitzvah of her son Josh, the first event at which Rabbi Reinstein officiated, two weeks after arriving in Victoria in 1982.

Though the Craigs had no family in town and little money to spare at the time, over 200 people showed up to help celebrate, each bringing food to share.

The new community's spirit impressed the Reinstein-Berrin family. "The degree of involvement, enthusiasm and cooperation is truly impressive. I am honored to work with and be part of such a community," wrote Rabbi Reinstein in the August 1982 issue of Congregation Emanu-El's newsletter, *Koleinu* (our voice).

Many Victoria citizens of all faiths have since come to know the Reinstein-Berrins and have been moved by their warmth and spirituality.

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Taking the pain out of hip and knee surgery

Mention the word surgery and people immediately think of pain – it is going to hurt. With the wide variety of pain control medications available today, this is no longer the case.

To Your Health

To Your Health asked Dr. Susan Haley, director of the Anesthesia Pain Program and deputy chief of anesthesia at Toronto's Mount Sinai Hospital, to outline some of the new pain control options for patients undergoing hip and knee surgery at the hospital.

Before having a knee or hip replacement at Mount Sinai, patients should meet with a Pain Service professional to find out what options are available to help them control their pain following surgery.

The medication they need will depend on their pain tolerance and what stage they are at in the recovery process. At the hospital, a Pain Service nurse will discuss the options with patients during their visit to the preadmission unit before surgery. The goal is to make sure a patient experiences as little pain as possible to ensure a more comfortable patient, faster recovery time and a shorter stay in the hospital.

With knee and hip surgery, it is crucial that patients are mobile as soon as possible after surgery. Delays in getting patients moving following their surgery may slow down their recovery process and result in increased pain.

Knee and hip replacement patients are monitored daily by the Acute Pain Service team following their surgery at the hospital. During their recuperation, they may use a variety of the following options to successfully control their pain:

Patient Controlled Analgesia (PCA) Pump: Also known as the pain pump, a PCA pump allows patients to dispense pain medication when they need it, rather than having to call or wait for a nurse to give them an injection. The computerized pump is placed at the patient's bedside. When patients need pain relief, they press a button on a handset that releases a small amount of pain medication through a tube into a vein. The medication is computer programmed so that patients cannot over-medicate themselves. Patients who have hip or knee replacements often receive a PCA pump.

Femoral Nerve Block: In the recovery room after surgery, the anesthetist may insert a tube in the groin area of the patient that will provide continuous pain medication for two to three days after surgery. A femoral nerve block works especially well for knee surgery patients.

Epidural Anesthesia: An epidural provides patients with continuous pain medication through a tube inserted into the lower back. This type of pain relief is usually used in special cases, such as bilateral knee reconstruction.

Oral Medication: Within 12 to 24 hours of undergoing hip and knee surgery, patients usually start to reduce their reliance on other pain medications and switch to taking oral medications. Typically, three days after surgery, they are using only oral medication to manage their pain.

By the time patients are ready to leave the hospital, they have their pain well under control.

The bottom line, says Haley, is that anyone contemplating surgery should find out how their pain will be controlled before their operation, regardless of where they are having the procedure done.

Hospital beds to stay open

MONTREAL — Those 22 beds reopened at Maimonides Hospital Geriatric Centre (MHGC) in March for a six-month period will now stay open until at least next February and 13 additional beds will reopen this August. Additional funding is being allocated by the health ministry to make this possible.

The beds, located on the 5 North wing, were closed three years ago after the Quebec government ordered the long-term care institution to reduce a $1.3-million deficit.

In February, Health Minister Jean Rochon decreed that the 35 beds be reopened as part of a plan to ease overcrowding in hospital emergency rooms by reopening 200 chronic care beds in Montreal. Funding was ensured for six months only.

However, only 22 beds were reopened at MHGC because of an unexpected government order at the end of February to the Jewish General Hospital (JGH) to transfer 35 frail elderly patients within a few days.

About Nutrition

By LISA WEINBERG

Q. With the warm weather upon us, my children really like to have popsicles and freezies. I feel that these are really empty calories. Do you have a healthier suggestion?

A. There are a lot of very healthful frozen desserts available today. Many popsicle-type desserts are made from pure fruit juice and provide vitamins and minerals. It is also very easy to make your own popsicles using pure fruit juice or freshly squeezed juices.

The other option is to choose yogurt or ice cream-type frozen desserts that pack healthful calcium and protein.

Q. I know it is important to drink a lot of fluids in the warm weather. What is the best choice?

A. Water is really the best choice in most situations. Sports drinks can be useful to replace electrolytes lost in rigorous, long-term activity. For most people, water is the best way to keep hydrated this summer.

Q. You always hear people recommend eating chicken skinless. I am wondering exactly how much fat is actually in the skin?

A. Preparing 3.5 ounces of light meat roasted with the skin contains 222 calories and 10.9 grams of fat. The 3.5 ounces of light meat roasted without the skin contains 173 calories and 4.5 grams of fat. The skin does contribute more than double the amount of fat in the chicken alone.

Lisa Weinberg is a registered dietitian/nutritionist specializing in pediatric and adult nutrition in Toronto. If you have any nutrition questions send them to The CJN.

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Third pullback emerges as obstacle to agreement

By JAY BUSHINSKY
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — The depth and timing of the third pullback from the West Bank has emerged as the last major obstacle to an agreement by Israel, the United States and the Palestinian Authority (PA) that would pave the way to final-status talks.

But Palestinian insistence on receiving substantially more than the additional two percent believed to have been offered by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu dampened official hopes of an early breakthrough.

"I am still optimistic," a senior government aide said. He blamed the media for "creating the impression that a deal is imminent."

A meeting last Sunday between cabinet secretary Danny Naveh and the chief PA negotiator Saeb Erekat, at U.S. Ambassador Edward Walker's official residence, indicated that the two sides are interested in American ideas.

The session focused on the interim agreement and on the unresolved issues of a seaport, an airport and an industrial zone in Gaza. The last time these issues were discussed was two months ago. According to sources, the Americans initiated that meeting.

Meanwhile, there were unconfirmed reports that Israel recently held secret talks with European Union (EU) officials and agreed to discuss the airport, seaport and industrial zone, in an attempt to reach an agreement with the Palestinians, to prevent the EU from imposing sanctions on settlement products.

Netanyahu told the weekly cabinet meeting that while there still are differences about the second redeployment's precise parameters, the negotiations' current focus is on the third withdrawal.

"I cannot say that Israel and the Palestinians are on the verge of an agreement," he said. "There is as yet no agreement on the second redeployment. Israel is directing its efforts toward reaching agreement with the United States on the third redeployment. The issue here is the scope of the [third] redeployment, as well as the way in which it will be determined. Israel is making great efforts, and on this matter there is a chance that progress will be made."

Earlier Erekat had said on the Voice of Palestine radio that the "ball is in the Israeli court," as the Palestinians had already agreed to the U.S. proposals and it is up to Israel to declare its intentions regarding redeployment.

He said that according to the recent U.S. initiative, Israel must transfer land from Area C (under sole Israeli control) and Area B (under Palestinian civil control and Israeli security control) in the second redeployment.

Netanyahu's effort to reconcile Israel's vital security requirements with PA territorial aspirations and U.S. interest in forging an agreement without further delay failed to impress National Infrastructure Minister Ariel Sharon.

After a meeting behind closed doors, Sharon contended that "all the possibilities have not been exhausted and there are solutions which have not been tried."

He implied that Israel is being put into an untenable situation. He believes that a nine percent pullback is the most that can be offered. He also spelled out his grievances against the current trend in the redeployment negotiations in a detailed statement to the cabinet.

"We have to stop talking about nine percent, 11 percent, and 13 percent," he said, "because within a short time [PA Chairman Yasser] Arafat will have more than 40 percent of Judea and Samaria without giving anything in exchange."

Sharon also complained that the authorized policy-making organs of government are not being consulted about the parameters of withdrawal.

"If there is any kind of agreement with the Palestinians and Americans before any governmental forum whatsoever reaches a decision, the government will not be able to oppose it afterward. After exhaustive negotiations in which the United States is actively involved, it will be impossible to turn it around and change it.

"A bizarre and unhealthy situation has been created: Everybody knows – the Americans, Palestinians, Egyptians. The only ones who do not know are the members of the government, in any of its component bodies."

He predicted "a grave crisis" after the pullback is completed, because of Arafat's "known position" regarding the final settlement, his refusal to convene the Palestinian National Council [to expunge the anti-Israel articles from the Palestinian Covenant] and his rejection of Israel's calls for "reciprocity."

Netanyahu countered by saying the inner cabinet will be convened to update its members on the course of the negotiations.

General Security Services head Ami Ayalon, who attended the cabinet session, raised the possibility that Hebron's Shuhada Street might be reopened to Palestinian traffic, as stipulated in the Hebron agreement.

This idea was opposed by Transport Minister Shaul Yahalom, who advocated maintaining the status quo.

NETANYAHU POSTERS

Deganit Cohen removes posters of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu wearing a traditional Arab headdress and described with the word "liar," which appeared recently on Jersualem streets. [RNS/Reuters photo]

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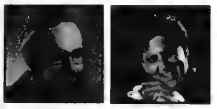

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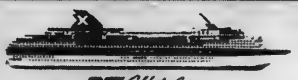

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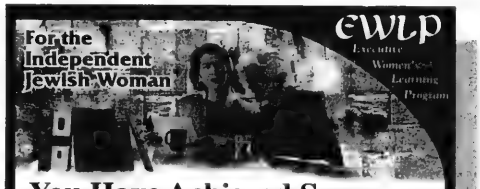

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Conversion issue ready to explode

By AVI MACHLIS
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — Efforts to forge a compromise over the ongoing conversion controversy in Israel appear ready to explode.

The Conservative movement has returned to court to battle for the recognition of its conversions in Israel. In response, the government plans to revive legislation that would codify the Orthodox monopoly over conversions in Israel.

The latest developments suggest that nearly one year after a truce was called in an effort to reach a compromise in the battle over religious pluralism, the parties are back where they started.

The conversion bill could be revived "within days" if the Conservative and Reform movements do not withdraw their conversion cases from court, according to Bobby Brown, the prime minister's adviser on Diaspora affairs.

Political analysts said the move could spark a new coalition crisis within the government because some coalition partners such as Yisrael b'Aliyah, the party headed by Natan Sharansky, oppose the conversion bill.

In fact, the fate of any conversion legislation is very uncertain because a majority of Knesset members have said they opposed such legislation.

But Netanyahu has been under pressure from haredi parties to bring back the bill.

Legislation had been frozen since last year, when the government appointed a committee headed by Finance Minister Ya'acov Ne'eman to draw up a compromise.

After months of intense meetings and missed deadlines, the commission in January recommended establishing a joint interdenominational conversion institute under the auspices of the Jewish Agency for Israel. While rabbis from the Orthodox, Conservative and Reform movements would participate in training potential converts, the actual conversion process would remain under Orthodox control.

Israel's Reform and Conservative movements accepted the compromise in principle, but demanded that Israel's Orthodox chief rabbis endorse the recommendations.

In early February, Israel's Chief Rabbinate Council did not comment on the institute per se, but lashed out at "those who are trying to shake the foundations of the Jewish people."

Last week, Israel's High Court of Justice renewed deliberation on the recognition of Conservative conversions of babies adopted abroad. The session was technical, involving the state's submission of its explanations on the issue.

However, the significance was more than just technical. It represented the Conservative movement's decision to press ahead in court after freezing the case while the Ne'eman Committee tried to hammer out a compromise.

"We have no choice but to pursue a court decision," said Rabbi Ehud Bandel, president of Masorti, as the Conservative movement is known in Israel.

"We are the only ones who agreed to the Ne'eman Committee's conclusions. We conditioned our agreement on a similar agreement from the [Orthodox] Chief Rabbinate. The moment they rejected the Ne'eman Committee, it is as if there are no recommendations."

The conversion institute's board has held several meetings in recent weeks. Conservative and Reform delegates have attended, but insist that their participation does not imply the problem has been solved.

Netanyahu said that he would consider pushing the Ne'eman recommendation through legislation alongside the conversion bill.

But Rabbi Bandel said if this happened, he would be in a "strange alliance" with the haredi parties, who object to such a move.

The Orthodox object because they reject the Ne'eman compromise proposals. Rabbi Bandel and the Conservatives say they object because legalizing the Ne'eman recommendations would only be "symbolic," while the conversion law would in fact delegitimate non-Orthodox conversions.

For his part, Avraham Burg, chairman of the Jewish Agency, warned that the confrontation would widen the gulf between Israel and Jews throughout the world.

"Every headline, each remark against Conservative and Reform Jews, only adds dozens of miles to the distance between us and the majority of the Jews of the world who are not Orthodox," Burg said.

With files from Debra Nussbaum Cohen in New York.

Israel seeks Hussein's help

By ARIEH O'SULLIVAN
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

AMMAN — Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai flew to Amman last Sunday to seek King Hussein's help in brokering a deal with the Palestinians on the second redeployment.

"I got the sense that the king is concerned about the situation," Mordechai told military reporters who accompanied him to Amman. "But just like in the Hebron agreement and other instances, the king is prepared to help."

During their relatively short, one-hour meeting at King Hussein's newly built Gate of Peace Palace on the western edge of Amman, Mordechai and the king tried to flesh out ideas on just how the Jordanian monarch could contribute.

While not soliciting King Hussein's pressure on Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat, the Israelis are hoping the king will be able to make the Palestinians more "flexible and understanding"so they accept the Israeli plan for a second withdrawal, one government official said.

Palestinian officials said Arafat had turned down a U.S. request to attend last Sunday's meeting between King Hussein and Mordechai.

In the meantime, Mordechai was acting more cautiously and did not have the same upbeat attitude as when he returned from Cairo last week, where he said the time for decisions was at hand.

Mordechai said the agreement on a second IDF redeployment in the West Bank would be achieved "shortly," but declined to be more specific.

Speaking at an impromptu news conference, King Hussein called Mordechai his "very good friend," adding that "after hearing Defence Minister Mordechai I am more optimistic."

Mordechai appears to be the solid force spearheading implementation of the pullback and is considered the leading moderate in Netanyahu's cabinet.

Still, it is not clear just how much influence he has in the government, particularly after he failed to follow through with a threat in January to resign if the troop pullback in the West Bank did not take place within three months.

The Jordanians have much respect for Mordechai, a former general, and Mordechai and King Hussein have meet on a number of occasions, not all of them official or reported.

The visit to Amman was also used to enhance security relations between the two nations.

With files from Margot Dudkevitch and Mohammed Najib.

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The Week in Israel

June 1

• Police scuffled with Haredim who protested mixed-gender prayer services near the Western Wall on Shavuot. After the services, thousands of Haredim walked through the Old City vandalizing Palestinian shops and throwing stones at local residents.

June 2

• A government official phoned the government of Pakistan to assure it that it had no intentions of destroying the Pakistani nuclear sites. Reports had circulated in Muslim countries that Israel and India would launch such a strike.

June 3

• Israel and Jordan agreed in principle to establish a rail link between Haifa and the Jordanian city of Irbid. They are also studying plans for a rail link between the port cities of Ashdod and Aqaba.

June 4

• Israel announced it would send earthquake relief to Afghanistan despite the absence of official ties between the countries.

June 5

• El Al announced that it has been chosen by the Vatican as the official airline to carry pilgrims for festivities marking the second millennium. Some seven million tourists are expected to visit Israel during the year 2000.

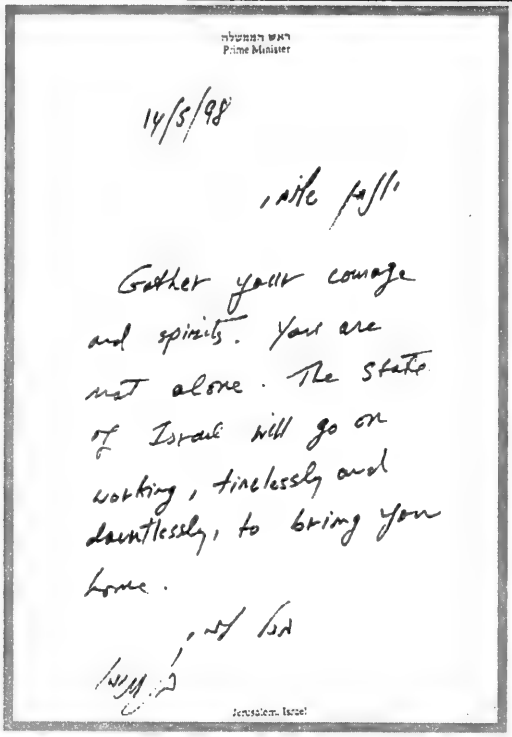
• According to a poll commissioned by Yisrael b'Aliyah, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu is far more popular than Ehud Barak among immigrants from the former Soviet Union.

50 Years Ago

LAKE SUCCESS, *June 1* — The government of Israel, and the six Arab League states that have invaded Palestine, today accepted the UN Security Council four-week cease-fire order, the sixth UN call for peace in Palestine.

TEL AVIV, *June 1* — Haganah announced today that Israeli planes last night bombed military targets in Amman, the capital of Transjordan. This was the first time that Jewish aircraft attacked an Arab capital since the launching of nearly daily air raids on Tel Aviv on May 15.

With files from JTA



ראש הממשלה
Prime Minister

14/5/98

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Love, Bibi

Jerusalem, Israel

P.M. SUPPORTS POLLARD

Copy of the letter from Prime Minister that was hand-delivered to Jonathan Pollard by Cabinet Secretary Dani Naveh on May 15, 1998 at F.C.I. Butner, North Carolina.

Israel-Canada trade links booming

BY EDGAR ASHER
CJN Israel Correspondent

TEL AVIV — The deepening and expanding business relationship between Canada and Israel was evident recently when the Israel-Canada Chamber of Commerce and Industry held a gala dinner to celebrate Israel's jubilee.

At the dinner, the chamber's awards for business excellence and success in promoting trade and economic relations between Israel and Canada were presented for the first time.

"The amount of trade between our two countries is now at a substantial level and worth celebrating," said Canadian ambassador David Berger. "The Canada-Israel Free Trade Agreement [CIFTA] led to a 56-percent increase in Canadian exports to Israel. So, as we had hoped, the CIFTA is contributing to increased trade between our countries."

CIFTA was implemented on Jan. 1, 1997, and bilateral trade reached $441 million that year. Canadian companies are involved in several infrastructure projects.

One of the award winners was Montreal-based David Azrieli, who was recognized for "his outstanding personal and business contribution to retail trading in Israel."

Last March, Azrieli, who has already opened several malls in major centres in the country, opened his newest, a 250,000-square-foot shopping mall in Tel Aviv.

Other Montreal-based award recipients were Charles Bronfman and Jonathan Kolber of Claridge Israel Inc. This award, which was accepted by Kolber, Claridge's CEO in Israel, was in recognition of the company's acquiring a controlling interest in the Koor conglomerate. Claridge is now the single largest foreign investor in Israel.

John Beck of Canadian Highways Investment Corporation and Israeli businessman Lev Leviev of Africa Israel Investments were award winners for their joint successful tender for the Cross Israel Highway. This massive project, now underway, is constructing a toll highway linking the north of Israel to the south.

Four Israeli companies, Tadiran Communications Ltd., Malam Software Systems, Eyal Optical industry and Shamir Optical Industry received awards and commendations for their outstanding increase in exports to Canada. A fifth company, Tosaf Compounds Ltd., also received an award for growth in exports to Canada, as well as for its opening of a very successful industrial plant in Canada.

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Israel's Arab minority feels alienated

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

Mideast Analysis

Last month, as Israel celebrated 50 years of statehood, Israeli Arabs marked *al-nakba*, the catastrophe that befell their community in 1948. As Israel battled Palestinian irregulars and five Arab armies that had invaded its territory, Palestinian civilians ran for their lives, voluntarily or involuntarily, leaving behind more than 400 villages, as well as 160,000 of their compatriots.

The Palestinian Arabs who remained formed the nucleus of the Muslim and Christian minority that has grown in size to about one million inhabitants, or nearly 20 percent of Israel's total population.

As their *al-nakba* festival showed, Arabs in Israel feel acutely torn between their identities as ethnic Palestinians and Israelis.

Israel's Declaration of Independence conferred "complete equality" on Israeli Arabs. But in practice, they do not enjoy equal rights with the Jewish majority. As a result, they are a largely disaffected minority with a litany of legitimate complaints about their status.

"There are no laws that discriminate explicitly against non-Jewish citizens," writes political scientist Alan Dowty, "but the statutes that uphold Israel's Jewishness promote inequality by legitimizing preference for Jews."

As an example, while Jews are citizens on the basis of descent, Arabs are citizens by virtue of physical presence, a regulation designed to prevent an influx of Palestinian refugees into Israel.

The continuing state of war between Israel and many of its Arab neighbors doubtless sows suspicion about their loyalty, even though few Israeli Arabs have been charged with security infractions.

Until 1966, their freedom of movement was circumscribed and they lived under military rule. And while such blatant restrictions are a thing of the past, Israeli Arabs harbor deep-seated grievances, from the expropriation of much of their land in the first three decades of Israel's existence to job discrimination, an unemployment rate far above the national average, inferior schools in terms of expenditure per pupil and facilities, unequal municipal budgetary allocations, and virtual exclusion from key government positions and senior university posts.

And ironically enough, because most Israeli Arabs are exempt from national service, they are denied important benefits in employment, housing and education during young adulthood.

Despite these disadvantages, they have achieved a measure of progress. In May, the first Arab judge was elevated to the Supreme Court, and in April, the army appointed its second Druze general in a year and its first Christian Arab woman as an officer. Two years ago, Israel's first Arab ambassador was posted to Finland.

Although Israeli Arabs account for more than half of those below the poverty line, they are, as a group better off than Arabs in Arab countries. These advances have had the effect of increasing their self-confidence, their sense of Palestinization and their willingness to voice criticism of the system.

In general, Israeli Arabs identify neither with Zionism nor with Israel's flag, and in the 1996 election, during which they won 10 Knesset seats, 60 percent of them voted for non-Zionist political parties. Some radicals, such as Said Zeidani, have called for territorial autonomy in the Galilee and the Little Triangle, where the vast majority of Israeli Arabs live, in separate communities apart from Jews. Still others, notably MK Abdul Wahab Darawashe, have expressed support for an independent Palestinian state and the return of Palestinian refugees to their former homeland.

Sammy Smooha, a Haifa University social scientist, divides Israeli Arabs into four major groups. Roughly 11 percent accept Israel as it is constituted. Thirty nine percent seek change within the existing framework. Forty percent reject Israel's Jewish-Zionist character. Ten percent reject Israel altogether.

Clearly, under present circumstances, considerable numbers of Israeli Arabs feel alienated from Israel.

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JEWISH IDENTITY AT BAR-ILAN

For the second year in a row, 13-year-old Michael Rom of Vancouver (left) got to the finals of the International Competition on Jewish Identity, held in Israel. Winners of the event received a one-year scholarship at Bar-Ilan University, which sponsored the competition. A total of 84 students aged 12-16 reached the finals of the contest, with tested participants on a 177-page book that covered Israel's Declaration of Independence, the history of aliyah, Jewish values and other topics. Rom is seen here with contestant Rachel Singerman of the United States (centre) and South African Leanne Stillerman. [Yoni Reif photo]

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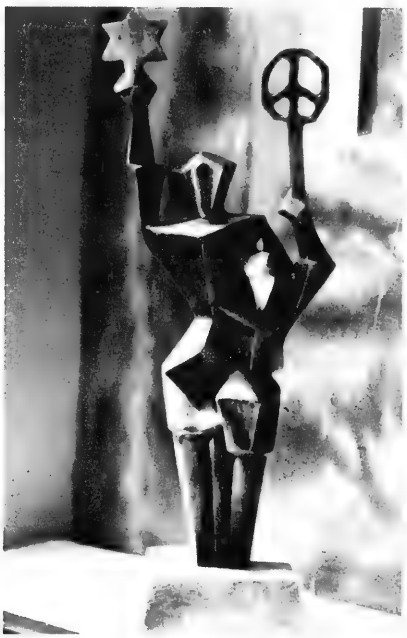

Al Green
Artist

It is now more than 30 years since Al Green has dedicated his life to sculpting. His appreciation for fine design and art has always been an integral part of his life, ever since he was involved in construction of some of the most prestigious development projects in and around Toronto. During his formative years as a sculptor, he studied and was guided by Maryon Kantaroff. Later, when he began to seriously devote his talents and time to his love for art forms, he had the good fortune to further his studies with the world renown sculptor, Sorel Etrog. In his well equipped studio he developed his own personal style which is reflected in "Touching Heaven", a commission dedicated to the Lubavitch Organization. His cubistic and angular style are exciting to view, while emotionally evocative. Al's enthusiasm for fine design has led him to utilize a wide range of materials, while he continues to explore new forms of design and unconventional materials.

He has to his credit more than 100 works of art and has participated in many shows. As a result of his commitment to education, health and Jewish life, Al has completed commissions for several organizations. His work is in many private collections in Canada and the United States. Recently, he completed a 14 ft. totem pole and an elaborate abstract piece called 'Homage to a Higher Power' which was featured at his last exhibition.

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Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

HOLOCAUST PLAY WINS PLAYWRITING CONTEST

Maurice Breslow, a transplanted New Yorker who teaches drama at Queen's University in Kingston, Ont., has penned a play, *Suffer The Children*, which has been named winner of the 1997 Canadian Jewish playwriting contest sponsored by the Jewish Theatre Committee of Toronto.

Suffer The Children focuses on **Chaim Rumkowski**, the controversial head of the Judenrat in the wartime Lodz Ghetto. Breslow decided to focus on Rumkowski after reading *The War Against The Jews*, **Lucy Dawidowicz's** book on the Holocaust. He interviewed numerous survivors from Lodz and combed the YIVO Archives in New York, seeking relevant material in Yiddish, which he read with the help of a translator.

"For me, Rumkowski embodies the best and the worst of our confrontation with the Nazis," Breslow said. "I wanted to get beyond the faceless facts to the personal and public truths they represented." Most of Breslow's father's family was wiped out in the Holocaust.

The committee is planning to present a staged reading of *Suffer The Children* during Holocaust Education Week in November, in conjunction with its sponsor, the Bloor Jewish Community Centre.

* * *

Betel Centre: The Lifelong Learning Institute of the Bernard Betel Centre presents the first Lillian Disenhouse Concert, featuring the Mooredale Youth Orchestra with soloists, performing an evening of **Vivaldi** concertos. Admission free. June 16, 7:45 p.m. in the Auditorium. 1003 Steeles Ave. W. **Bookie**, 225-2112.

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Klezmer Accordion: The Cranbrooke Friendship Club, a seniors group affiliated with the United Jewish People's Order, presents an afternoon of klezmer music with accordionist **Sasha Luminksy**. June 15, 12:30 p.m. Winchevsky Centre, 585 Cranbrooke Ave. The event will be preceded by a light lunch. $4. 789-5502

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Rosalie Abella

Arts in Brief: Half-price tickets to many Toronto theatre productions are available on the day of performance from T.O. Tix, in the Eaton Centre across from Mr. Greenjeans. Open noon to 7:30 p.m. 536-6468, ext. 1.

• The 13th annual Bloomsday Festival in celebration of **James Joyce's** *Ulysses* transforms the Toronto Beaches neighborhood into Dublin for a day – June 16. 365-7877.

•The 10th annual Jewish Book Awards ceremony features selected readings by **Justice Rosalie Abella** and **Prof. Irving Abella**. Free admission; reception following. Leah Posluns Theatre. June 10 at 7:30 p.m.

* * *

In the Spotlight: A rabbi in London, England, has voluntarily stopped leading religious services at his synagogue after members of the rabbinical council complained that some ideas in his book on sexuality and Torah were "inappropriate" for a rabbi and not "in accordance with Jewish law."

Rabbi Shmuel Boteach said he would no longer officiate at Shabbat services at Willesden United Synagogue in order to protect British **Chief Rabbi Jonathan Sacks**, who had praised him as "one of the more creative and imaginative talents of our community [who] has been prepared to take risks in order to communicate an authentic Jewish message to a new generation."

Boteach's book, *Kosher Sex*, discusses such subjects as oral sex, masturbation and "whether there is a 'kosher kama sutra,'" the *London Jewish Chronicle* reported. "The book argues that the rabbinical line restricting sex to the missionary position represents advice, not Jewish law." Sections of the book were serialized in a British tabloid.

Rabbi Boteach had also introduced more informal Shabbat services at his synagogue. "He brought a breath of fresh air," one congregant said.

In a prepared statement, Rabbi Boteach said, "I categorically reject the suggestion that *Kosher Sex* contains material contrary to Jewish teachings, and am prepared to debate those making this scurrilous assertion in a public forum."

He also complained that rabbis were abrogating responsibility for guiding people in their intimate lives and called for an honest and open approach in addressing issues of sexuality and intimacy.

"I think that rabbis should leave sex therapy to sex therapists," said **Elkan Levy**, president of the United Synagogues.

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Libby Scheier, TWW director, as seen in *The Canadian Jewish News*

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Toronto's dirty '30s recreated

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO —The world of the dirty '30s in Toronto, when Jews couldn't get a job at Eatons or Simpsons, and when renting out a flat was crucial for the family income, is recreated in *The Dreamers*.

In his partly autobiographical piece, the 82-year-old writer and actor Irving Hoffman tells a familiar (almost too familiar) story of the struggles of a Jewish family living on Clinton and Grace streets.

The Act II Studio presentation, directed by Vrenia Ivanoffski, is at the Robert Gill Theatre, 214 College St., with performances matinees and evenings until June 13 (978-7986).

The latest version of *The Dreamers*, first presented in 1995, is sharper in political tone, expounding the virulent anti-Semitism of the period, the intense debate over Communism and the Christie Pits riots.

But the play is not a "downer." How could it be with such a lovable and warm family as the Gordons looking at the upside of matriarch Emma working in a Spadina Avenue dress factory for $6 a week, the 17-year-old son, Benny, handling three jobs to pay for an acting course, and the father, Harry, losing his post with the Toronto Symphony?

Ivanoffski, 46, a member of a non-Jewish Hungarian immigrant family "adopted" by Jewish friends in North York schools, thinks *The Dreamers* should be seen by young Jews and by the large Jewish immigrant community who settled in Toronto after World War II.

"It will make them realize the economic forces that held Jews together in those days and enabled them to survive," said Ivanoffski, a former historian.

Experienced veteran actors Gloria Valentine (Emma), Irving Hoffman (Grandpa Gordon), Harriet Sherman (Grandma Gordon), and Stanley Mourin combine with younger cast members in an intergenerational mix which matches the Gordon family itself.

Among the latter are Joe Sacco (Benny), Joanne Marrella (Benny's older sister Norma), Robert McDonald (Harry Gordon) and Claudette Gareau (cousin Annie).

All in all, Hoffman has written a gritty yet humorous look at the depression era, when the Gordons could rent a 10-room house on Grace Street for $52 a month. They could afford the rent only by taking in boarders and renting out a flat. The Stromberg-Carlson radio (a floor model), the dial telephones and the old-fashioned upright piano will surely evoke nostalgia.

The play has all the ups and downs of family life in those days, including a happy ending. For anyone who yearns for the classic Jewish theatre of laughs and tears, it's a must.

The Dreamers is not innovative enough to make Broadway or the Royal Alex, but that's not its purpose.

Violist Golani to perform with TSO

By STACEY STEIN
Student Intern

TORONTO — For the first time in 10 years, viola virtuoso Rivka Golani will be performing with the Toronto Symphony Orchestra (TSO).

This may seem curious, considering the Tel Aviv-born violist lives partly in Toronto (her other home is in London) when she's not on the road.

"It was a bit weird that I lived in Toronto and didn't perform with the orchestra," Golani concedes. "But it was for political reasons, not musical reasons."

In Toronto, Golani has been performing with the Esprit Orchestra. Then the CBC invited her to perform and record a viola concerto written for her by Canadian composer Peter Paul Koprowski, resulting in the June 13 engagement with the TSO.

The CBC also asked her to record a two-CD set featuring all of Bach's solo works. The project is expected to be ongoing for the next year and a half, beginning in the fall.

Rivka Golani's switch from the violin to the viola in her last year in university marked the beginning of a long-term love affair with the instrument. She has been playing the viola for about 30 years and has committed herself entirely to it, she says.

"I love this instrument. I switched to the viola with a very clear mind and the decision to do the best one can on the instrument, and not accept the concept that the viola is secondary [to the violin]."

Golani says her innovations have contributed to the stylistic and technical advancement of the viola, and that over 200 pieces have been written for her, including 30 concertos.

Golani's repertoire spans across a variety of styles, techniques, and time periods.

"I was always interested in everything," she says. "So I covered everything all the time. I've researched old music and at the same time commissioned and worked with composers of today."

Golani is equally comfortable playing classical and contemporary pieces, and is not particular to a specific style.

"When I'm geared to do the contemporary, I'm fully there," she says. "And when I'm geared to do baroque, I'm fully there. And when I'm geared to do classical, I'm fully there...Once it comes to a performance situation, I just love it."

Passionately devoted to her craft, Golani is committed to perpetually advancing herself musically. She spends four to six hours a day practising her viola.

"You have to have a technique to be able to handle the instrument for so long without getting tired," she says.

Golani also teaches the viola. Her master classes are attended by students from around the world. However, she only teaches sporadically as she is usually travelling the world while on tour. She has performed almost everywhere, from North America to Europe to the Far East to Israel. Golani maintains strong links with Israel. She works with Israeli composers and performs there at least once a year.

Golani is also an accomplished painter. Her artwork has been showcased in exhibitions and she has sold some of her work. In the future, she would like to spend more time painting, but for the moment her focus is mostly on her music.

Rivka Golani

"I can't ride too many horses at the same time," she says. "As a profession, it [painting] is waiting. I cannot call myself a full-time painter."

She also plans to write music eventually. Although she has lots of ideas and has already started some preliminary work, she is elusive when asked about her music-writing.

"I don't talk about it until it's finished," she says. And if her accomplishments up until now are any indication, her completed pieces will be well worth the wait.

Rivka Golani performs with the TSO on June 13 at Roy Thomson Hall. She will then be on tour in Edmonton, Banff and Vancouver in mid-June.

Actress' visit to Belarus tugs at viewers' heartstrings

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

Coming Home, Cayle Chernin's documentary about the importance and durability of family roots, tugs at the heartstrings.

The film, scheduled to be aired on Vision TV on June 16 at 9 p.m., takes Chernin – a Torontonian from Glace Bay, N.S. – on a sentimental journey to a town in Belarus, near Minsk, called Borisov.

There, in a joyful and magical reunion, she meets long-lost relatives, including Boris Chernin, the frail youngest brother of her late grandfather, Lable, who immigrated to Canada in 1911 and died in 1964.

The story of their poignant encounter is the subject of *Coming Home*, a one-hour film that also touches on the Holocaust and the present Jewish community of Borisov.

Chernin, an actress who appeared in the iconic Canadian film *Going Down the Road* (1970), connected with her Belarussian relatives by sheer happenstance.

Put in touch with a Russian immigrant in New York City who turned out to be a second cousin, Chernin wrote to his family in Borisov, enclosing photographs of her great-grandparents.

Boris Chernin's son informed Chernin that they were related, and invited her to visit the clan. They were thrilled to discover that they had relatives abroad, Chernin reports.

In Borisov, she found out that Boris, a taciturn man capable of bursts of emotion, had been exiled to Siberia for 10 years after having been falsely accused of "counter-revolutionary" activities.

Chernin, as well, visits a bleak monument dedicated to the 9,000 Jews murdered by the Nazis, and the home of her great-grandparents.

In the course of events, she learns that the remaining Jews of Borisov – 1,000 in number as of 1992 – are returning to Judaism. In an emotionally warm scene, Chernin leads her relatives in Sabbath dinner prayers.

Coming Home tells us that Boris died a year after Chernin's visit, but unfortunately, it fails to bring the story right up to date. Are her relatives still living in Borisov? How are they faring? Have they emigrated? Has Borisov's Jewish community declined in the interval? These questions, left unsaid and unanswered, leave a gaping hole in the narrative.

Cayle Chernin (far right) with her relatives in Borisov, Belarus.

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Jewish variety showcase in danger of folding

By STACEY STEIN
Student Intern

The monthly variety show, Centre Spotlight, has showcased Yiddish and Jewish artists for over a year, but that may soon come to an end.

Gloria Valentine, founder of Centre Spotlight and artistic director of the non-profit Jewish Artists Scholarship Society (JASS), says the survival of the program depends upon its receiving a grant from the Toronto Arts Council.

Centre Spotlight's last show for the season is on June 20 at the Morris Winchevsky School. It will also be featured Aug. 26 at the CNE.

After that, "I don't know if we'll be able to open the doors again in September, if we don't get the grant," says Valentine.

Centre Spotlight "promotes our Jewish and Yiddish heritage; there's no place in the city where you can go and see something that is promoting both Yiddish and Jewish culture on a regular basis," she says.

Gloria Valentine

Since its inception in February 1997, Centre Spotlight has featured over 120 artists running the gamut from storytellers to dancers to Yiddish singers.

The artists only recently started receiving an honorarium for their work in the non-profit show. Proceeds from ticket sales go towards maintaining the performing space, such as the stage and sound system. Valentine says the artists enthusiastically take part because they are provided with a warm and nurturing atmosphere.

"They feel good performing here because everybody is portrayed in a good light, and they know they're given the respect that artists should receive."

Valentine's love for Yiddish and affinity for the arts inspired her to start Centre Spotlight.

"I've always wanted a place where Yiddish and Jewish artists could perform and be seen," says Valentine. "I believe in talent having an opportunity to be heard, I believe in Yiddish and I believe in my Jewish heritage. When people applaud, it makes me feel good."

Growing up with her grandparents, Valentine's first language was Yiddish. A professional actor and singer, she started performing in Yiddish in the late 1980s. Her personal involvement with the language and culture has driven her to promote Yiddish.

"Yiddish is 1,000 years old; it's the language spoken by our ancestors and it's the language that six million Jews spoke," she says.

Yiddish is a uniting force that transcends cultural and ethnic boundaries, Valentine says.

She compares it to opera. "People of all ethnicities go to the opera, and they don't all understand Italian…but Yiddish is very moving, emotional and expressive; so they can enjoy it."

She notes that many Yiddish words have found their way into the North American lexicon, attesting to Yiddish's wide-ranging appeal. "Yiddish has crept into the English language. People of all denominations are using the words chutzpah and shmatte and schtick."

Although Centre Spotlight's main emphasis is on Yiddish and Jewish entertainment, the show also features non-Jewish performing artists. Valentine says that through Centre Spotlight "we've reached out to the community at large; we've built bridges in the community among other ethnicities."

She says that after each show, accolades pour in from the enthusiastic crowd. "At the end of each Centre Spotlight, people come up to me and say, 'This was the best one,'" she says. "They say that each time; so I feel we're doing something right."

Islands beckon

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

They're islands in the sun, beckoning Canadians from every walk of life.

Jamaica, from the Blue Mountains and Montego Bay to Dunn's River Falls and the Cockpit Country, is a perennial attraction for both sedentary and adventurous travellers. *Jamaica* (Raincoast Books, $24.95) explores this lush island in depth.

Despite its political isolation, Cuba is a popular destination, as Canadians can surely attest. *Cuba* (Raincoast, $21.95) roams the "Pearl of the Antilles," finding sun-kissed beaches, surprisingly modern resorts, picturesque colonial towns and unspoiled countryside.

The novelist Mark Twain called Hawaii "the loveliest fleet of islands that lies anchored in any ocean." Even if allowances are made for hyperbole, there is no doubt that the brilliant green Hawaiian islands are stunning in their beauty. *Hawaii* (Raincoast) explains why they are worth more than just a fleeing visit.

Caribbean cruises are beguiling, and after you've read *Caribbean By Cruise Ship* (Raincoast Books, $24.95) you'll probably agree. Anne Vipond's guide prepares you for a typical cruise and, better still, describes the major ports – from the Bahamas to San Juan – you can visit. An excellent reference book with splendid photographs.

Vipond's companion volume, *The Complete Cruise Handbook* (Raincoast), helps you select the right cruise line and decide when to travel.

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Artege Table Pads Custom-made, top quality, heat resistant. Wide selection, courteous home service. 745-2711.

500 TUTORING/ LESSONS

Hebrew Lessons. Exp. teacher. Reading, writing, conversation,Jewish Traditions. All ages. Bath./Centre. 905-771-0500.

MS Word, Word Perfect, private lessons. 416-226-0460.

Private, semi-private or group swim lessons at your pool for all ages & levels. Exp. & qualified instructor. 905-731-5396.

Your COURT or mine. Private tennis lessons by nationally certified instructor. Call Jeff Silverstein at 416-962-6005

520 WINDOW COVERINGS

Shop at home. Verticals, venetians, rolling shades, pleated blinds, reupholstering, invisible repairs, comforters by order, stainguarding. Work guaranteed, **Free est.** Call anytime 224-2211, 223-1655.

REAL ESTATE Section

5 HOUSES FOR SALE

THINKING OF SELLING YOUR HOME? FOR PROVEN RESULTS CALL
Larry Wronzberg Sales Representative
BUY & SELL WITH RESULTS
ALAN NEWTON (905) 764-7200
FREE HOME WARRANTY*

JUST LISTED

202 Winding Lane
– Finished Basement
– Family Room
– 3 Bedrooms
$277,900

138 FRANKLIN AVE.
– Over 3400 sq. ft.
– Finished Basement
– 4 Bedrooms
$529,900

85 PLUM TREEWAY
– Finished Basement
– 3 Bedrooms
– Bathurst/Steeles
$184,900

93 PLUM TREEWAY
– 4 Bedroom
– Finished Basement
– Starter Home
$199,900

* SOME CONDITIONS APPLY
NOT INTENDED TO SOLICIT PROPERTIES CURRENTLY LISTED FOR SALE

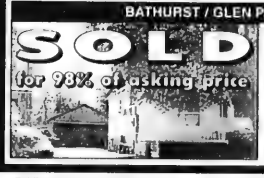
REAL ESTATE Section

5 HOUSES FOR SALE

"WE OPEN DOORS FOR YOU"

DAVID EICHORN REALTY LIMITED 787-1712

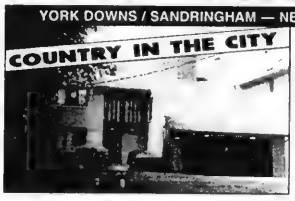
BATHURST / GLEN PARK



40 x 132 ft. building lot in prime area, surrounded by luxury homes. ACT NOW! Only $259,000. Call David Eichorn at (416) 787-1712.

SOLD

YORK DOWNS / SANDRINGHAM — NEW LISTING!



Prestigious area, 60 x 188 ft. lot (irreg.), custom spacious family home, approx. 3,700 sq. ft. + fin. bsmt., 5 bdrms, 4 baths, fam. room, only $629,000. ACT NOW! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

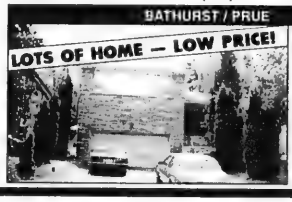
BATHURST / LAWRENCE — EXCLUSIVE

3 bdrm. bung. on 50 ft. lot, east side of Bathurst, sep. entry to in-law suite, only $339,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

CLANTON PARK AREA — STUNNING 3 BEDROOM!

Renovated + decorated, on 70 x 115 ft. lot (irr.), gleaming hardwood floors, thermopane windows, newer furnace and A/C, only $269,000! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / PRUE



Prestigious location! Spacious 5 + 1 bdrm. side-split, family room, hardwood floors, gorgeous 50 x 125 ft. lot, close to park, quiet street, only $529,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / LAWRENCE — SPACIOUS EXECUTIVE HOME

Exciting value in a Central North York location! App. 3,000 sq. ft., 3-years-new, custom-built. Shows to perfection — gleaming hardwood floors, main floor laundry, family room, library. Only $499,000! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

BATHURST / YORK DOWNS

Spacious family home! 4 bedrooms, library, family room, open concept, fam. size kitchen, only $359,000. ACT NOW! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

BATHURST / GLENCAIRN — SHOWS A 10++

Builder's own custom-built exec. home, loaded with upgrades, Marlee roof, marble entry, fireplaces, approx. 3,000 sq. ft. + beautifully finished basement, only $589,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

HK

HARVEY KALLES

REAL ESTATE LIMITED REALTOR

LAKE SIMCOE RETREAT – $164,900
Winter/Summer - Award winning design, 4 bdrms., 3 baths, 100'x150' lot. Backs onto golf course. Carole Lazer*

ST. CLAIR/BATHURST STARTER
$238,900 Kitchen, bath, windows, roof & furnace all done. Full Nanny suite & parking. 1 bus to subway. Jeffrey Joseph**

NEW LISTING! MANHATTAN PLACE!
Almost 1600 sq. ft. of space in prestigious bldg. Fab. amenities, valet pkg., 2 lge. bdrms., 2 full baths. Yonge/Sheppard. Great view! $289K. Call Brenda Abramson*

GLENGROVE - $469,900 – MULTI-LEVEL
4+1 bdrm., oversized kit. & dining rm. W/out to landscaped yard. Walk to synagogue & schools. Carole Lazer*

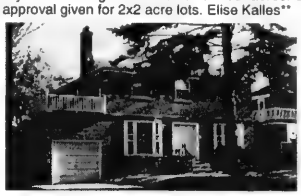
NEW LISTING! UPPER VILLAGE!
Spacious wonderful flow. 4 bdrms., 56'x121' lot on Ridelle. Don't miss it! Call Toby Farb*

NEW PRICE! BEST OF BOTH WORLDS
Perfectly located in The Bridle Path, overlooking a lush ravine. Open & spacious 5 bdrms., 7 baths, 3 car gar. Elise Kalles**

OLD COLONY – CLASSIC GEORGIAN
Outstanding craftsmanship & detail distinguish this richly appointed residence. Pool, tennis crt. Call Elise Kalles**

STRATHEARN RD. – ENTERTAINER'S DELIGHT
Contemporary mansion is in a class by itself. 6+1 bdrms., 13 baths, Indoor/Outdoor pool, exc./spa, tennis crt. Elise Kalles**

THE BRIDLE PATH – EXCEPTIONAL PROPERTY
Create your own magnificent estate on four acres. Severance approval given for 2x2 acre lots. Elise Kalles**



AVENUE RD./GLENCAIRN/BATHURST
$529,000 Quiet street, 2 storey. Price to remodel. Excellent features, spaces & potential. 50'x123' lot. Jeffrey Joseph**

* Sales Representative ** Associate Broker

A percentage of all our sales will be donated to supporting the homeless through "PROJECT WARMTH"

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Forest Hill

Real Estate Inc. Realtor

(416) 488-2875 (416) 226-1987

List with us and appear on our Website: www.foresthill.ca

CENTRAL PROPERTIES

LOWER VILLAGE – $1,395,000
60'x152', 3 stry., 5 bdrm. + spa, fam. rm., country kit. G. Mitchell** 488-2875

LOWER VILLAGE – RENO'D GEORGIAN DREAM!
5 bdrm., 7 baths, spacious, bright. Maurice Gherson* 488-2875

NEW LISTING! GORGEOUS UPPER VILLAGE!
4 bdrms., 5 baths, 3,550 sq. ft. Stunning custom home, plus 1,000 sq. ft. bsmt. Shows to perfection. Reesa Sud* 488-2875

PROF. LANDSCAPED GARDENS - INDOOR POOL!
4 bdrm., reno. lrg. pr. rooms. 50'x143' lot. Elaine Lewis * 488-2875

1ST AD! AVENUE RD./ LAWRENCE – NEW!
Absolutely gorgeous! For details call Celine Joel* 488-2875

1ST AD! GORGEOUS UPPER VILLAGE
Beautifully renovated, 4 bdrm with mn. flr. fam. rm & 2nd flr. library. $749K. Rickey Fitzerman* 226-1987

DESIGNERS DREAM CENTRALLY LOCATED
3 yrs. new, 3+1 bdrms, 4 flrs. Elaine Lewis* 488-2875 SOLD

LOWER VILLAGE- 20 BROWSIDE – $645K
Lovingly maintained 4 bdrm! Maurice Gherson* 488-2875

AVENUE RD./LAWRENCE – CHARMING
Custom built 4 years new, 3+bdrms., 4 baths, 3 skylights, high ceilings, pot lights. For more info. Nancy Davar* 226-1987

SUPER ALLENBY DETACHED – $399K!
Value! Reno. 3 bdrm., Upper Village. Maurice Gherson* 488-2875

PARK SETTING IN ARMOUR HEIGHTS – $369K
3 bdrm. reno on great street. Barbara Peltz** 488-2875

ST. CLAIR-ATLAS
Just listed - det. 3 bdrm., fin. bsmt., private or superb cres. Old world charm lovely. Ruth Silver* 226-1987

BAYVIEW PROPERTIES

BRIDLE PATH/LAWRENCE – JUST $1,199K
Gorg. reno'd home, 109'x113' ft. F. Bongard-Sversky** 488-2875

JUST LISTED! BAYVIEW/YORK MILLS!
$487K! Value packed reno multi-level 5+1 bdrms., 4 baths, mn. fam.+lau.+3 pce. Call Sandon Schwartzben** 266-1987

NORTH PROPERTIES

REDUCED! FAB. POOL SIZE LOT & MORE!
Upgrade lrg. 4 bdrm. exec., quiet street, motivated! Rena Bader* 488-2875

VENDOR SAYS SELL! PRICE REDUCED!
Bayview N/16. approx. 4400 sq. ft., 5 baths, great lands. Underground sprinkler, security by video! Appls. etc., try offer! R. Trachter* 226-1987

QUIET STREET @ PROMENADE – $309K
4 bdrm. + fam. rm. & spacious kitchen. Barbara Peltz* 488-2875

130 LISA CRESCENT
Immac. 3+1 bdrms., parquet flr. Reduced Julie Gofman* 488-2875

NORTH YORK BEAUTY
Excel. 3 bdrm. bungalow well maintained. Ensuite, bsmt. apt., pot/sep. side enterance, $289K. 56' frontage. Rickey Fitzerman* 226-1987

BATHURST/STEELES – $199,900
3 bdrm., fam. rm., move-in condition. Bibi Stark* 488-2875

CONDOMINIUM PROPERTIES

110 BLOOR ST.-YORKVILLE
2 bdrms.+den. Panoramic views. Beth Sokol* 488-2875

AVENUE RD./ST CLAIR CONDO – JUST $399K
Exclusive 16 suite bldg, 2 bdrm. Faith Bongard-Sversky** 488-2875

YONGE/SHEPPARD – THE PRESTIGIOUS MANHATTAN!
2 bdrms. + solarium; neutral decor. A-10 + gorgeous south views! Steps to amenities. Valet park. Olga Guvenal* 226-1987

BATHURST & CLARK
2 bdrm. + sol. + pkg., gorgeous upgraded kit., central vac., huge laundry, motivated vendor - Now $189K! Hedda Zaionz* 226-1987

BAYVIEW/GREENANE "LANDMARK"
Lovely 2 bdrm condo & solarium. F.Bongard-Sversky** 488-2875

BATHURST & SHALLMAR – $149K
2 bdrm., 1½ bath co-ownership, parking. Allen Tobe** 488-2875

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

PROFESSIONAL OFFICE BUILDING!
Forest Hill - 2 storey reno'd. Reesa Sud* 488-2875

BATHURST/BLOOR – OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS
Comm. space, 590 sq. ft., ideal for Doctor's office. F. Bongard-Sversky** 488-2875

OUT OF TOWN PROPERTIES

MARVELOUS MUSKOKA COTTAGE SITE
McKay Lake – communal lot $39,900. Robert Samery** 488-2875

**Associate Broker *Sales Representative

5 HOUSES FOR SALE

Builders' Home

BATHURST-WILSON
Stunning custom built home, 5 bedrooms, main floor den, family room + laundry room, finished basement with apt. for extra income, stucco exterior, interlock driveway and much more! **Asking only $579,900**
Call Michael Harari at (416) 717-2204

CLANTON PARK SIDE SPLIT – "A BEAUTY"
3 bedrooms, main floor den, finished basement, new windows, new washrooms, new furnace, gleaming hardwood floors, extra large living room, dining room combo. **Don't miss it – Asking $349,900.** Call Michael Harari (416) 717-2204

NEW LISTING – "SPRING GATE BLVD."
Bathurst & Clark - Large executive home, 4 bedrooms, finished basement with apartment, family room + den on main floor, terrific location! **Asking only $499,900.** Call Michael Harari (416) 717-2204

RANCH BUNGALOW – SOUTH OF LAWRENCE
Unique centre hall plan, custom built 20 years ago, 3 bedrooms, 5 washrooms, den, library, basement has 2 bedroom apartment. **Asking only $429,900.** Call Michael Harari at (416) 717-2204

BATHURST-WILSON – STARTER HOME
Spacious 3 bedroom bungalow with finished basement, potential apartment, large lot, 55' frontage, quiet neighbourhood. **Asking only $288,800.** Call Michael Harari at (416) 717-2204

BEN & MARILYN LECHTMAN
(416) 966-0300

UPPER FOREST HILL - 2 HOMES
$669,000 – 5- bdrm., 4 bath, mn. flr. library, eat-in kit., mn. flr. pwder rm., walk to all amenities. Close to Village Shul, Shaarei Shomayim, West Prep.

$579,000 – 4 bdrm., 4 bath, fam. rm. addit'n., mn. fl. pwder. rm., refinished hdwd. flrs., quiet street, near Bathurst/Eglinton, West Prep.

GLENCAIRN/BATHURST - BUILDER'S HOME
$679,900 – 5 bdrm., 5 bath, 3 ensuite, mn. flr. library. Newly built, 3650 sq. ft. of luxury finishes, huge bsmt. apt., level w/o to yard.

BATHURST/LAWRENCE - ESTATE SALE
$279,000 – 3 bdrm., 2 bath, 2 storey centre hall, fast possession, large room sizes, 50' lot.

SUTTON GROUP - ASSOCIATES REALTY INC.

SEIDMAN
REAL ESTATE LIMITED REALTOR
633-7373

HANDYMAN SPECIAL
$199,000 detached bungalow, 3 bdrms., 2 baths, 73' frontage, build your dream home, don't miss!

• • •

BLUE FOREST AREA
4 bdrm., den, fam. rm., liv. & din. comb., kit. w/out to balc., oak staircase, fin. lower lvl., w/out to patio & ravine lot, great buy & location.

• • •

SHEPPARD ALLEN RD.
3 + bdrms., 2 storey, 2 baths, good size liv. & din., rec. rm., fireplace, 50'x150' lot, gar., move-in condition.

• • •

OVERBROOK WILMINGTON
3 bdrms., 2 baths, huge liv. & din., stained hdwd. flrs., fin. bsmnt., gar., steps to all!

• • •

BATHURST WILSON TRI-PLEX
2-3 bdrm. + 1-1 bdrm., balcs., garages + parking.

• • •

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NEW LISTINGS!

ALAN NEWTON
REAL ESTATE LTD. REALTOR

Bayview/York Mills "Denlow Estates"
Spacious large 4 bdrm. home with inground pool in prestigious area of fine home. Main floor family room, finished basement w/2 extra bdrms. $558K.

Bayview/Cummer Gorgeous updated 4 bdrm. home with pool. Shows perfectly, prof. landscaped, fin. rec. foom w/built-ins $369,900.

Call for further information: **JANETTE SHULMAN**, Sales Rep.
Tel: (905) 764-7200

LUXURIOUS PENTHOUSE
3 bedroom, reno, wrap around balcony.
Call **Erica Fortinsky***

BATHURST MANOR
4 level backsplit, 4 bdrm., reno., 68'x 205' lot.
Call **N. Birnbaum***
*Sales Rep.
RE/MAX REALTRON
(416) 222-8600

EXCEPTIONAL VALUE!
Bathurst/Lawrence area – 3 bdrm., 2 storey, all brick home. Largest lot in neighbourhood. Flex. possession. Asking only $339,000. To view, call Dennis.
COUNTRYWIDE ASSOCIATES REALTY INC.
(905) 897-9555

WILMINGTON/GARTHDALE
Want to be a landlord. Make money & live in your own home. Buy this nice triplex 2-3 bedroom, 1-1 bedroom, 2 car garage & parking.

SHEPPARD/WILMINGTON
Lovely side split 3 bedroom, 3 baths, huge fam. room w/out to garden, rec. rm. & wet bar, appliances, 2 car garage, steps to shopping & synagogue.

SALLY ROSEN, Sale Rep.
(905) 884-4425
CENTURY 21 SMITH LTD. BROKER

5 HOUSES FOR SALE

BATHURST-STEELES
Thornhill. Just listed! 4 bdrm., mn. flr., fam. rm., & laundry, fin. bsmt., dbl. car garage. $289,000.

BAYVIEW-CUMMER
Lovely renovated 4 bdrm., backsplit, private yard, $529,000.

GABBY GOLDRING
UNGERMAN ASSOCIATES
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10 HOUSES FOR SALE PRIVATE

Atkinson/Centre - 2 stry., 4 bdrms., sitting rm. off master, 4 bths., sunken liv. rm., sep. din., lib., fam. rm., + Florida kit., mn. flr. lndry., prof. fin. bsmnt., low main backyard w/inground pool. Call evenings at 905-881-2764.

10 HOUSES FOR SALE PRIVATE

Bath./Wilson - 2 bdrm. bung. w/fin. bsmnt., sep. entr., 3 appl., large lot. Call Mark at 663-8861.

15 HOUSES FOR RENT

Bath./Sheppard - 4 + 1 bdrm., 2 + 1 bth. $1,700/mo. Available August 1. Call 416-635-1923.

Bath./Wilson - 3 bdrm. bung., fin. bsmnt. $1,245 + . 785-7770

30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE

The SKYMARK *Specialist*
DON MILLS & FINCH (TORONTO)
SKYMARK II - New exclusive. Upgr. open concept 2 bdrm. w/unobstructed South view overlooking the city.
SKYMARK CLASSIC - exclusive & spacious open concept w/2 bdrm. + den, approx. 2,400 sq. ft. For our updated inventory call Santee Leung, F.R.I.
Santee Realty Inc.
(416) 441-2003
(24 hrs.)

30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE

3000 Bathurst - 24 hr. sec., 3 bdr., sun rm., lge. liv./din. area, prky. flrs, 5 appl., 2 pkg., locker, avail. Sept. 1998. Message at 905-709-2912 or 905-889-4576.

Bath./Steeles - Estate Sale, 2 bdrm., immac. cond., 2 pkg., appl., many upgr. 7 **Townsgate Drive.** 3rd floor. 416-440-1719.

Bathurst/Centre - 2 bdrm., sol., 2 full baths, upgraded, $167K. no agents. 905-771-9869.

35 CONDOMINIUM FOR RENT

3000 Bathurst
Lge. 1 bdrm. + den, wood flrs., Shabbat elevator, pkg. July 1. $1200 incl. utilities. Marshall Cohen, 520-0079

60 SHARED ACCOMMODATION

Bath/Steeles, 2 bdr furn apt. to share,n/smkr,$450/m 665-9967

110 COTTAGE FOR RENT

Lagoon City, Lake Simcoe, 2 bdrm. lux. TH, all amen., boat & motor, $650/wk. Seas. or mo. Call Barb at 416-638-8494.

Lake Simcoe near Orillia 3 bdr, lge. priv. lkfrnt lot, great swimming,canoe.June/July 223-6824

Lake Simcoe, lakefront estate, Beaverton area,lux. 4 bed. Sandy beach. Sunsets. Tennis. Seas./mo, 226-0009, 749-6600.

112 FURNISHED COTTAGE FOR RENT

Big Bay Point, beaut 4 bdrm + loft, fam rm, 3 bth, wrap around deck, sandy bch, 636-8236.

115 COTTAGE FOR SALE/ RENT

Monthly or seasonal, Big Cedar Pt., Lake Simcoe. Clean, cute 3 bdrm. cottage, steps from camp Arrowhead, across from priv. beach. 905-764-7504.

REAL ESTATE Section

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

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CONVENIENT NORTH YORK LOCATION

NEWLY DECORATED SPACIOUS 1, 2 & 3 BDRMS.
- Large balconies
- Central air conditioning and heating
- Hardwood Floors
- Sunken living rooms
- Surveillance cameras and card access system
- Outdoor swimming pool
- Close to conveniences and TTC
- Underground parking available

125 Neptune Dr.
(416) 787-7171

BATHURST-SHEPPARD
Very lg. 1, 2, 3 Bedrms., ample closets, some 1½ baths & 2 balc., roof, laundry, ravine setting, pool, ind. pkg., 6 apts. per flr. From $850.
960-3238 - Bus.
631-9377 or 631-0388 - Super

Bath./Lawrence - 3 bdrm. in 6 plex, 2 bths., pkg, lndry. $1,075. 905-886-5515 or 416-783-0179.

Bath./Sheppard - Extra large totally reno'd 1 bdr. bsmt, n/pets n/smkrs. $725/mo. 630-9898

Bathurst/Sheppard - Bright, sunny 1 bdrm apt avail. for rent, pkg. July 1. $800/mo. 635-5031

105 COTTAGE FOR SALE

Belle Ewart, Lake Simcoe - 3 bdr., 2 yrs old, 2 1/2 bth., lakefront, 1 min. to Shul, all amen. 905-669-5319 or 905-761-0410.

110 COTTAGE FOR RENT

Belle Ewart, 2 cottages on lge lot, nr. water. 416-636-0733.

135 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT

The Paradise of South Florida International Village
Condo apts. 1 to 4 bdrms.
$40,000 U.S. & up
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160 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR RENT

Beit Shemesh - English speaking community. 3 1/2 bdrm. apt 663-5540 or 972-3-635-5708.

200 OFFICE SPACE

MEDICAL DENTAL PROFESSIONAL SPACE AVAILABLE FOR LEASE. Parking included. Eglinton Ave. W. location.
Inquiries:
Mr. Karp (905) 886-8404
Fax (905) 709-2256

230 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

This is a small ad with a **BIG OPPORTUNITY.** Call Susan 416-410-1715/905-826-9949

240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

TEACHERS NEEDED
Temple Anshe Sholom Religious School seeks Judaica and Hebrew teachers for the 1998/99 school year. Applicants should possess a strong commitment to Judaism. Prior teaching experience is an asset. Please fax résumé to Laura Wolfson at (905) 528-2994.

240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

P/T exp., qualified pre-school teacher with religious background req'd. Pay is comparable. Fax résumé 905-731-7005

RN's, RPN's, HCA's, live in/out and cleaners needed. 391-0582

F/T clerical person req'd. Must be computer literate. 9-5pm, Mon-Fri., Yonge & Sheppard area. Fax résumé to 226-5394.

Female Day Camp counsellors, age 15-up.785-4600, evgs

Large Conservative Congregation in Midwest seeks Hazzan Sheni to read Torah, conduct daily minyan, do some teaching in religious school as well as lead shacharit services on High Holy Days and some services during the year. Excellent salary for qualified individual. Please send résumé with references and photograph to CJN Box # 7046

Sun. morning Hebrew school in West Toronto requires exp. teacher for Sept. for a small multi-age class. Excellent remuneration for the qualified candidate. Call Arlene at 766-8261.

Supervisor required for small Sunday religious school in Brampton. Successful candidate will be a Hebrew and Religious Studies teacher, experienced in Reform schools. For information call 905-846-9752.

Synagogue with mechitzah seeks Modern Orthodox RABBI Send résumé: Herzlia Search Comm., c/o 600-294 Portage Ave., Winnipeg, Man. R3C 0B9

MEPHISTO the ultimate walking shoes made in France - Seeking mature F/T & P/T sales staff with retail experience for Toronto downtown locations. French would be an asset. Please fax résumé to 905-881-0052.

245 EMPLOYMENT WANTED

English, Hebrew, Russian speaking lady seeks F/T job. Call 416-512-9233.

247 DAY CARE

Bathurst & Centre - Thornhill. Loving & safe environment for your baby. Lots of personal attention with E.C.E. teacher. Over 15 years experience. 3 openings beginning July. Refs. & receipts. Call 905-764-6936.

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

Cleaning with pride at afford. prices.Res./Comm. **FREE** Est. Insured, Bonded. **905-507-9654**

Do you require a nanny? Exp. Philipino nanny willing to work in Canada. New Agency. Please call 416-752-0817.

Excellent housekeepers, companions, nannies & nursing aides. Please call **Flor De 'Liz International Employment Agency.** Tel/Fax 416-533-5905 **No Employers Fee.**

High quality house cleaning Call Dora, 736-1179.

Look no Further! Live-in or live-out housekeepers, nannies, cleaners *avail. immed!* **V & M Agency.** Call 416-297-9034.

Loving & energetic. A babysitter, caregiver, housekeeper, caring for elderly, exp., refs. 733-3915, or 905-624-0808.

Maria's Italian Cleaning Team. Mature Italian & Portuguese cleaning women. **For a free estimate,** please call 416-446-0059 and leave a message!

Nannies, elderly & disabled caregivers seeks live-in/live-out jobs. Exp. w/refs. 905-677-4580

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

NEED A NANNY?
• No Fee to Employer
APPLE
DOMESTICS
(416) 730-0127

NOW!!!
Experienced live-in Filipino Caregivers available from Israel
ACT FAST!
ELLA'S DOMESTICS
Nannies, Housekeepers, Companions Live-in or Live-out
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GOLDEN CARE LTD.
There's *no place* like HOME!
Live-in & live-out Caregivers & Nannies. Staff training in safety, appropriate behaviour and even Jewish cooking!
On-going contact with you after placement.
LOW RATES WITH THE BEST PERSONAL SERVICE
Honey Hecker
665-1435, 665-4229

Frustrated by trying to find a suitable nanny? Let us help you. We have dependable, caring nannies who are thoroughly qualified, personally interviewed & pre-screened. All refs. are checked. Some are CPR trained. Low finders fee.
Wee Care Placement Agency
416-789-3070

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A LOT TO OFFER
Tall female, 50, Jewish, business professional with good communication skills, trustworthy, romantic with a good sense of humour, a lot to offer the right gentleman, seeking a male, 6', 49-60 Ad# 1226

AMBITIOUS
28 year old Jewish female, pretty, ambitious, sexy, striking & down to earth, enjoy sports, working out, dining out, dancing, travelling & having a good time with friends, seeking tall, professional, classy male, 20-30 preferably Jewish for friendship Ad# 1275

THEATRE & TRAVEL
Petite, youthful, Jewish high school teacher, like sports, theatre, travel, movies & outdoor activities, seeking a thoughtful nonsmoking Jewish man, 50-60 for good times Ad# 1276

LIKE MUSICALS
Divorced Jewish female, 49, dark hair & eyes, friendly, caring, attractive & sensitive, like cooking, movies, theatre, musicals & exploring the city, seeking someone who is a good communicator Ad# 1229

LONG TERM RELATIONSHIP
Single female, widow, 49, attractive, fun to be with, seeking male who likes long walks, good conversations, theatre, who is down to earth & stable Ad# 1231

GREEN EYED BEAUTY
Female widow, in late 40's, 5'3", brown hair, green eyes, cute, look like Connie Francis, like reading, dancing, walking, sports & good conversation, seeking male with same interests Ad# 1208

NEW TO SYSTEM
Single female, new to system, would like to hear from any interested males, call up & leave a message in my box. Ad# 1329

WELL ESTABLISHED
Single Jewish female, 54, blonde hair, fit, zesty, loving, warm, caring, enjoy travelling, music, outdoors, seeking well established male, 60-69, nonsmoker, sincere, fun loving Ad# 1031

FRIENDSHIP
Single female, homemaker, like books, music, travelling, swimming, financially independent, seeking a male who is healthy, sincere, intelligent, 65-80 for friendship Ad# 1016

LADY OF SUBSTANCE
Professional lady, 50's, blue eyes, curly brown hair, 5'6", very attractive, Jewish, very down to earth, terrific sense of humour, enjoy outdoor activities, dining & dancing, very sensitive & kind, seeking established gentleman to share the good things in life.Ad# 1246

GOOD MORALS
Jewish female, 43, health care professional, nonsmoker, good morals & values, emotional, like dancing, tennis, seeking a Jewish male, 40-49, 5'10" or taller, great kisser. Ad# 1221

GOOD COMMUNICATOR
Single Jewish female, in my 30's, blue eyes, slim build, considered attractive, like music, comedy clubs, theatre & good conversation, seeking a compatible man, nonsmoker who is a good communicator Ad# 1212

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Single female, seeking man who is gentle, likes animals, children & is interested in computers & art It would also be a plus if you like to travel. Ad# 1293

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Slim, fit, confident, single female, 50, seeking my counterpart for a lasting relationship I am spirited, loyal, ambitious, patient & emotionally & financially secure. Ad# 1195

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Single female, 18, dirty blonde hair, blue eyes, enjoy working out & shopping. Seeking someone who is good looking, funny & outgoing.Ad# 1252

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Attractive Jewish woman, 5'5", 135 lbs., raised my children, looking for a partner as I head into my golden years.
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Single female, 50's, 5'2", dark hair & eyes, attractive, seeking a gentle soul mate who is kind, considerate & loving. Ad# 1289

SEEKING SOUL MATE
Semi-retired lady, positive thinker, caring & sharing, witty & pretty, blonde, slim, enjoy music, theatre, dining & dancing, seeking gentleman, 60-69, nonsmoker, established for companionship & great times Ad# 1192

ATTRACTIVE LADY
Attractive Morrocan born lady, raised in Israel, easy going, very attractive, divorced with grown children, enjoy travelling, dining & dancing, seeking gentleman who knows how to treat a lady Ad# 1234

Men seeking Women

CONSERVATIVE MALE
Single male, 5'8", conservative looking, buy, sell & analyze stocks, despite my accomplishments I don't take myself too seriously as you will see when you hear my ad Ad# 1255

SEMI RETIRED
Single male, 69, well established, very athletic, looking for sincere, honest, caring, female for friendship, possible relationship. Ad# 1034

HAVE NO BAGGAGE
Jewish male, 41, attractive, honest, kind, affectionate, brown hair & eyes, nonsmoker, enjoy movies, dancing, seeking Jewish female, 32-42,petite, attractive. Ad# 1277

QUIET LIFESTYLE
Single male, 40, 5'8", get compliments on my looks & have a quiet lifestyle, like movies, walks, dining out & cycling, looking for a Jewish woman, 35-44 Ad# 1227

SENSE OF HUMOUR
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CALL ME
Gentleman, 18, brown hair, brown eyes, 6', enjoy outdoor activities, swimming, camping, movies, dining & dancing, seeking lady, 18-20 with similar interests Ad# 1223

INCURABLE ROMANTIC
Single male, 30, 170 lbs , medium build, brown hair, blue eyes, good sense of humour, enjoy dining, dancing, theatre, movies, very family oriented, seeking special lady to share the future with Ad# 1300

ATTRACTIVE MALE
Single male, attractive, professionally employed, live downtown, in my 20's, 5'11", 175 lbs., brown curly hair, brown eyes Call me & tell me about yourself Ad# 1270

SEEK INDEPENDENT WOMAN
Single, self employed male, 43, like a lot of winter & summer activities including hiking, ice skating, biking, movies & music Ad# 1216

FUNNY GUY
Single male, 26, 5'10", 187 lbs., muscular, athletic, funny guy, nonsmoker, non-drinker, good with hands, enjoy dancing, outdoors, looking for someone who likes to go out & have fun Ad# 1207

POSITIVE ATTITUDE
Young looking Jewish male, 5'6", seeking someone with a good sense of humour, easy going with a positive attitude, like squash & golf Ad# 1235

QUALITY TIME
Gentleman, handsome, sincere, kind, enjoy movies, dining, dancing, sports indoor & outdoor activities Ad# 1253

CHAT WITH ME
Jewish gentleman, late 50's, successful professional, enjoy old movies, music, opera, computers, travelling & quiet restful times Seeking a kind & caring slim lady under 50 years who has a real zest for life Ad# 1188

GOOD TIMES
Divorced gentleman, 40, 5'10", 190 lbs , brown hair & eyes, considered handsome, enjoy bingo, movies, dining & dancing, seeking lady for long term relationship Ad# 1189

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275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

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330 OBITUARIES

LESTER, Lionel - on May 21, 1998, late of 557 Spadina Rd., Upper Duplex.
KACUR, Lenka - on May 22, 1998, late of 299 Mill Rd., #609.
KROFT, June - on May 22, 1998, late of 1131 Steeles Ave. W., #306.
ROEBUCK, Mara - on May 22, 1998, late of 3 Rostrevor Rd.
PACK, Manny - on May 23, 1998, late of 880 Lawrence Ave. E.
BARRON, Harry - on May 24, 1998, late of 133 Torresdale Rd., #608.
FIELDS, Harry - on May 24, 1998, late of 10 Senlac Ave., #341.
OFIR, Tova - on May 24, 1998, late of 7 Townsgate Dr., #708.
POWELL, Lillian - on May 24, 1998, late of 601 Finch Ave. W., #410.
PERLMUTTER, Harold - on May 25, 1998, late of 989 Eglinton Ave. W., #507.
POSNER, Samuel - on May 26, 1998, late of 60 Brucewood Cres.
STARR, Morris - on May 26, 1998, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
BELL, Murray - on May 27, 1998, late of 97 Greenwin Village Rd.
CASPI, ALEC - on May 27, 1998, late of 80 Antibes Dr., #202.
MELOTEK, Bea - on May 28, 1998, late of 3900 Yonge St., #903.

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

330 OBITUARIES

Dr. J. Elaine Kurman wife of Harry Appelton passed away on May 30, 1998 after a lengthy illness in Scottsdale, Arizona.

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GOLDMINZ, Jenny - on May 23, 1998, late of 452 Spring Gate Blvd.
SAUNDERS, Henry - on May 27, 1998, late of 3560 Bathurst St.

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335 UNVEILINGS

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
RACHEL BENAMOU ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, June 14th, 12:00 noon
Mount Sinai Memorial Park
986 Wilson Avenue
Shaarei Tefillah Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
GAYLE BLUSTEIN ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, June 14th, 1:00 p.m.
Pardes Shalom Cemetery
Adath Israel Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

335 UNVEILINGS

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
ABRAHAM DEHOND ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, June 14th, 10:30 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
(Bathurst, S. of Steeles)
18A Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
SOLLY KRIEGER ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, June 14th, 11:00 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Torah Emeth Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
HARVEY PEARLSTON ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, June 14th, 1:30 p.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Beth Emeth Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument in loving memory of the late
GERRY PENCER ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, June 14th, 11:00 a.m.
Pardes Shalom Cemetery
Dufferin St., N. of Major Mackenzie
Holy Blossom Section
Friends and relatives are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
DAVID SMITHER ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, June 14th, 11:00 a.m.
Dawes Road Cemetery
Beth David Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
PEARL GOLDSTEIN ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, June 14th, at 11:00 a.m.
Mount Sinai Memorial Park
Kiever Park
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
IRVING WALKIN ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, June 14th, 2:00 p.m.
Pardes Shalom Cemetery
Beth David Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

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Canuck fighter shocks Japanese martial arts fans

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Take your minds back to early September 1972.

Canada was at the pinnacle of the hockey world when a group of no-name Russian challengers waltzed into the Montreal Forum and beat the home side's all-stars in a game that rocked the country.

If you can recall the shock and bewilderment experienced by most Canadians that night, then you can begin to understand how thousands of Japanese "shooto" fans felt when an unknown Canadian marched into their own backyard and defeated the country's champion fair and square.

Three-time Canadian middleweight ju-jitsu titleist Joel Gerson, 23, was the man who pinned Japanese idol Rumina Sato in a match that lasted barely five minutes. Fighting in the shooto discipline – a variant of ju-jitsu – Gerson took advantage of an error by his Japanese opponent to apply an arm-lock submission hold and end the match in the first round.

Joel Gerson

A tape of the television broadcast shows the knowledgeable Japanese crowd of 2,000 reacting with a collective gasp when Gerson applied the hold, which puts tremendous pressure on the elbow joint. Sato held out for 22 seconds – most opponents can take the pain for only one or two – before "tapping out."

After the match, Gerson was mobbed by reporters eager to interview the man who had knocked Japan's shooto star off his pedestal. It was Sato's first loss by submission in five years.

For Gerson, the match was a vindication of his abilities as a fighter and a relief after weeks of nervous tension. When his coach, Moni Aizik of the Samurai Club, suggested he fight the Japanese champion, "I was unsure," Gerson said. His plate was already full studying for a bachelor's program in industrial relations at the University of Toronto, and his father was seriously ill. "What have we gotten ourselves into?" he asked at the time.

But Aizik was convinced Gerson had a shot at beating Sato if he prepared properly and employed the right strategy. While Sato was strong in all aspects of the sport – he can land deadly kicks and punches as well as grapple on the floor – Aizik felt Gerson would have his best chance if he got in close and grappled on the floor with his opponent.

Gerson trained three hours a day, six days a week, to get ready for the match. Aizik put him through the gruelling regimen he developed when training the Sayeret Matkal, Israel's elite commando unit, many years ago.

Gerson, who lost 12 pounds to get down to his fighting weight of 150, was physically and psychologically ready when he strode into the jam-packed Japanese auditorium to be offered up as a sacrificial lamb to the local hero.

He absorbed several painful kicks to the calfs from Sato as the fight unfolded, but his hours of "ducking drills" enabled him to avoid many of Sato's wicked punches. Part way through the first round of the three-round bout, Gerson got in close and brought Sato to the mat with a hip take down.

His strategy was working. "It makes no sense to stand there and exchange blows. Anybody can kick and punch. The art is the fight on the ground. That's the chess match," Gerson said.

'That's the chess match'

Once he got Sato in the submission hold, with one of his legs across Sato's stomach, the other under his chin and pushing down hard, Gerson waited for his opponent to give up. He expected it to be a short wait, but because Sato is double jointed, he was able to withstand the pain longer than almost anyone else.

"In my mind, I thought, 'I can't let him get out or else we have to start over again," Gerson recalled. "And he'd be mad."

After what seemed like hours to Gerson, Sato gave up.

"I got up and I could see how happy my coach was. I was just happy it was over. It was an unbelievable feeling of relief because for 20 seconds, I didn't know what would happen."

Immediately, Gerson went from nondescript Canadian fighter to hero. The president of the shooto federation greeted him and gave him, Aizik and two other Canadian fighters use of a limousine and escorted them around Japan for sightseeing.

Gerson was mobbed by autograph seekers who wanted to know how he learned the techniques that enabled him to beat their champion.

While in Japan, their exalted status got the Canadians into a training session with legendary master Katsuhiko Kashiwazaki, a seventh degree black belt who teaches ju-jitsu at a fighting arts university.

Meanwhile, Gerson has agreed to return to Japan on Aug. 29 for a match against the country's third-ranked fighter. The winner of that fight will take on Sato for the country's championship.

Before that, Gerson will participate in the Canadian Open hosted by Aizik's Samurai Club. Sato is expected in Toronto for that event, and depending on the draw, he and Gerson could end up fighting each other again.

Gerson, who has a ready smile and a pleasant, almost gentle manner outside the ring, is already "strategizing for it. I can't sleep," he said.

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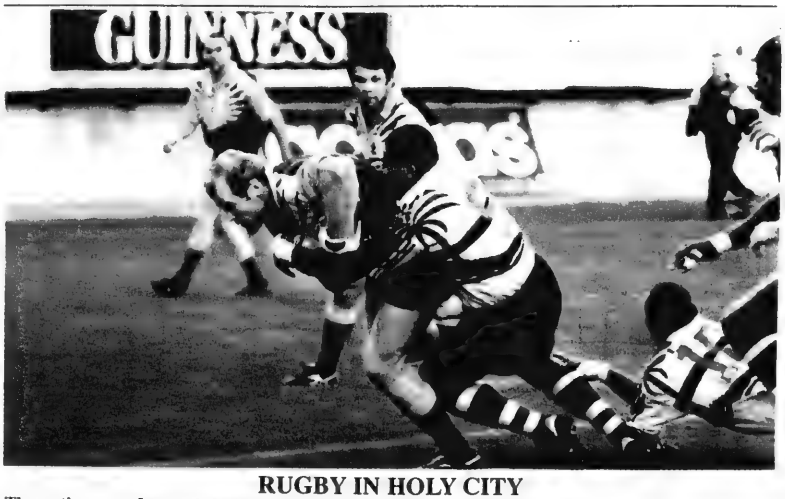

RUGBY IN HOLY CITY

The action was fast and furious in this game between Fiji and Australia in the first Jerusalem International Sevens Tournament, held recently in Israel. Teams from New Zealand, Australia, Fiji, Samoa, Wales, Spain, Hungary and Israel participated.

The Inside Back

Coexistence in Inuvik

By BLAKE LAMBERT
Special to The CJN

INUVIK — As the fury and frenzy of celebrations surrounding Israel's fiftieth birthday have grabbed the world stage and then subsided, a much more subtle Canadian microcosm of the Middle East exists several thousand miles away.

Situated above the Arctic circle, the town of Inuvik declares itself the product of three separate but equal cultural pillars. It is home to Inuvialuit (western Arctic Inuit), Gwich'in (western Arctic Dene) and non-aboriginals, known as "unjit."

Created more than 40 years ago by the federal government, the town of Inuvik is about 10 years younger than Israel. Like Israel, before the federal government came along, there was no "self-governing" structure for Inuvik.

In fact, there was no town, just a settlement known as "East-3," some Ottawa bureaucrat's clever idea to name a new settlement.

However, Inuvialuit and Gwich'in lived in Inuvik and the Beaufort Delta region long before Ottawa even conceived of establishing a community north of the Arctic circle.

But when the government set up shop, the lives of Inuvialuit and Gwich'in started changing. Schools were built, giving their children and grandchildren a chance to get an education. Elders fondly reminisce about the arrival of schools. The government, because it employed people from the south, brought advancements like stores, roads and hospitals.

As Inuvik started to develop, some southerners who came here to work decided to make it their home. They were teachers and government workers who became part of the town. Their children grew up here and some of them have decided to stay and raise their families. Then there are southerners who didn't grow up in Inuvik, but have made a clear commitment to the north and this particular town.

All three groups clearly have a stake in the future of the town and the region, which has flagged over the years. The population of Inuvik shrunk when two of the major employers, the military and the oil companies, packed up and left town. Cutbacks by the territorial government to its civil service has also led to an exodus of people with well-paying jobs.

Despite having signed land claims, six and 14 years ago respectively, many Gwich'in and Inuvialuit beneficiaries are not thriving. Unjits dominate town council, the hospital and the RCMP. Many unjits in Inuvik have also accumulated substantial wealth. Yet much of the power and influence in the region rests with the chairs of the Gwich'in and Inuvialuit organizations, mostly with the latter.

If beneficiaries for either land claim have difficulties in town, they tend to lobby their chairs instead of the local MLA or town council. Unjits tend to lobby those politicians instead.

As self-government negotiations progress for both aboriginal groups, questions of who should govern who are beginning to emerge. Both Inuvialuit and Gwich'in want to wrest power from the territorial and federal governments to determine their destiny. That right was granted to them under their separate land claims.

But many non-aboriginals are wondering where this process will leave them. Some have claimed the current model of self-government will grant two votes to aboriginal people in elections, compared to one for non-aboriginals.

One person described this potential situation as "apartheid." But the chief negotiator for self-government, who's not aboriginal, has vehemently denied such a plan.

Dare to question an unjit why so many white people work for the aboriginal corporations and you wind up in a southern-style debate of employment equity. When an Asian man and Gwich'in man create a company called "Inuvialuit-Gwich'in Cultural Experience," they receive a cease and desist letter regarding the word "Inuvialuit" from the regional corporation.

Cultural appropriation, but only when appopriate, you could say.After all, reconciling the needs and wants of three distinct groups of people remains a complex task at best. And like Israel, there are no easy answers for Inuvik to solve its subtle, but fundamental conflict of cultural tension. I just hope for everyone's benefit that someone up here is actually working on some potential solutions.

Blake Lambert is a CBC journalist in Inuvik. You can reach him at [blake_lambert@cbc.ca]

RASPBERRY-SPINACH SALAD

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Almond Topping 1/2 cup slivered almonds	1/4 cup granulated sugar 2 tsp water
Dressing 1/4 cup granulated sugar 1 1/2 tblsp poppy seeds 1/4 tsp paprika	1/2 cup vegetable oil 1/4 cup raspberry vinegar 2 tsp onion, finely chopped 1/4 tsp Worcestershire sauce

Combine topping ingredients in large frying pan. Cook over medium heat, stirring constantly, until sugar melts to a golden brown and coats almonds, about 5 mins. Turn out onto square of greased foil. Cool, then break up into small pieces.

Combine all dressing ingredients. Shake well to blend and again before using. Wash and dry spinach, and place in large bowl with raspberries. Add dressing and toss. Add almonds; toss lightly and serve immediately. Serves 4.

About families

Dear Susan,

My 18-year-old son has confronted me with the fact that he is homosexual. He will not confide in his father for fear of reprisal. Despite his sexual orientation, he has chosen to abstain from sex altogether. How can I help him in his journey of self-discovery?

Dear Reader,

It is always difficult to confess one's homosexuality to one's parents. The fact that he has chosen to do so with you and not with his father puts you in a very difficult spot, because you inherit the emotional repercussions of that secret whether you keep it or not.

You indicate that he will not confide in his father for fear of reprisal. In your view, are his concerns well founded? Or is his anxiety about confiding in his father colored by his own lack of confidence and latent guilt?

Your son may consider joining a therapy group for gay teens. He could access such a group through a family service association or in the Jewish community itself. Individual therapy is an option for those who are less comfortable in groups.

In assessing how you can assist your son in coming to terms with his sexual orientation, you must carefully ask him, and yourself, a number of questions. How is your son coping academically and socially? Is he depressed? Does he feel supported by his peers? Is he alienated and alone? When did he decide to abstain from sex, and what has prompted that decision? These issues would be best explored in a neutral, non-judgmental therapeutic context.

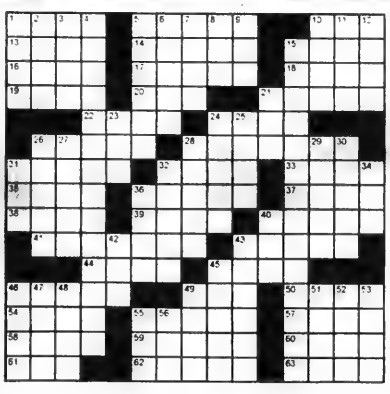
You can mainly assist your son by providing him with the emotional support and stability he needs in this time when so much in his life is changing. Commend him for his courage in revealing the truth. Most of all, reassure him that he is still a much loved son and that you will always be available as a sounding board. Ensure that he knows that when the time is right for him, you will support him in disclosing his homosexuality to his father.

Susan Leventhal is a family, marital and individual therapist, who has been practising for more than 19 years.

The Canadian Jewish news

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

The Canadian Jewish news



Across

1. Tu B'Shevat plantings?
5. Abram's brother
10. Alephbet member
13. Ark builder
14. Son of Gad
15. Adam's apple
16. Accords city
17. Speech in Simon production
18. Airline
19. Handel
20. Yeled (Eng.)
21. Measures
22. Ibn Gabirol specialty
24. Musician Getz
26. Negev ship?
28. Menorah member
31. Folk guitarist Bob
32. Crest
33. Perlman
35. Sabin vaccine
36. Bearsted's Oil Corp.
37. Jewish restaurant
38. Chicken soup?
39. Royal title
40. K'tonton
41. Biblical killers
43. Shema starter (2wds.)
44. Ramah
45. Jacob grabbed Esau's at birth
46. Son of Aaron
49. Not on Pesach?
50. Seventh king
54. Tithed
55. Act the gonif
57. Additional
58. Sixth day creation
59. Not fleishidic or milchedic
60. "Exodus" author
61. Orthodox minyan
62. Later
63. Patriarchs

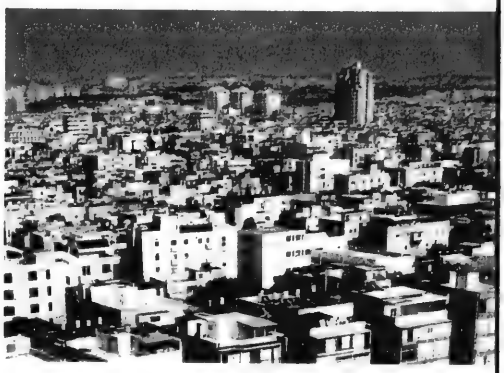
Down

1. Son of Seth
2. Misplace
3. Ben Yehuda Jerusalem
4. Yiddish writer
5. Holiday prayer
6. Jan Peerce specialties
7. Shiva clothes
8. Shikker's choice?
9. 100 agarot
10. "__ 18 " Uris novel
11. Village of Simeon
12. Allen and Blanc
15. "The Fixer", author
21. Dike
23. Daniel's test site
24. Commandment word
25. Goliath
26. Adler
27. Shofar blast
28. Amos and Isaiah
29. Nazarite no no
30. American shalom
31. Nickname for Salk
32. Like Mohel's tool
34. Named in a Mishberach
36. Appear
40. Prophesize
42. Zeta Beta __ , fraternity
43. Salk or Sabin
45. Temple offering
46. Artist Yaacov
47. Called to biblically
48. "__ the Terrible", Treblinka
49. Saucy
51. Dance
52. Negev climate
53. Miss America
55. Ein Gedi
56. Hebrew letter

These puzzles are the work of Kathi Handler of Waterbury, Connecticut.

(Last week's answers are on page 32.)

Now is the time to



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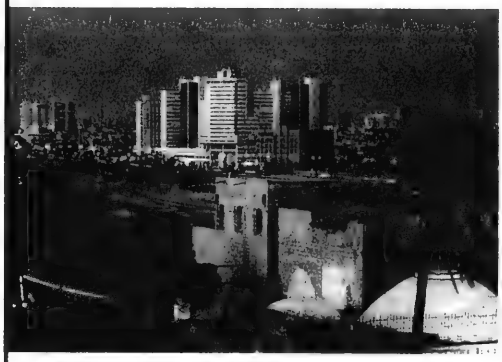

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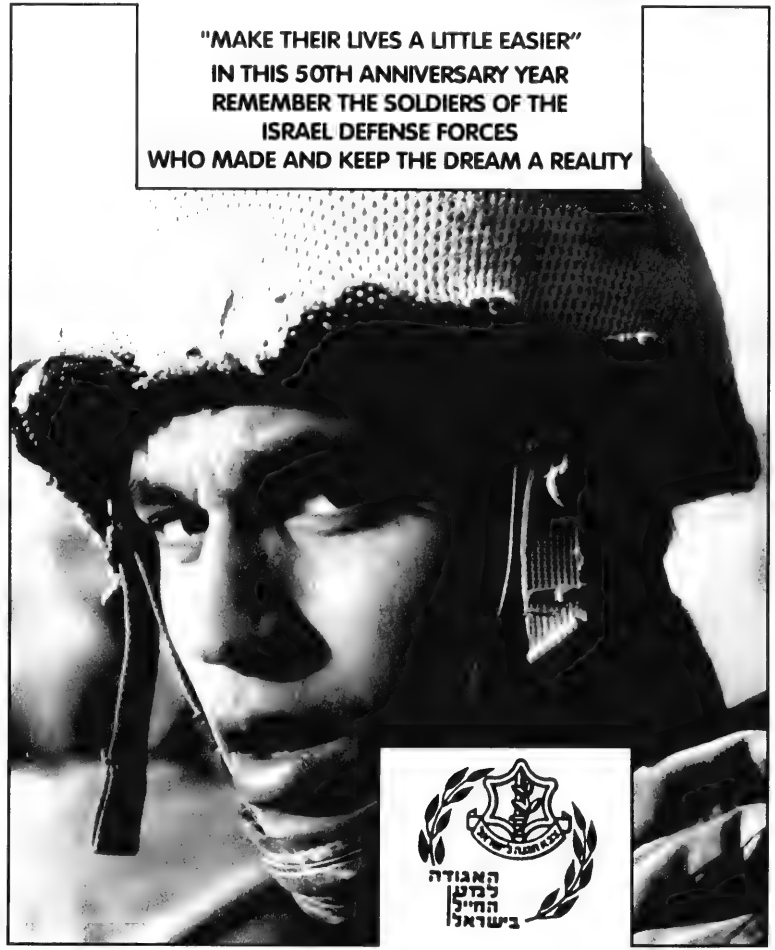

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This Week

National

UJA Federation sets a target of $50 million. *Page 3*

Keith Landy is the new chair of CJC Ont. region. *Page 5*

Media should pay more attention to religious issues, conference told. *Page 22*

Arts

Thirteen books honored at 10th annual Jewish Book Awards. *Page 35*

On Campus

McGill U. launches new Middle East program. *Page 45*

Sports

Threepeat: CHAT Tigers win the TDCAA schools competition for the third consecutive time. *Page 46*

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Shabbat: Shelach Lecha
Candlelighting: 8:45
Sivan 25, 5758
Havdalah: 9:50

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Israel demands PA reciprocity prior to pullback proposal

By JAY BUSHINSKY
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu is reportedly delaying his proposal for the next IDF redeployment in the West Bank until the middle of next month, to allow time for the Palestinian Authority (PA) to meet his preconditions.

According to the reports, he also wants to make sure the Clinton administration will be able to arrange a White House signing ceremony for the pullback agreement with PA Chairman Yasser Arafat.

The next three or four weeks are to be devoted to clarifying the terms and timetable of the prospective pullback agreement.

A senior government source said the crucial decision will be taken while the Knesset is still in summer session, which will last until the first week of August.

Similarly, the consensus among cabinet ministers polled was that mid-July was the probable date for the redeployment decision to be taken and its practical implications to become operational.

Military sources estimate that the IDF will require nearly three months to withdraw from its current positions and to form a new defensive line in conjunction with the upcoming redeployment plan.

Among the major international events likely to influence Netanyahu's timing is President Bill Clinton's trip to China this week and the ongoing crises – including the Serbian onslaught in Kosovo, the aftermath of the Indian and Pakistani nuclear tests and the economic instability in the Far East – which have been taking precedence over the State Department's concern about the Middle East.

Mid-July probable date

Netanyahu must also allow time for the PA to consider his oft-repeated terms for fulfilment of the Oslo accords' requirements insofar as IDF deployment is concerned, especially the demand that the Palestinian National Council reconvene to abrogate the Palestinian Covenant's anti-Israel clauses.

The "reciprocity" Netanyahu has said he expects in return for the evacuation of up to 15 percent of the West Bank and the concomitant handover of territory to the PA would include confiscation of unauthorized weapons in the possession of rank and file Palestinians, reduction of the Palestinian Police to the size specified in the Oslo accords, extradition of persons suspected of murder and a halt to anti-Israel incitement in the Palestinian media.

If the prime minister accedes to U.S. advice that he transfer at least 13.1 percent of the area in question without insisting on total Palestinian compliance with his demands, it is widely assumed his credibility as a negotiator in the subsequent rounds of U.S.-brokered talks with the PA will have been undermined.

Asked whether these considerations mean that the cabinet and Knesset decisions on redeployment are still several weeks away, a senior government official said, "The pullback may be more imminent than you think."

CANADA-ISRAEL COOPERATION

Canadian Minister of International Cooperation and La Francophonie Diane Marleau (centre) watches as David Berger, Canada's ambassador in Israel (right), and Eitan Ben Tzur, director general of Israel's Foreign Ministry, sign a declaration of intent to remove land mines in the Middle East. ***Please see related story on page 31.***

[Israel photo]

Swiss settlement opposed

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A Toronto lawyer and his American associate are objecting to a proposed global settlement between the World Jewish Congress and three major Swiss banks.

The *New York Times* recently reported that the Union Bank of Switzerland, the Swiss Bank Corporation and Credit Suisse had offered a compensation package exceeding $1 billion (US) to end a multi-billion dollar lawsuit.

It was launched in New York City by Holocaust victims and their survivors over the recovery of dormant funds deposited in Swiss banks from 1933 to 1945, a tumultuous period which began with the rise to power of Adolf Hitler in Germany and concluded with the collapse of the Third Reich.

The offer, made in late May before the New York State Banking Department, appeared acceptable to the World Jewish Congress and an affiliate group, the World Jewish Restitution Organization.

Continued on page 45

INSIDE

Yiddish in Canada: an
Please see page

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Reform movement seeks prayer area at Kotel — please see page 30

The News in Brief

CANADA

Lawrence Hart Acclaimed

TORONTO — Lawrence Hart, associate professor of medicine, McMaster University, has been acclaimed as the national president of B'nai Brith Canada (BBC). He is the first physician to be elected to that post.

Hart's community involvement includes serving as senior vice-president of BBC from 1996 to 1998, and as national chair of the Institute for International Affairs since 1995. He is currently on the board of directors for the Canada-Israel Committee.

ISRAEL

Israelis Tops In Math

JERUSALEM — Israeli Grade 12 students top the world in mathematical ability, according to an international organization that researches student accomplishment. Israel shared the top spot with France, and was followed by Russia and then Switzerland.

Top Israeli Grade 12 physics students were fifth behind Norway, Sweden, Russia and Germany.

Two Youths Killed

BEERSHEVA — Two youths were killed and one was injured when a roof collapsed in a school gymnasium. Rescuers worked for hours before extracting the bodies of the two students, Lior Caballo and Shlomo Toledo, from the rubble. According to witnesses, a group of students were playing basketball when the roof collapsed. Investigators are examining whether the collapse had any connection with renovations being done on the building.

Activists Detained

JERUSALEM — Police detained six foreign human rights activists during a demonstration against the expansion of Jewish settlement in eastern Jerusalem. The police forcibly dispersed the gathering after the demonstrators staged a sit-in near four homes that were occupied in the predominantly Arab neighborhood of Silwan.

Referendum Supported

JERUSALEM — Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has indicated that he might support a nationwide referendum on a pending redeployment of troops from the West Bank. While saying he was not fully committed to a referendum, he told Israel Radio that "there must be broad public support" for the redeployment so that "rifts in the nation will heal."

Knesset Votes

JERUSALEM — The Knesset voted 38-10 in favor of a no-confidence measure against the Netanyahu government. Most coalition members, following the advice of the coalition chair, boycotted the vote, which requires a 61-vote majority to pass. It was the second time in as many weeks that the prime minister lost a no-confidence vote that had been boycotted by members of his governing coalition.

Peretz Re-elected

JERUSALEM — The chair of the Histadrut labor federation, Amir Peretz, won re-election by a landslide victory over opponent Maxim Levy. Observers said the ultimate strength of Histadrut, the umbrella organization for labor unions, will depend less on who won than on the outcome of government plans to privatize key industries that were once trade union strongholds.

WORLD

First Woman UJA Chair

NEW YORK — Carole Solomon has been installed as United Jewish Appeal (UJA) national chair.

Solomon, who was unanimously nominated by UJA's selection committee is the first woman to fill the post.

Papal Visit Planned

IRAQ — An aide close to Pope John Paul II, Cardinal Roger Etchegaray, is in Iraq to discuss the possibility of the Pope's visiting that country as part of a papal tour of Middle East states to mark the start of the new millennium. He will also go to Israel and Jordan.

CJC Donates Antique Hebrew Books

MONTREAL — Seven antique Hebrew texts dating from between 1732 and 1804 have recently been donated by Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) to the new Jewish Museum Franconia in Germany, located in the Bavarian city of Fuerth, where they were originally printed.

The books were among some 350 volumes that CJC received after World War II. In 1945, Dr. Shlomo Shuami of the Hebrew University was sent to Germany as the head of the Jewish Cultural Reconstruction Committee to investigate the warehousing by the Nazis of Jewish and Hebrew books and tracts.

In order to salvage and protect the books, some 40 percent were sent to North American institutions. CJC's volumes printed in Fuerth include commentaries on the biblical texts and on Jewish law. Some bear the three-leafed clover emblem of the city.

In an official thank you from the museum, director Bernhart Purin said the board and staff were "deeply impressed by the unexpected gift... The gesture impressed us because it is not self-evident that an important Jewish organization abroad donates such valuable books from its collection to a museum in Germany."

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UJA Federation sets goal of $50 million

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — As the 21st century dawns, the UJA Federation has set a goal of raising $50 million in its annual campaign by the end of 2001.

The news was received enthusiastically by a standing-room only crowd attending the annual meeting, a breakfast in the Lipa Green building.

The new goal means the campaign must raise another $13.5 million, said federation vice-chair Glennie Lindenberg. She expresssed confidence that Toronto donors will raise $50 million by 2001, considering the needs of local and world Jewry.

Although the community has grown by 40 percent in the past 10 years, the UJA Federation campaign total has not kept up with the growth in population, she said.

In the current year, the goal of $40 million will be reached by asking donors to return to their highest contribution, which reached a peak in 1989.

With the special three-year vision program ending this year, volunteer canvassers will have 8,000 new cards to cover, Lindenberg said.

A conviction that "the community will hold together again," despite strains posed by Israeli-Diaspora relations, was expressed by Joseph Steiner, re-elected as federation president.

Although the debate over the conversion issue in Israel impacted on the UJA campaign, the federation was able to raise $36.5 million, Steiner said.

It is evident that the community is united on main issues, said Steiner, as shown by the turnout of

[Cont'd. on page 5]

ISRAELI SCOUTS VISIT CANADA

Ten Israeli teenaged scouts will travel across Canada through the summer to bring the messages of peace and friendship through a one-hour show of song and dance. The annual Friendship Caravan will be dedicated to Israel's 50th anniversary. The scouts will perform in Kingston, Ottawa, Montreal, St. Catharines and at Toronto's Israel at 50 Pavilion at the CNE on Aug. 21.

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War criminals will be hunted, South African judge vows

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — It is too late for real justice to be served in the apprehension of Nazi war criminals, says Justice Richard Goldstone of the Constitutional Court of South Africa.

"But the reason I support never stopping, is that all war criminals should know that they will never be let alone; they must know that they will be hunted for the rest of their lives."

Goldstone, president of World ORT Union (WOU) was here for administrative meetings with international delegates of WOU. He met with members of ORT Canada and spoke to the American Psychiatric Association convention.

Goldstone chaired the Commission of Inquiry Regarding Violence and Intimidation in South Africa from 1991 to 1994, which brought him international recognition as an advocate for human rights, and led to his appointment in 1994 as chief prosecutor of the UN's International Criminal Tribunals for the former Yugoslavia and Rwanda.

He was recently invited by President Carlos Menem of Argentina to become a member of the Commission for clarification of Nazi activities in the Argentine Republic.

Goldstone said that he does not believe in collective guilt. "Crimes

Justice Richard Goldstone

are committed by criminals. In Germany, without criminal leaders it wouldn't happen – the fact that people follow is a human response in any country – that's the difference between good leaders and evil leaders."

He stressed the importance of South Africa's Commission of Inquiry, which became known as the Goldstone Commission. It created an atmosphere in which negotiators could negotiate, and where the commission could quickly investigate specific incidents. Sensible early intervention, he says, can help.

He added that if there were evil leaders in South Africa "we would have had a blood bath. They avoided a blood bath by adopting policies of peace and reconciliation, and most South Africans have accepted it.

"I have no doubts that [with regards to] any human rights abuses, the sooner they investigate them and the truth made public, the less prospect that there will be a build up – it is important to nip that sort of thing in the bud."

Goldstone will be attending an international diplomatic conference in Rome later this month initiated by the United Nations. More than 100 countries, represented by high level government officials, will try to settle the terms of an international treaty to establish a permanent international criminal court which will have jurisdiction to investigate and put war criminals on trial.

Goldstone says he is a strong advocate for an international criminal justice court. "Otherwise it is going to get worse, because modern technology is making it easier for evil people to do evil things."

Goldstone said that the United States is taking "a very unfortunate attitude whereby they want this court to be beholden to the Security Council which will mean it won't be independent."

He is opposed, and says that he is happy that the Canadian and South African governments and 45 other governments want the court to be an independent judicial body that should be driven by judicial considerations.

Goldsone, active in ORT for more than 32 years, says that ORT's role is becoming more and more relevant because the world depends on technology, and ORT trains people, particularly in developing countries, in technology.

Goldstone says that he became involved with ORT because "It is an organization that makes a huge difference to individuals, and the idea that appealed to me is that it doesn't give charity. It enables individuals to become free of charity. ORT's goal is to help them become self-sufficient."

He noted that ORT has formed an international commission to look at its role in the 21st century.

A new board of directors for Toronto ORT was recently appointed. Gordon Berger of Panfinancial is the newly elected president.

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Israel's Jubilee 50 — *from the archives*

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Recently arrived immigrants carry their belongings at their new home, a *ma'abara*, near Na'an in 1950.

[Keren Hayesod – UIA Communications photo]

* * *

For the latest in *Israel at 50* news, check out the *Israel at 50* Web site: [www.feduja.org] or call the *Israel at 50* hotline 416-635-2883 ext. 706.

Greater Toronto Area

Landy takes over CJC Ont. region

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Keith Landy, 47, is the new chair of the Ontario region, Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC).

Landy, who came to Canada from South Africa in 1970, told *The CJN* he does not feel like a newcomer, considering the multicultural nature of Canada. He describes Toronto as the most vibrant Jewish city in the world, outside Israel.

He thinks the issue of financial aid to Jewish day schools deserves priority on his agenda. He says that when the Supreme Court of Canada decided to opt out in its recent decision on this matter, it put the ball in the Ontario government's court and that's where pressure needs to be applied.

Landy has already asked the Ontario minister of education for an appointment to discuss the matter.

He is excited at the prospect of serving his three-year mandate for the Jewish people of Ontario.

Also high on his agenda is a determination to move the Ontario region to a proactive, rather than a reactive, mode. Among the social issues he champions are affordable housing and safeguarding of health services for ethnic communities, particularly in view of recent funding cutbacks.

"On these matters, we as Jews have a special responsibility to help the disadvantaged."

The increases in university tuitions are a cause of concern, he says, because many Jews who can't afford these hikes will not attend, while others will have a huge debt when they graduate. "I'm going to continue to point out that higher education is not a privilege, it's the future."

Keith Landy

He is concerned about the lack of unity in the community, and thinks some headway can be made if Congress provides a forum for debate on the issues.

Support for Israel is an important plank in his program, especially in encouraging young people to visit Israel. He would also like to see the federation expand its young leadership development program. He is one of its graduates.

Born in Coventry, England, Landy moved with his family to South Africa when he was three years old. The Landys lived in several small communities there for 13 years, and for three years in Harare, Zimbabwe (formerly Salisbury in Rhodesia).

He was a yeshivah student for two years in Johannesburg and was active in that city in Zionist youth groups with different viewpoints, Habonim, Betar and B'nai Akiva. "I learned something from each of them," he said.

The Landys came to Canada in 1970 and at age 19, Keith enrolled at McMaster University in political science. Later he transferred to the University of Windsor, obtaining his law degree in 1975. He was called to the bar in 1977, the same year he married

Landy is the son of the late Rabbi David Landy, who was the first rabbi of Beth Radom Congregation in Toronto. His mother, Joan, 68, lives in Toronto, as do his sister Cheryl and brother, Ian.

Landy's wife, the former Janice Schachter, is from Saskatoon, and their two children, Joshua, 17, and Michelle, 15, attend Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto.

He is a member of Shaar Shalom Synagogue in Thornhill.

He rose to national prominence as counsel for CJC at the Somalia inquiry in Ottawa, and in the Canadian Human Rights Commission vs. Malcolm Ross and the New Brunswick Teachers Federation at the Supreme Court of Canada.

He is a partner in Landy, Marr & Associates, which specializes in civil litigation.

Federation sets goals for 2001

[Cont'd. from page 3]

5,000 people for the celebration of Israel's 50th anniversary, when only 1,500 were expected.

A turnout of an estimated 15,000 for the walk for Israel was another good sign.

The federation will continue to seek advice from its denominational advisory committee on the unity issue. "They have met several times and recognize the interests we have in common. The events of the past few weeks indicate we need their assistance."

The opening of a York Region office by the federation is an effort to serve the 40,000 Jews in Thornhill who make up the third-largest Jewish community in Canada.

JIAS Toronto mandate expanded

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The busiest office of Jewish Immigrant Aid Services of Canada (JIAS) is about to get busier.

New directions for JIAS Toronto include expanding the agency's mandate for helping new arrivals to five years, from two years.

Excluded will be financial aid, which will stay at two years.

But JIAS Toronto will extend everything else – job training and placement, language instruction and other settlement and integration services – for an additional three years.

The new direction's goal is to shift away from simply helping new arrivals find jobs and housing, and encourage them to put down roots.

The idea is "integration, not just immigration," new JIAS Toronto regional council chair Guidy Mamann said at the agency's recent annual meeting.

Mamann, an immigration lawyer and himself an immigrant from Morocco, said an extended five-year mandate is more appropriate "not just to see that [immigrants] are settled, but to see that they are among us, and active in every way."

JIAS Toronto also wants to put more emphasis on skills training and job placement. One goal is the creation of a Jewish job bank, to be posted on the Internet, Mamann said.

Mamann takes over from Sandra Atlin, who headed the agency for two years. And it was the first annual meeting for new executive director Sharon Zeiler, who took over from Perry Romberg earlier this year.

Zeiler reported that over the past year, JIAS Toronto's caseload increased by eight percent over the year before. The agency aided 650 immigrant families, or about 1,600 individuals.

As in previous years, the bulk (60 percent) of new Jewish arrivals to Toronto came from Russia, with the rest from Ukraine, Belarus and the Baltic states.

Almost a year ago, the national office of JIAS invited children and teens to submit art on the theme, Life as a Jewish Immigrant in Canada. Over 100 young people responded, most of whom immigrated here from Bosnia, Russia and Ukraine.

The contest winners were announced at the JIAS Toronto annual meeting. They were Jessica Lusthouse, age 5, of Richmond Hill; Anna Hodgins together with Alina Rokhman, both 8, of Calgary, tied with Barak Zvulonof, age 11, of Thornhill; and Anna Gindin, age 12, and Dmitry Bondarenko, age 15, both of Toronto, tied.

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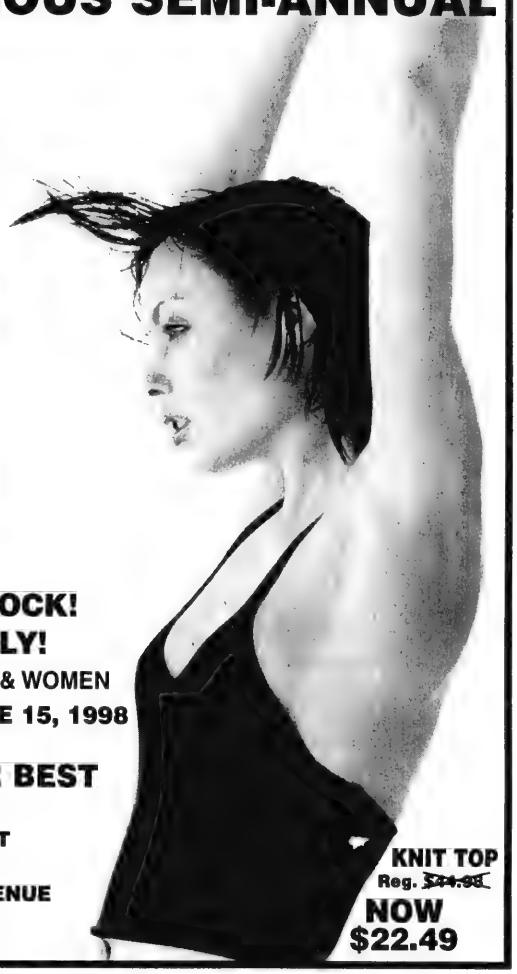

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JWF microcosm of community, says new president Langer

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

Janice Langer

TORONTO — Jewish Women's Federation (JWF) is a microcosm of what the Jewish community should be, believes Janice Langer.

"We all can get together despite our religious and political affiliations and work for the common good of the community," said the new president of JWF, a department of UJA Federation of Greater Toronto and the umbrella for 49 local Jewish women's organizations. "Our programming reflects things that go across socio-economic, cultural and religious lines."

A recent JWF project was the creation of a symbolic quilt in honor of Israel's 50th anniversary and in protest against domestic violence. The project served to bring together JWF affiliates and to highlight community interests, noted Langer.

JWF plans for the coming year include co-sponsoring a November lecture by Rabbi Abraham Twersky on domestic abuse (with Jewish Book Fair and Jewish Family & Child Service); organizing a party in early July for newcomers to Toronto through Shalom Toronto (which is a joint project with UJA Women's Campaign); and running an educational series on financial issues for both personal money management and community leadership.

"In my generation," said the 52-year-old Langer, "a lot of women have stayed away from certain positions because there's a financial aspect involved. Women represent almost half the population. We're an important force. We need to become more proactive and more involved in leadership."

When she got her start in community work as a UJA volunteer almost 25 years ago, Langer didn't know how to read a budget. "If you look at it long enough, you figure it out," she said, adding that it would have been helpful to have someone teach her.

A former president of Associated Hebrew School's parents' association, Langer has also been involved with the Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto. She is a board member and past executive member of Jewish Family & Child Service, and became involved with JWF about six years ago.

"My heart is still in fundraising, but you also want to have some say in how the funds are being used," she said. "We live in a wonderful Jewish community, and you want it to stay strong."

JWF will be sending a survey to board members this summer to examine women's involvement in volunteer leadership positions. "Why are there not that many women heading agencies and departments?" Langer asked.

Langer hopes the project, initiated by her predecessor Jill Reitman, will enable organizations to understand and act on the reasons women may have for not filling positions.

Although it is often difficult for working women to attend daytime meetings, Langer – who works part-time – reported significantly higher attendance at at least one daytime event than at its evening equivalent.

She herself has had difficulty being on time for 6:30 meetings. "Even now when my kids are grown, I always feel I have to come home and make supper [and] that's not anything to be minimized. Supper is often the only time families get together."

The mother of a son and two daughters in their twenties, and grandmother of a 21-month-old girl, Langer cautioned her children in her installation speech not to let her new position stop them from making her a mother-in-law or a grandmother again. "I'll find the time," she said. "That is, after all, what Jewish continuity is all about."

Distress Line hires staffer

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — For the first time in its 13-year history, Tel-Aide Jewish Distress Line has hired a part-time, salaried staff person.

Bonnie Kates, chair of the distress line says that until now, Tel-Aide has been "100 percent volunteer-run, but due to the generosity of a benefactor, we have been able to hire an office administrator."

Esther Lahamy, who was trained at another distress line, now works about 10 hours a week in space donated by B'nai Brith Canada (BBC), says Kates. "Volunteers have been responsible for such things as correspondence and volunteer staffing. Having someone to do this work frees up the board of directors to run the distress line."

Prospective volunteers, she says, must be good listeners. "Before they are hired, they are interviewed by two experienced volunteers and then invited to attend a six-week program that involves being trained on the phones and learning about various resources in the Jewish community and beyond. Ten percent of our callers are non-Jews."

She says that although they do get suicidal callers, "not all calls are crisis calls. Sometimes people just need a shoulder to lean on or need help to formulate a plan. We can make referrals, suggest counselling, help people make a move to a shelter; our staff is trained to deal with everything."

Kates says she became a Tel-Aide volunteer after her mother died and she felt she needed a change in her life. "I saw an ad that said Tel-Aide was seeking volunteers. I called and I haven't looked back since. It was part of my healing process to move on. I honestly receive more from Tel-Aide than what I put in."

Tel-Aide, which is "strongly supported by B'nai Brith Canada, the Stelero Foundation and now by this recent benefactor," has begun talks with BBC's Forestdale Heights Lodge to jointly run an auction, with proceeds going to the distress line, Kates says.

A Tel-Aide volunteer is always available to speak to community groups. "We are constantly networking in order to get word out about our work and to find new volunteers. There are many people who do not know about our services and many more who are ashamed to call. They need to know that all callers are anonymous. There is no caller ID; so we do not know who is on the phone."

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Greater Toronto Area

El Al plans improved service

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

Joel Feldschuh

TORONTO — El Al Israel Airlines is currently implementing a strategic plan intended to improve its onboard service and make the air carrier more competitive internationally, the airline's president proclaimed last week during a visit to Toronto.

In 1997, El Al's board of directors decided on a strategic plan whose goal is to "change the perception of El Al," said Joel Feldschuh, who was in Toronto last week after attending a meeting in Montreal of IATA, the airline industry's regulatory agency.

The changes will allow the airline to compete with foreign carriers who increasingly are eyeing the Israeli market, said Feldschuh, who was accompanied by Michael Gat, El Al's vice-president of commercial and industrial affairs.

While in Toronto, Feldschuh, Gat and Moshe Shamai, El Al's Canadian general manager, hosted a reception for the airline's clients, travel agents and representatives of the Jewish community.

Feldschuh said the change in El Al's corporate culture came one year after it posted "heavy" losses of $83 million (US), in part due to a traffic dropoff in 1996 caused by increased terrorist attacks, but also due to increased competition from other carriers. By 1997, the losses were reduced to $4 million.

The airline's poor financial showing led the board to conclude the time was ripe for broad changes in all aspects of the carrier's operations, including a change in management, Feldschuh said.

Many of the changes were designed to improve El Al's "image" that it is not service oriented. About one year ago, El Al initiated an intensive training program for its employees "to reframe their way of thinking and focus more on service ... We have to enhance our product and make our people more [conscious of service]," he said.

The airline has also embarked on an ambitious program of replacing its fleet of aging aircraft, decommissioning older jumbo jets and replacing them with new Boeing 747-400s, 767s and other aircraft. The airline expects a turnover of 15 aircraft in 1999, he added.

The new 747s will provide all passengers, including those in economy, with a personal television monitor located in the seat in front of them, as well as more space between seats.

El Al is also increasing "the pitch" (space) between seats in its fleet of 767s, Feldschuh continued. "Ten days ago, we enlarged dramatically the pitch between the seats in business class," adding 12 centimetres. A byproduct of that adjustment is to create more space in the economy cabin, he added.

The airline has taken other steps to improve convenience for its Canadian passengers. Last September, El Al moved to Montreal's Dorval Airport from the more isolated Mirabel facility, and in Toronto, the airline switched from Terminal 2 to Terminal 3, "improving our service."

El Al flies out of Toronto four times a week, via either Montreal or New York, while two other flights originate weekly from Montreal. Feldschuh said the airline is planning to introduce 767-ERs (extended range) aircraft to the Toronto route next year "which should enable us to introduce non-stop service from Toronto to Tel Aviv."

El Al is dominating the U.S. market, flying jumbo jets 26 times a week to Israel, but in Canada, it's quite a different story, the El Al executives acknowledged. The airline is experiencing tremendous competition from Air Canada, which has initiated non-stop flights from Toronto to Tel Aviv, they said.

El Al still ferries approximately 37,000 Canadians to Israel each year, but that number has not improved in 1998. Feldschuh and Gat argue that an agreement signed 25 years ago by Canada and Israel creates an unfair advantage for Air Canada. Negotiators met in Israel last week to discuss the agreement, though changes are still a long way off, Gat said.

More than half the traffic Air Canada is carrying to Israel originates in the United States, in effect subsidizing the smaller Canadian market. That situation that was not contemplated in the agreement, Gat said.

Israel has been hamstrung by the agreement, he added. For years when El Al was the only carrier serving Canada, "Canadian authorities put restrictions on our activities." El Al was forced to fly as often from Montreal as from Toronto, even though the Toronto market was larger, he said.

El Al is still not permitted under terms of the agreement – though Ottawa seems to be turning a blind eye to the practice – to feed its Montreal traffic to Israel through the United States. However, Air Canada is doing something similar with its passengers originating in the United States, Gat said.

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Now, the next step

The legislature of Nova Scotia endorsed the Calgary declaration last week. It was the last provincial assembly to do so, setting in motion the next stage of the nation-wide process aimed at the people of Quebec, to clarify, and possibly remediate, our opaque sense of national unity.

In the near future, however, we may experience a number of interruptions in that process. And we had better brace ourselves.

There has been some speculation in the press that the Supreme Court might soon hand down its decision on Quebec's right to unilaterally secede. Whatever the decision by the court, the separatist government in Quebec will respond vehemently. It will seize upon the decision as a pretext for its outrage.

A provincial election will follow in short course, and with it inevitably will come the next referendum. Indeed, even without a decision from the Supreme Court, an election is expected in Quebec in the autumn. With Lucien Bouchard leading the separatists, we know we will hear inflaming and inflammatory rhetoric.

In the heat, rhetoric and exigencies of Quebec's election campaign, the transition to the next phase of the remediating process may be lost. We must guard against this possibility. For as the premiers of the ratifying legislatures have stated, the Calgary declaration is but a beginning in the effort to secure the country's united future.

We would expect, therefore, that federalist leaders throughout the country will remind the people of Quebec, even in the midst of an election there, that the process is underway and that they are determined to do everything possible to achieve a meaningful, invigorated new national unity.

Threatened by all sides

Israel's democracy is like all other democracies: difficult, demanding, testing, infuriating and exhilarating. Only more so. Decisions of state must always be balanced against decisions of coalition maintenance. Otherwise, like an insecure Humpty Dumpty, the government would fall with each forceful breeze of political pressure. And in Israel, as we know, every new day seems to bring countless new political breezes. Most of the time, however, the needs of state and the needs of coalition can be reconciled. But when they cannot, broad, national interest must always supercede narrow, party interest.

As a political breeze, the issue of the second redeployment by the IDF from the West Bank is a veritable gale force. The matter has been under negotiation for some 18 months, most recently in an unusually public and caustic manner between the United States and Israel.

The media is rife with reports that Israel's Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu is being threatened by all sides of his coalition. His government will fall if he either does or does not proceed with the next troop withdrawal.

The Third Way, a vital coalition party member from whose ranks Avigdor Kahalani was appointed internal security minister, has vowed to leave the government if an appropriate troop withdrawal has not been announced by July 15.

On the other side, former chief Ashkenazi rabbi Avraham Shapiro has issued a *psak Halachah*, a legal directive, to Knesset members and ministers of the National Religious Party to bring down the coalition if the cabinet decides on a second withdrawal of 13 percent. Adding his voice to the discord, was Agriculture Minister Raphael Eitan suggesting that new elections be held immediately.

If, in the present situation, the needs of state cannot be reconciled with the needs of coalition, we urge the prime minister to ignore party clamoring and choose the middle way, the way of the national interest.

WISDOM OF THE AGES
"He who doesn't try, can't fail; he who lies on the ground, can't fail."
Moshe Ibn Ezra

Dry Bones
IT'S OVER! INDIA AND PAKISTAN HAVE BOTH CROSSED THE FINISH LINE!
SO IF THE NUCLEAR ARMS RACE IS OVER, WHAT'S THAT MOB COMING DOWN THE TRACK?
HMMM, IT'S EVERY PETTY DICTATOR, EVERY THIRD WORLD COUNTRY, AND EVERY TERRORIST ORGANIZATION ON THE PLANET...
TRYING TO CATCH UP!!

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Levine can't benefit from federalism and separation

Your editorial in which you quote from the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms (*CJN*, May 28), has created a two-edged sword.

David Levine is a separatist and his mandate is to destroy the very living fibres of the country in which he lives, or as you so eloquently state: "intent on Canada's dismemberment."

Canada's Charter of Rights does provide, as you so succinctly point out, fundamental freedoms for its citizens. However, common sense dictates that there are limits to this freedom, or there should be. Why, I might ask, should the Canadian Charter apply to someone who doesn't believe in or have faith in these rights? In some democratic countries, including the United States and Israel, any individual who supports a cause that is meant to harm in any way, or to endanger the existence of that country's safety, is deemed to be a traitor. Only in Canada are these individuals elevated to prominent positions. Only in Canada, can a separatist party become the official opposition party.

It seems that Levine likes to maintain his separatist ties, but at the same time enjoy the fruits of our federalist labors. His salary is paid for by taxpayers' dollars, subsidized by federalist coffers. It is my belief that he should have the choice of benefiting from federalism or separatism, but not both.

Levine's qualifications as administrator may be impeccable, but for you to suggest that he will not use his position to advance his political loyalties is akin to suggesting that you as an editor will formulate and make decisions by putting aside the fact that you are a Jew and a federalist. In both instances, this is impossible.

Dr. Lawrence I. Gaum
Toronto

Other issues loom large in Levine appointment

The CJN has a special responsibility to the Jewish community to know the facts that led to the outcry against the appointment of David Levine as Ottawa Hospital CEO.

The issue is not his private beliefs but his current public role as the Parti Québécois (PQ) government's chief international propagandist in New York. This is the government whose leader blamed a referendum defeat on "ethnics and money" and whose (language) police seized matzah boxes on the eve of Pesach using unilingualism as the pretext. This government's police are now harassing retailers whose livelihood depends on Hebrew signage.

The CJN should be concerned that Levine has done nothing to distance himself from the odious discriminatory practices of the government that built his career.

The CJN misrepresents the Charter in defending Levine's appointment. In practice, all senior appointments are politically vetted. This is why Levine's federalist predecessor in New York was sacked, why Levine got the job, and why Ottawa hospitals don't have to accept him.

Levine's opponents are not driven by "mob rage and anger." Both Ottawa newspapers oppose Levine because he has lost the public's confidence through his association with a government that continues to violate the Charter. Physicians worry that the PQ government contravenes the law daily by underreimbursing Ottawa hospitals, which Quebecers use liberally. The PQ's financial chicanery weakens Ottawa hospitals and damages the portability clause of the Canada Health Act.

Indeed, the opposition to Levine comes from people who are deeply concerned about the fundamental freedoms of Canada's Charter of Rights.

Julia Zackon
Ottawa

Israel victim of double standard

Gerald Steinberg in his article, "An Incitement To Violence" (*CJN*, May 28), reports that on May 14, the Palestinians marked *al-nakba*, the catastrophe resulting from Israel's creation in 1948. Perhaps if Palestinians had accepted the United Nations resolution to partition Palestine in 1948, they could now be looking back on 50 years of prosperity rather than four wars that resulted in death and destruction and ongoing frustration and poverty.

Notwithstanding that the plight of the Palestinians is by and large due to the shortsightedness of their leaders and the leaders of the rest of the Arab world, critics of Israel continue to paint Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu as an obstructionist and as the cause for the failure of the peace process being brought to a satisfactory solution.

Why is there not a resolution in the United Nations or an unqualified statement by President Bill Clinton and the European Union pressing the Palestinian Parliament to once and for all rescind the odious covenant calling for the destruction of Israel? Can one imagine a country being admitted to the European Union if it had in its constitution a pledge to annihilate a fellow member?

Additionally, it is ludicrous for the United States to suggest that Israel is quibbling about surrendering four percent more of the West Bank when it is blessed with vast territories and is in no danger whatever from its hostile neighbors. There is indeed a lot of frustration with regard to the slow moving peace process, but to me the overriding frustration is the lack of fairness and balance in identifying the real culprits.

Bert Raphael
President
Jewish Civil Rights Educational Foundation of Canada

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures. Letters sent by E-Mail must also include the sender's municipal address.

Yiddish in Canada: an update

By LEO DAVIDS

The history of Yiddish in Canada continues to evolve, and one can keep up to date on this by examining the new information found in the 1996 Canadian census.

In that census, detailed language counts were given again, following up on the same questions posed in the 1991 census: questions on what languages people are able to speak, what language is generally used in the home, as well as the classic question used since the beginning of the century on what is the mother tongue of those responding.

In this essay, we are going to look at the Yiddish responses in the 1996 census, comparing them with what we saw in earlier censuses, as well as with the number of Hebrew speakers in Canada.

If we go back historically to the years before World War II, we know that Yiddish was the usual language of Jews at home and at work, as well as in synagogues and other places where Jews congregated. Up till about 1950, a majority of all Jews in Canada were raised with Yiddish as their mother tongue, their first childhood language. However, after 1951, the numbers show a decline in Yiddish, as English was increasingly being used in all areas of life, including as the language heard by small children at home.

The 1951 census has a Yiddish mother tongue population of just over half the total number of Jews (by religion) in the country; however, in later years, the population reporting Yiddish as a mother tongue became a smaller and smaller fraction of the population reporting Judaism as their faith.

Before 1976, Statistics Canada did not count Hebrew speakers at all. Anyone who wrote that Hebrew was their mother tongue or the language used in the home would have been thrown into the "Yiddish" category. In 1976, Hebrew was included under the heading "Semitic languages." Thus, we can only compare Yiddish and Hebrew speaker populations in this country from 1981 on.

Let us note that Yiddish was much more commonly used in Canada than Hebrew during the 1980s, but that has changed. Based on the language questions identified earlier, the census shows us that ability to speak Hebrew is now more widespread in Canada than ability to speak Yiddish, although there are still enough older Yiddish speakers to make the Yiddish mother tongue population larger than the Hebrew language population. Obviously, Hebrew is a "younger" language; not many Canadian Jewish seniors speak it.

Let us now look at the table shown below, which presents the picture for Yiddish in 1996, and also enables us to project a little into the future.

The idea of "projecting into the future" is based on a quite simple thought: Any language whose speakers are elderly, let us say age 60 and up, has a very limited future. On the other hand, wherever we find a significant number of children who speak a language, we can assume that that language will continue to appear on our cultural scene for some decades to come. That is why the table below looks particularly at the child population (ages 0-14 years) as compared with the seniors population, where we expect to find quite a few people who are still able to speak Yiddish and who in fact do use it as their home language.

If we look at the answers to the question on ability to converse in Yiddish, the total for all of Canada is almost 47,000 people. However, it is important to note that only eight percent of those people are children under age 15, as compared with 60 percent age 60 and up.

When we review ability to speak Yiddish in Toronto and Montreal, we see a very large contrast. In the Greater Toronto Area, children make up only four percent of all those who are able to speak Yiddish; whereas 15 percent of all those in greater Montreal who can converse in that language are children. This means that there are approximately four times as many young Yiddish speakers in Montreal as there are in Toronto, despite the fact that there were many more Jews in Toronto than in Montreal in 1996. This is partly because the Sephardi population does not generally know Yiddish.

When we look at Yiddish as a home language, which is how most children learn to speak it, the picture is very similar. There are 6,700 Canadians who reported that, as of 1996, their usual tongue at home was Yiddish. Of those, 45 percent were seniors, while 31 percent were children under 15. However, the Toronto versus Montreal comparison gives us results similar to what we saw with regard to ability to speak.

In Toronto, only nine percent of all the people who reported Yiddish as their home language were children under the age of 15, compared with 84 percent who are 60 years old and over. Clearly, Yiddish is a home language in the Greater Toronto Area mostly for seniors, with a very small child population learning Yiddish at home. Secular "Yiddishism" has faded away. In Toronto, Hebrew is "big" – there are over 30,000 people able to speak Hebrew here.

However, Yiddish has some real life in Montreal, in that children are learning the language at home and will therefore be carrying it forward into the next century. Looking at the Montreal figures, we see that 4,750 people in the greater Montreal area report Yiddish as their major language at home. Thirty-nine percent of that number are children under the age of 15, whereas seniors make up only 29 percent of those reporting Yiddish as the home language. Here, it is obvious that the child speakers substantially outnumber the seniors, in terms of Yiddish home language population.

How do we explain these vast differences between Toronto and Montreal? Why is it just Montreal that has a significant population of children who have learned Yiddish by hearing it at home (and at school)? The answer is that greater Montreal has some significant and strong ultra-Orthodox "pockets" of population, where Yiddish is the predominant language in Jewish circles, and English and French are essentially kept out by non-use of public schools, television and other vehicles by which the larger culture is brought into people's homes. Chassidic children hear Yiddish, not just at home, but in the cheder, yeshivah and beit midrash (adult study hall) too.

A recent study of the chassidic population of Outremont and vicinity found that Yiddish is the mother tongue of most of the ultra-Orthodox people in that part of Montreal, and most of the younger respondents to their survey reported that they were fluent in Yiddish. Since this data is only a year or two old, it is obvious that this is where and how Yiddish continues to live in Canada today.

Other than the ultra-Orthodox population in tightly concentrated neighborhoods where Yiddish can be maintained, and among Jews who are now in their 70s and 80s, the language has been given up. There is some interest and activity at an academic level, but that is not what we generally see as authentic language survival.

The chassidic strategy of being separate in dress, language and other things has kept Yiddish going in their own "distinct society," and no doubt they will keep on faithfully speaking the mameloshen as long as there are chassidic neighborhoods in Canada.

Leo Davids is a professor at York University in Toronto.

This famous photograph by Roman Vishniac from his collection *A Vanished World* evokes a mainly Yiddish-language way of life for youngsters that the author writes can still be found in certain "pockets" of the Jewish population in Montreal.

Numbers of Yiddish Speakers in Canada, 1996
(Rounded to the nearest 50)

	Totals	Children (0-14 yrs)	Seniors (60 yrs and up)
Able to speak Yiddish			
All Canada	46,650	8%	60%
Toronto	18,500	4%	64%
Montreal	21,150	15%	53%
Yiddish Home Language*			
All Canada	6,700	31%	45%
Toronto	1,600	9%	84%
Montreal	4,750	39%	29%

*Excludes multiple responses, such as, "We speak both Yiddish and English equally."

Opinions

A free or biased press?

By Shira Herzog in Toronto

What started out as a legitimate debate over the future of public broadcasting in Israel quickly became a politicized debate on bias in Israel Television's Channel One, its public arm. After all, this is Israel. The long-simmering issue came to a head several weeks ago, with the disciplinary action taken by the newly appointed chair of the Israel Broadcasting Authority (IBA), Uri Porat, against two news editors whom he accused of "biased editing".

The IBA, much like the CBC and TVO, has been the subject of intense scrutiny and discussion in an era of privatization and a proliferation of private cable channels. The stiff competition from the private licensees of a second channel that was approved just a few years ago, as well as several specialty channels, has raised questions about the merits of public broadcasting. When Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and his feisty communications minister, Limor Livnat, made it clear that their privatization plans might include the IBA, the battle lines were drawn.

In the early stages, the discussion remained within professional parameters. Supporters of public broadcasting argued that only freedom from the ratings war and the profit motive could provide an appropriate framework for high-quality, original production, appropriate representation of different viewpoints, and protection from the "lowest common denominator" approach of commercial television. Sounds familiar.

But the real, underlying issue quickly emerged. Netanyahu and several of his cabinet ministers complained repeatedly of bias in the IBA, and accused its senior and rank-and-file journalists of favoring the "left" in their coverage. Netanyahu included the media in his attack on the old "elites" whom he wished to challenge and, in fact, unseat. His choice of chair, Uri Porat, who had served an earlier term in the position in the early '80s, was seen as a statement of intent, and by some, as a declaration of war. Porat lost no time in demonstrating his new, tough approach. The issue was a recent news report on the victory celebrations by Beitar Jerusalem on winning the National Cup in soccer. According to the broadcast report, Netanyahu was present while shouts of "Death to the Arabs" were heard in the ecstatic crowd. Netanyahu's condemnation of the cries, and a statement denying he had heard them, were broadcast in the report, but for Porat, this was not good enough. He seized the opportunity to chastise the editors and to publicly demand their suspension. His action was welcomed by Knesset members on the right, who have long criticized the "left-wing" media and its conspiracy against the current government.

The incident itself was obviously blown out of proportion, but this is precisely the point. Since Yitzhak Rabin's assassination, the media are over-sensitive to Netanyahu's presence when an aroused crowd loses control. In this particular case, Netanyahu probably did not hear the cries, and had he heard them, he would have demanded that they stop. There was room for a debate on the newsworthiness of the item, but it need not have taken on the exaggerated proportions that it did for Porat. As for the journalists at the IBA, they reacted as much to the "chilling effect" of this episode and to their perception of Porat as a political appointee with a clear agenda.

To the objective eye, the entire story seems like a throwback to the earlier days of what was, indeed, a state-controlled broadcaster. When there was only one, publicly funded, television channel, and in the days when the media deferred to the government's definition of the state's security interest, there might indeed have been a bias in favor of the government's perspective. All of that changed in 1973. Israeli journalists blamed themselves for "buying into" the intelligence establishment's assessment of the Egyptian and Syrian movements. This assessment, in turn, led to what became known as "the failure," and the devastating surprise attack on Yom Kippur. Since then, the Israeli media have become much tougher in their investigative approach. Indeed, in coverage of security matters, some observers describe the media's transition from "collusion" to "collision" with the establishment.

The more interesting aspect of the "Beitar item" is its role in the context of Netanyahu's challenge to the so-called old elites. In some ways, the challenge to the sense of entitlement in pockets of the old elite is a welcome one. But it is a risky game when objectivity and fairness in the media are defined as unquestioning advocacy of a particular position. Israel's journalists have proven themselves as being tough on whoever is in power, and no government has ever felt that it is fairly treated. This most recent episode should lead to an honest debate on the media and its role, rather to an entrenchment in existing positions.

Israel, realpolitik and the bomb

By Morton Weinfeld in Montreal

The world has been jolted by the underground nuclear tests of India and Pakistan. Both countries, for sound political as well as geostrategic reasons of their own, felt the need to disregard world public opinion and do what they felt they had to do. India's initial testing in this round was due more to fears of long-term Chinese intentions than Pakistani intervention in Kashmir. As of this writing, it is not clear if this episode of testing is finished. There is a chance that one or both of the countries will be testing missile systems capable of delivering nuclear warheads as well.

Remember the old joke about the elephants, the Jews and the start of World War I? (Why the elephants? Why the Jews?) Well it did not take long for a Jewish/Israeli angle to emerge on this issue. Published newspaper accounts have made reference to alleged Israeli cooperation with the Indian nuclear effort, up to the possible Israeli origin of two of the five Indian nuclear devices tested. I have no idea about the accuracy of these stories. Not surprisingly, many Islamic states are delighted with the Pakistani tests, speaking of an "Islamic bomb" that could neutralize the advantage held by Israel in the region.

The backdrop for these allegations is the fact that India's new governing party is dedicated to a vision of aggressive Hindu nationalism that is directly and indirectly anti-Islamic. During the last electoral campaign, the party was up front about its intention of going ahead with nuclear testing as well as its commitment to retaining Kashmir.

All this is part of the power chess game being played out in Asia, and is rooted in the potential confrontation between India and China. China is alleged to be supportive of Pakistan's nuclear program, and Russia is assumed to be supporting India.

Against such superpowers, Israel would appear as a minor league player. Ideally, Israel would like to improve relations with both India and China, and she has. Yet the basic fact is that no one should dismiss out of hand the possibility of some Israeli links to India's nuclear program. One of the primal rules of international realpolitik is: "The enemy of my enemy is my friend." This rule works for both India and Israel. India's relations with Israel over the past decades have not been the warmest. But clearly there are possibilities for rapprochement with the new Indian government that did not exist before.

The sad fact is that Israel cannot afford to be a neutral or passive observer as the nuclear scene unfolds on the Asian subcontinent. An Islamic bomb originating in Pakistan might well find its way to Iran and Iraq, as well as to rogue states like Libya. Right now, Pakistan's focus seems to be on support for insurgency in Kashmir rather than on challenging Israel on her security needs. But that could change.

Years ago, Israel faced international censure when she acted alone and bombed the Iraqi nuclear facility. Then, and now, many nations including those in the region, breathed a sigh of relief that Saddam Hussein's nuclear ambitions were thwarted. The issue is that in the future, if the South Asian nuclear arms race escalates, it may well happen that Israel may find herself more deeply involved. Many liberal North American Jews recoil at the thought of nuclear weapons, and at most tolerate Israel's nuclear program as a necessary evil.

Israel's security needs in the future may increasingly become part of a complex, multilateral pattern of nuclear deterrence in the region. One hopes this does not emerge, but if it does, Israel's supporters need to toughen themselves for any eventuality. Indeed, these problems may persist, even if some progress is made on the Israeli-Palestinian dimensions of the peace process.

All this need not be a cause for despair. The nuclear genie cannot be put back in the bottle. Let us recall that the U.S.-U.S.S.R.-China confrontation lasted for nearly half a century without any nuclear event, by accident or design. There is no evidence that the leaders of India and Pakistan have evolved nuclear doctrines that would sanction first use. Nuclear disarmament in Asia is just not in the cards. Though many do not like to hear of it, deterrence has worked in the past, and is most likely to work in the future – though as always, there are no guarantees.

The question of refugees

By Rabbi Gunther Plaut in Toronto

Lately, the plight of immigrants and refugees has once again been in the news. The federal Minister of Immigration, Lucienne Robillard, recently held yet another set of national hearings on this complex and ever-challenging problem. It also brought back to me the year and a half I spent in 1984 and 1985, when I was asked by the federal government to devise a new refugee determination system for the country.

Recently, I had a chance to see an address that Senator Jerry S. Grafstein gave as a Canadian representative, to the Council of Europe Parliamentary Assembly, which was held in Strasbourg, France, in late January.

Some of his remarks are worth quoting: "When it comes to the question of refugees, there is marked difference between the current ideas in Europe and Canada. Let me explain. Canada is a land of immigrants, a land of refugees. We as an immigrant society have discovered, after much careful study, that easy political rhetoric is much different from economic reality! We have learned that the politics of inclusion, of permanent settlement of refugees, are of economic and cultural benefit to our society. We learned to digest our differences. In brief, all classes in Canada have benefited from the fast economic and social inclusion of the waves of refugees that have washed against our shores. The faster the better!

"Toronto (considered by recent comparative studies the most livable city in the world in terms of civil society and safety) is my home and political base. One-third of our population in Toronto speak at home a first language other than English or French. Our police can arrest criminal suspects in 86 languages.

"Practically every member of this assembly could find in Toronto a fine restaurant to suit his natural origins. We thrive on ethnic diversity in our restaurants and our workplaces and political institutions.

"Our political structures and our economic structures are open and welcoming. Practically every region from Europe, Asia, Africa and South America is represented at our municipal government, whether elected or part of the bureaucracy as policy of social inclusion.

"In our Parliament, in Commons and Senate, we have members of Chinese, Armenian, German, French, Serbian, Italian, Albanian, Portuguese, Greek, Ukrainian, Polish, Lebanese, Swedish, Danish, Russian, Czech, Slovakian, Estonian, and the list goes on, including representatives from English, Welsh, Irish and Scottish groups, and last, but not least, our aboriginal peoples. I repeat, we thrive on our pluralism and diversity represented by practically every country here in the assembly having a Member of Parliament in Canada. This is why Canadians feel so much at home in the assembly of the Council of Europe."

Any of my readers who came to the New World as a refugee knows that this memory will never go away. That is doubly true for a land like Canada, which is a land of immigrants and refugees. I'm glad it is, and I hope it will remain so!

The Kirshner File

Contrasting memories subject of haunting film

Sibylle Tiedemann distinctly remembers the photographs in her mother's albums, the pictures she gazed at curiously and with mounting

By Sheldon Kirshner

interest, first as a child and then as a teenager.

They left an indelible impression, prompting her to make *Kinderland, Cinderland*, a haunting film which symbolizes the darkest moment in Germany's modern history.

Premiered in Canada at the recent Canadian International Documentary Film Festival in Toronto, *Kinderland, Cinderland* is a poignant study in juxtaposition. Spanning the years 1934 to 1996, and set in the Swabian town of Ulm, the movie turns on the sharply contrasting memories of a group of Jewish and Christian classmates after the rise of the Third Reich.

Seduced by the new ideology, the Christian girls recall the stirring torchlight parades organized by the triumphant Nazis, the allure of joining the Hitler Youth and the camaraderie of the times.

Virtually the only jarring note is sounded by a girl who was ostracized by virtue of the fact that her father was a socialist and therefore an opponent of the Nazi regime.

The innocent years they enjoy during the 1930s abruptly vanish with the outbreak of World War II. Rationing is introduced. Soldiers – brothers, fathers, relatives – are killed. The girls express shock when one of their own, the legendary Sophie Scholl, is exposed as a member of the anti-Nazi White Rose resistance movement, then summarily executed.

Bereft of fond reminiscences, the Jewish girls recall the economic boycotts, the anti-Semitic taunts and abuse of fellow students, the crass anti-Jewish signs in town (one read "Dogs and Jews not admitted"), the feeling of abandonment and the flight to safe havens in the United States and Palestine.

"Our parents generally didn't talk too much about that period," said Tiedemann, 46, whose mother appears briefly in the film. "But I wanted to know everything about it."

Finally, in 1994, Tiedemann, a graduate of the German Film and Television Academy in Berlin, decided that a film about her mother's generation might shed further light on Nazi Germany.

Teaming up with Ute Badura, a cinematographer who was born in eastern Germany in 1957, Tiedemann and her collaborator spent a year researching the topic, after which they co-wrote the script. They received support from the city of Ulm and financial backing from a host of institutional contributors.

In 1996, they started filming in Germany, Israel and the United States. Chillingly enough, they arrived in Tel Aviv just a week after an Islamic Jihad terrorist detonated a bomb that killed 13 civilians near the Dizengoff Centre.

The movie, which had its world premiere in Ulm last year, reunited several of the Jewish and Christian girls. They met at Tiedemann's mother's house. Despite nervousness on both sides, the rapport they established was touching and astonishing.

"They were at ease with each other," said Tiedemann. "They just talked and talked and talked." Some began a correspondence which continues to this day.

Looking back at the Nazi era, both Tiedemann and Badura (whose father was a member of the Nazi party during the last two years of the war) are still amazed that it even happened.

"It hurts," said Badura. "It's a lesson in what human beings are capable of. You have to deal with this again and again."

According to Tiedemann, a Jewish community has re-emerged in Ulm, the last of whose former Jewish residents were deported in 1942. After the war, a number of east European Jews settled in Ulm. Indeed, one of Tiedemann's classmates in the 1950s was descended from one of these families. Today, he is a teacher in Ulm. Since the late 1980s, the Jewish population has been supplemented by arrivals from the former Soviet Union. And so, contrary to Hitler's wishes, Ulm's connection with Jews has been re-established.

Travelling in Germany

Germany, understandably, is not on the itinerary of most Jewish travellers, even those who were born there or who have a family connection. Germany, after all, is soaked with Jewish blood.

But outside Israel, Germany probably contains more Jewish historical sites than any other country in the world. And it is worth noting that Germany's Jewish community is not only the fastest-growing one in Europe, but one of the largest.

With a population approaching 100,000, the community certainly appears to have a bright future, the presence of neo-Nazis notwithstanding. Six decades after the rise of Hitler, who could have predicted such a development?

Keeping these facts in mind, readers may be interested to know that two guidebooks about Germany's Jewish dimension, past and present, have recently been published.

Traveller's Guide to Jewish Germany (Pelican Publishing), by Billie Ann Lopez and Peter Hirsch, seems like a definitive work. With entries on scores of German towns and cities from Aachen and Celle to Ulm and Wurzburg, and with numerous photographs of synagogues, mikvahs and cemeteries, this 314-page volume looks like the last word on the subject.

As might be expected, the authors do not limit themselves to places with revived and thriving Jewish communities like Berlin, Frankfurt or Munich. Cities where Jews were displaced and/or murdered, but with palpable reminders of the past, are also part of their survey.

One criticism. There is insufficient information on present-day communities. It is an omission that should be remedied in the next edition.

Geoffrey Weill's 36-page pamphlet, *Germany for the Jewish Traveller*, produced under the auspices of the German National Tourist Board, is more topical, but not as comprehensive as *Traveller's Guide to Jewish Germany*.

Combining history with facts of current interest, Weill – a relative of the famous composer, Kurt Weill – presents his data in a breezy and accessible style, leading us to destinations from Augsburg and Bamberg to Saarbrucken and Rothenburg-Ob-Der-Tauber.

CANADIAN JEWISH CONGRESS

Thank you

CJC president Moshe Ronen addresses Assembly.

More than five hundred delegates attended the 25th National Plenary Assembly of Canadian Jewish Congress May 24 and 25 in Winnipeg, marking the first time this prestigious triennial event was held outside Montreal or Toronto

To all the participants, dedicated volunteers and the host Winnipeg Jewish Community Council, CJC thanks you.

"Jewish Roots Meet 21st Century Realities"

CJC's 25th National Plenary Assembly
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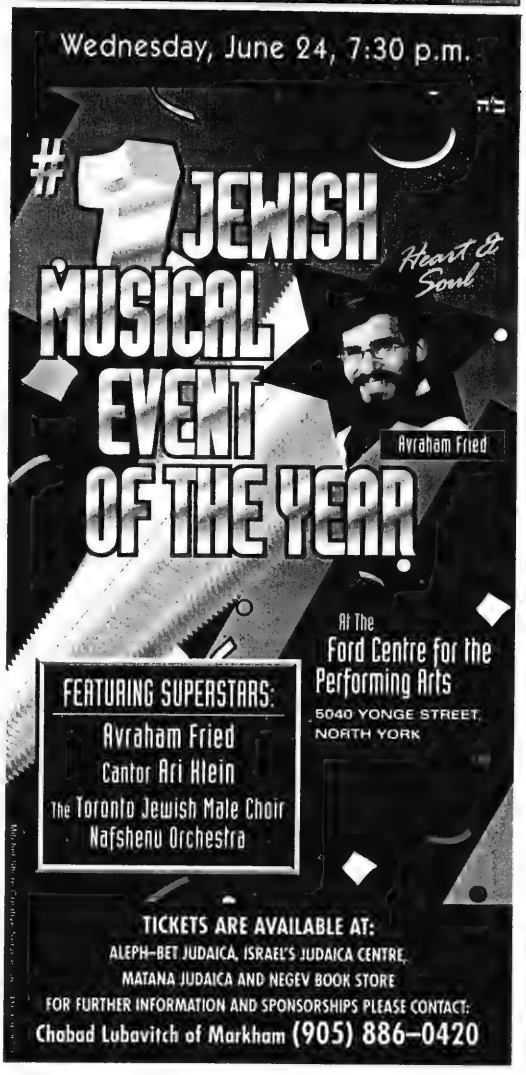
Jewish Life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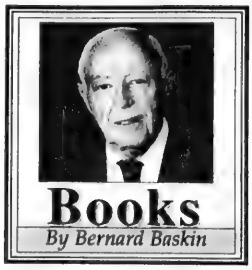

Books

By Bernard Baskin

The secret of happiness

***Happiness Is a Serious Problem*, by Dennis Prager (Harper Collins, $32.50).**

What is happiness? The answers are legion: Happiness is paying the last instalment on your mortgage. Happiness is not a station to arrive at but a manner of travelling. Happiness is not being pained in body or troubled in mind. Happiness is the interval between periods of unhappiness. The secret of happiness is not in doing what one likes, but in liking what one has to do.

Dennis Prager is author of such books as *Think a Second Time*, *The Nine Questions People Ask About Judaism* and *Why the Jews – the Reason for Anti-Semitism* – as well as a popular Los Angeles radio talk host. He divides his new book into two major segments: What are the greatest obstacles to happiness for most people and thoughts on how to deal with those obstacles; and the major attitudes and behavior necessary for achieving increased happiness.

His approach to this hoary question is psychologically sound, clear and honest. One common source of unhappiness is our tendency to compare ourselves with persons we think more fortunate than ourselves. But who knows with what demons – emotional, psychological, economic, social – they have to struggle? As someone sagely admitted. "The only happy people I know are people I don't know well."

Another reason for unhappiness is to concentrate on a flaw or difficulty, no matter how trivial, rather than on the larger picture. Imagine looking at a tiled ceiling from which one tile is missing – you will most likely concentrate on that missing tile. "The missing tile syndrome is ubiquitous. If you are overweight, all you see are flat stomachs and perfect physical specimens. If you have pimples, all you see is flawless skin. Women who have difficulty getting pregnant walk around seeing only pregnant women and babies. Unless we teach ourselves to concentrate on what we do have, we will end up obsessing over missing tiles and allow them to become insurmountable obstacles to happiness."

What about money? Doesn't it bring happiness? A degree of contentment and security, yes, but true happiness, not a chance. If the desire for money is largely a constant craving for material things or a desire to impress others, then it is a fool's quest. "Unhappy people at least have the fantasy that money will make them happy; unhappy rich people don't even have that."

Over the course of many years the author has asked high school seniors throughout North American whether they would first save their dog or a stranger if both were drowning. In every instant (except for some religious schools) about one-third of the students vote to save the dog, one-third to save the human and one-third simply cannot decide. Many students explain "I love my dog, I don't love a stranger." Prager writes "I am convinced that a reason for this growing preference for animals is that animals give unconditional love and people do not. But seeking for unconditional love assures unhappiness, because adult love is never unconditional."

The author insists that there are no free lunches. With regard to happiness there are three basic rules: Make peace with the fact that everything in life has a price, determine what that price is for anything you desire, choose whether to pay that price or to forgo what you desire. "Unless you follow all three of these rules, happiness is unattainable – because you will constantly be angry at the prices you pay for everything you have and everything you do."

Happiness, Prager believes, must be taken seriously, because whether we are happy or not affects not only us but our friends and family members. In this sense trying to be happy is no less than a moral responsibility.

A brief review of this kind can convey only a small portion of the richness of this thoughtful and helpful book.

Hebrew on your computer

By MARK MIETKIEWICZ

Last week we looked at pictures. This week: words.

Writing in Hebrew on your computer can pose a few challenges: does your computer know how to go from right to left? Have you downloaded Hebrew fonts that were designed for word processors and not the ones that were designed for surfing the Internet? And was your Hebrew font designed to work with a standard Israeli keyboard or for an English speaker who just wants to hunt and peck a few words? If it sounds a bit confusing, it can be. But with some work and patience, you can teach your computer Hebrew – for free.

What to write in? You can buy several heavy-duty commercial word processing programs like Nisus and Microsoft Hebrew Word for Windows that can operate both from left-to-right and right-to-left **[http://www.kabsoft.com/wp.htm]**. But if you just need to type out a phrase or two, you may only need Hefek for Windows **[ftp://www.zoots.com/library/jewh&i/HEFEK.EXE]** or Shalom Pad for the Mac **[http://www.jewishpost.com/shalom3.hqx]**.

Next step: fonts. First you have to download some Hebrew fonts, such as Shalom OldStyle, Shalom Script and Shalom Stick **[http://www.jewishpost.com/jp0203/jpsoft.htm]**. These are *not* identical to the commercial fonts used in Israel. On real Hebrew keyboards, the gimel is located where our "D" is found. But Shalom OldStyle places the gimel on our "G" to make typing easier for English speaking people. For a good introduction to writing in Hebrew, see Kabbalah's Information on Hebrew Fonts **[http://www.kabsoft.com/fonts.htm]**.

Also note that these are fonts designed for use in a word processor. If you load them into your browser in order to surf the Internet in Hebrew, everything will come out as gibberish. To surf in Hebrew, you need completely different Hebrew fonts **[http://dapey.reshet.co.il/help/2067.htm]**.

Looking for fancier fonts? CompuJudaica offers a free selection **[http://www.zoots.com/cj/hebrew.htm#font]**. For example, "David" is a True Type font for Windows that looks hand-printed. "Noam" is large and blocky, "Script" is a cursive flowing Hebrew font for invitations and "Torah" looks like writing from – you know. Virtual Jerusalem's Software Library has plenty for both Windows **[http://www.software.virtual.co.il/dirs/windows_fonts.html]** and Macintosh **[http://www.software.virtual.co.il/dirs/mac_fonts.html]**.

If you need something a bit more specialized, you may have to pay. The Jewish Software Centre, for example sells several Jewish font packages **[http://users.aol.com/jewishsoft/page15.html]**. For example, "Catskills" is an adaptation of a classic font that presents English letters in a Hebrew style. Davka's Hebrew Font Gallery **[http://www.davka.com/hebrewfg.htm]** is a package of 25 fonts with everything from "Rashi"to "Hadassah Light."

You have your fonts. You have a word processor. Now it's time to speak to the world in Hebrew. If you want to be able to send e-mail in Hebrew, then don't miss Mikhtav **[http://www.hevanet.com/dshivers/mikhtav/]**. Once you download Mikhtav ("letter' in Hebrew) and install the various components into your system, you will be able to compose and send e-mail in Hebrew. There are detailed instructions and the creators of Mikhtav will be happy to receive your Hebrew e-mail to see if you've got the hang of it. Best of all, it's free.

Next week, I conclude my software survey with Jewish games, Hebrew tutors and translators, vendors and my pick of the best Jewish freeware I've seen.

* * *

Mark Mietkiewicz is a television producer in Toronto with an interest in the Internet. He can be reached at [mdm@inforamp.net].

Jewish Life

In search of a new Jewish home

By SUSAN BERRIN

Guest Voices

I've lived in Victoria for 16 years. We arrived as a young family: my husband (the new rabbi) and I, with our infant daughter, Noa. I can honestly say these 16 years have included some of my happiest years. They've certainly been my most productive years, even if we count only the three children I've borne and raised as mentshen.

I'm at ease with the west coast lifestyle: co-ops for babysitting; organic produce; wearing sandals all year round; worrying only when pushed to the boundaries of nail-biting anxiety.

I love Victoria. I love the fact that our neighbors share seedlings and harvest. Here, "garden" is as much a verb as it is a noun. If I didn't garden seriously, I'd forfeit much of the incidental but meaningful social exchange. I'd be excluded from the local chit-chat. Conversations would happen above me and around me.

I've been fortunate to grow a community of dear friends. Like-minded souls, and men and women I'd never dreamt of knowing. Victoria brings together the oddest assortment of people.

But once here, we make room for one another. Our lives expand to accommodate the stories of fellow travellers. Our hearts open to their sorrows and to their joys. I've had hundreds of people through my kitchen. And many of them hundreds of times. They bring laughter and questions. They come for comfort and guidance. They encircle me, sometimes with frustrating demands, more often with love.

Come this summer, though, I'm leaving. It came as a surprise to me, so content was I in this paradise. But I must admit it was my choice – a well-reasoned, thoroughly analysed, dissected, heart-wrenching choice.

We don't know yet where we're going. All we do know is that my husband and I and our children – ages 16, 12 and six – will be living somewhere else in August. I can only compare our situation to the feeling of having jumped out of an airplane. We're free-falling, tumbling, not yet reaching for the parachute cord. Friends comment, "You have such courage!"

Yes, we have courage to uproot and wander. But it's a fine line between courageous and crazy. We know we'll land, we'll walk again, do laundry and grow vegetables in another city. We'll again establish networks of support, learn the quickest carpool routes, find a friendly neighbor with a dog to be our pal.

We're midlifers. Our never-ending busyness, the cuddles and kisses could be half over; our moon, full and ripe, beginning to wane. Life's existential questions keep writing themselves onto the foggy bathroom mirror. "If not now, when?" means more when life's hourglass turns over. But this airplane jump isn't a midlife crisis. It's about our children. And being Jewish.

We have three children and a deep commitment to living an observant Jewish life. That's our problem with Victoria. For the past 16 years, we've made our spiritual lives fit into the confines of Victoria's small but warm Jewish community. When our eldest was two, we created a Jewish preschool. But since she turned five, we haven't been able to start a Jewish day school. The demographics of Victoria don't allow for it. Too few children per grade and too many other commitments for the parents.

As our children grow, we have less to offer them. We find ourselves stretching in ways we never intended. How do we, living in a place where open-mindedness and adaptability are the ultimate virtues, teach religious parameters and structure to our children? Our children have been blessed with solid roots. They belong to a community that hovers protectingly over them, showering them with the love of an enormous extended family. No anomie in sight for these three precious, warm-hearted creatures.

Our children have no formal route for Jewish education, no possibility of being students at the table of great Jewish books or inspiring Jewish teachers. They have few peers with whom to explore the tradition or travel the Jewish path. Only they fully observe Shabbat. From sundown on Friday to sundown on Saturday, they do not attend birthday parties or movies, shop or play on the computer. They need a chevrah, a group of friends, their own teenage community of Shabbat observers, where they can laugh and sing, roam and wander unselfconsciously as Jewish children.

Leaving the Garden of Eden is not easy. And anything east of Eden is tilling a harder, rockier soil. I leave with a deep sadness, a feeling of loss that hurts into my bones.

We leave a synagogue that is truly a community, one that we have helped to build for 16 years. It is housed in a beautiful building, a sacred space of tremendous proportion. Our shul fills on Shabbat with a community that comes together in the hope of speaking to God while being in the presence of each other. Together we tend the dying, cook and care for those in need. We dance together in celebration and mark the passage of time, the milestones in our lives. Friendships are built over time as we create this shared history.

And yet we all feel – my husband, my children and I – that the time for uprooting is now. Although we leave what many might describe as a "perfect life," we hope to find a more engaging and fuller Jewish community, one that enriches each of us and all of us. As we prepare to leave, we gather sparks from our many friends' lives, and hope to kindle with these sparks a new flame of friendship and community in our next home.

Susan Berrin is the author of A Heart of Wisdom: Making the Jewish Journey from Mid-Life Through the Aging Years *and* Celebrating the New Moon: A Rosh Chodesh Anthology.

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Kehillat Shaarei Torah (O)	2640 Bayview Ave. (416) 229-2600	7:00 PM	9:15 AM	9:00 AM	6:30 AM	----------
Petah Tikva Anshe Castilla (O)	20 Danby Ave. (416) 636-4719	7:00 PM	8:30 AM	8:30 AM	6:45 AM	10-15 minutes before sunset
Shaarei Shomayim (O)	470 Glencairn Ave. (416) 789-3213	7:00 PM	9:15 AM	7:30 AM	7:30 AM	10 minutes before sunset

This is not a comprehensive listing of the synagogues in the Greater Toronto area. The information is provided by the Vaad Harabonim of Toronto. In due course we hope to receive similar information regarding non-orthodox synagogues from the Toronto Board of Rabbis. The Vaad and the Board will periodically revise the listings.

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Greater Toronto Area

Jewish War Veterans celebrate Israel's 50th

By STACEY STEIN
Student Intern

TORONTO — The Israeli ambassador, the French consul general and over 600 guests were on hand to celebrate Israel's 50th anniversary at a recent gala dinner held by the Jewish War Veterans of Canada.

In his speech, Ambassador David Sultan praised the veterans' contribution to Israel.

"In Israel, we owe a great deal to the war veterans of the Jewish brigade who participated in World War II and those who participated in the War of Independence," he said. "They are not only heroes of war, but also heroes of peace. For it is thanks to them that our neighbors have gradually come to realize that Israel is not a passing phenomenon, but rather she is here to stay."

Sultan said he was honored to be at the event, celebrating Israel's anniversary with the war vets.

"Fifty years ago, many of you believed that we would re-establish our solidarity and our history," he said. "And here we are celebrating 50 years of achievement that we can all be proud of."

The event, held at Beth Avraham Yoseph of Toronto synagogue in Thornhill, also featured guest speaker John Loftus, a lawyer and former prosecutor with the Nazi war crimes unit.

While working for the U.S. Justice Department, Loftus accidentally discovered secret vaults in a small town outside Washington, D.C. They contained classified documents revealing that many of the Nazis he was supposed to indict were on the government payroll. He then resigned from the Justice Department and appeared on *60 minutes* to tell his story, and wrote books detailing the West's complicity with the Nazis and indifference toward the Jews. His most recent book is entitled *The Secret War Against the Jews*.

In his speech, he discussed how American foreign policy is driven by oil interests in Arab countries.

"The problem is that for the better part of the 20th century, our [U.S.] State Department, your [Canada's] External Affairs and our intelligence community have decided that it really is in North America's long-term national interest to obtain the cheap and consistent supply of oil," Loftus said. "The Arabs have it, the Jews don't – it's as simple as that. It's not about bigotry or anti-Semitism. It's about greed, it's about loyalties."

He also discussed how governments hide important information from the general public, noting that during World War II, western powers knew about Hitler's concentration camps early on and withheld this information from their local Jewish communities.

"Many Jews don't have a clue about their own history," Loftus said. "And you don't because one-third of our history is classified, buried down in those vaults."

Loftus also commended the resiliency of the Jewish people.

Addressing the audience, Loftus described how the strength of the Jewish people has always prevailed.

"You've won," he said. "You've beaten Hitler, the Holocaust, the Arabs, the oil companies…bit by bit, brick by brick, you built a nation."

These sentiments were later echoed by Sam Pasternack, the Jewish War Vets' national commander.

"Our people are a very resilient people," he said. "We are also a people of extraordinary faith and optimism…for us, it wasn't a matter if Israel would be reborn, it was only when."

In his address, Pasternack also noted that the percentage of Jews enlisted in the Canadian Armed Forces in World War II was greater than the national average.

"Happy birthday Israel," he concluded, "may G-d bless you with a true peace, security, happiness and protection."

Sanctuary named for Rabbi, Mrs. Burak

TORONTO — Tributes, toasts and reminiscences will mark the dedication of Beth Jacob V'Anshe Dridz's sanctuary in honor of Rabbi and Mrs. Moses Burak on June 21.

Rabbi Burak has been the congregation's spiritual leader for 35 years. His wife Toby has been a leader in the sisterhood, and has been active in other synagogue functions.

"I started with the congregation when it was still in a big, beautiful shul on Henry Street," Rabbi Burak said. "At that time we were having trouble getting a minyan for weekday services.

"We had to avail ourselves of the services of a shul klapper. That is, one of our regulars would knock (klap) on people's doors to ask them to fill out the minyan."

"I finally agreed that the time had come to move north," said Rabbi Burak. The congregation resettled in Bathurst Manor, on Overbrook Place.

Rabbi Burak instituted daily services including two morning minyanim on weekdays, and a variety of classes and discussions.

The congregation has had an influx of young members and a new associate spiritual leader, Rabbi Jay Kelman.

"We've had quite a few adventures over the past years," said Rabbi Burak. "There'll be some interesting stories to tell."

Organizers of the dedication are co-chairs Dr. Earl Schwartz and Blanche Schwartz.

The dedication begins at 10 a.m. and includes brunch. Tickets are $20.

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Greater Toronto Area

Conference explores past, future of community

Canadian Jewish history often ignored, says Abella

BY SIMONE JOSEPH
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Canadian academics have shown a lack of interest in Canadian Jewish history, said Irving Abella, York University history professor.

"Until the past decade or two, Canadian academics have displayed a singular lack of interest in the origins and achievements of the various communities and immigrant groups which make up this country," he said.

Abella, along with Deborah Dash Moore, a professor of religion at Vassar College, and Ramsay Cook, a York University professor, were among the speakers at a recent conference entitled A Heritage in Transition: A Conference on the Study of Canadian Jewry, organized by the Centre for Jewish Studies at York.

During a panel discussion, Abella said Jews have been left out of the history of Canada due to a "conspiracy of apathy."

He highlighted aspects of Canadian Jewry from well before Confederation until this century.

The early decades of this century, said Abella, were "a period of dreadful living and working conditions, of poverty and hardships for the Jews."

But he also spoke about the "golden period of Canadian Jewry," the period before Canada became a nation in 1867. During this time, there were "Jewish doctors, officers, mayors and bank presidents. There was even a Jewish bank.

"Seventy-five years ago, anyone could get on the CPR transcontinental in Halifax and travel across the country to Vancouver, and to almost every town, village or hamlet across the country... There was a Jewish presence: a family, a storekeeper, a farmer, even a synagogue," Abella said.

But even with this rich history, Canadian scholars have missed out on important parts of the study of Canadian Jewish history, said Abella.

"There is as yet no study of Jewish immigration to Canada, no comparison study of the role... of these remarkable men and women who transformed Canadian Jewish society," he said.

Very little has been written about the Canadian Jewish labor movement, Abella said. "This remarkable generation of working men and women has been badly served by scholars." Other than a book on women in the garment industry in Toronto, "there is no major study of the Jewish trade unions."

Abella said the perception of Jews as newcomers to Canada is a historical misconception. "Jews were here almost from the beginning of European settlement of this land. Jews are not newcomers in Canada and we ought to stop behaving as if they were," he said.

Moore, who spoke about the current state of American Jewish studies, said she used to be frustrated by the lack of opportunity to teach the history of Jews in the U.S.

Recently, however, she has noticed a change in attitude. "American Jewish historians have won half the battle of legitimacy. American Jewish history has come of age. There currently exists a viable historiography of American Jews."

Living standards predicted to drop

TORONTO — If current trends continue, by 2025 our standard of living will be lower, our personal insecurity will increase, and a global culture will develop, says a sociology professor at York University.

Stuart Schoenfeld made these projections about the future of Canadian Jewish life at a York University conference organized by the Centre for Jewish Studies at York.

According to Schoenfeld, recent discussions of the Jewish future have mainly been projections of internal trends in the Jewish community, such as intermarriage rates, birth rates and other trends.

His paper *The Context of Canadian Jewish Life over The Next Generation: Projections and Challenges*, which was the subject of his presentation, focuses on how the social environment of the next generation of Jews will change.

The generation growing up today may have a lower standard of living than their parents, he says. "There is a high cost of being Jewish."

These costs, says Schoenfeld, involve sending children to summer camp, making donations to charities and paying for a synagogue membership. In the future, it will be harder to maintain our current affluence level, he says.

Schoenfeld says the generation growing up today will have fewer prospects for secure, long-term employment. "It is possible that the insecurity of secure long-term employment may reinforce the established tendencies of Jews to work as entrepreneurs and self-employed professionals rather than as employees," he says.

Jews are facing increasingly risky personal lives, says Schoenfeld. "While Jews seem to have somewhat higher rates of lasting marriages, their divorce rate has risen significantly over the past generation."

He says that "Women need to anticipate the greater likelihood that they will at some point have to support themselves (and possibly children) with only the assistance of court-mandated child support – which may or may not be enforced," he says.

On a positive note, he says that Jews will become more involved in religion. "A second response to the emerging conditions of the next generation is one of relying upon group solidarity as a pragmatic resource. –S.J.

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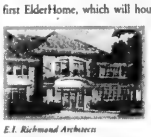
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ז"ך סיון תשנ"ח

Sunday, June 21, 1998, 10:30 a.m.
Bathurst Street at Flamingo Road
(Just South of Highway 407)
Thornhill, Ontario

With the participation of leading Rabbis, government officials and communal leaders

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The emissaries, chassidim, and supporters of Chabad Lubavitch will always be indebted to the Rebbe for his unconditional love towards every Jew, his monumental endeavours on behalf of Klal Yisroel, and for having the opportunity to share in the fulfillment of his vision. As we observe his Yartzeit next week, the third of Tamuz, we pledge to rededicate ourselves to his teachings and continue his sacred work with renewed enthusiasm and vitality.

May we soon witness the rewards of these efforts with the arrival of Mashiach who will usher in the era of universal peace and tranquility.

Rabbi Menachem M. Schneerson, The Lubavitcher Rebbe o.b.m.
Nissan 11, 5662 - Tamuz 3, 5754 / April 18, 1902 - June 12, 1994

Rookie Grit Jacques Saada is rising through the ranks

Scene in Ottawa

By STEPHEN BINDMAN

OTTAWA — Jacques Saada isn't showing up quite everywhere in Power City yet.

But for a rookie Liberal backbencher in a town with lots of rookie Liberal backbenchers, Saada has been popping up regularly in some pretty important places.

Last month, he was chosen by Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy to head a Canadian fact-finding mission of parliamentarians to the troubled Mexican region of Chiapas.

Earlier this year, he was a member of the official Canadian delegation at the signing of the international treaty banning landmines.

And perhaps most significantly, he was the co-chair of the recent biennial Liberal party convention and schmooze and boozefest.

When Grits from across the country gave Prime Minister Jean Chrétien a resounding vote of confidence, it was Saada who announced the results on national television and raised the PM's hand in victory.

"The image I'll keep in my mind forever when I made the announcement was the eyes of Aline Chrétien," he recalls.

"It was just so moving. It grabbed you right in the guts, it was really fascinating. I made the announcement and when you're on stage your eyes go round and I just happened to look at her at this time. It was really a moving moment."

So who is this Saada guy?

A 50-year-old native of Tunisia, he was elected last year in the Montreal-area riding of Brossard-La Prairie where he defeated a Bloc Québécois candidate by 7,000 votes.

His family moved to France in 1958 after his North African birthplace gained independence and after six months in Israel on a kibbutz as a member of Hashomer Hatzair he came to Canada.

Saada says politics is his fourth career after stints as a teacher and school administrator, owner of a translation business and government consultant in international development.

"Being an MP is a combination of all of my other careers. It's really an exciting job."

It is more than a job it is a passion.

"There is no limit to the fields you want to address, there is no limit to the depth with which you want to address them. The only limitations you have really are your ability to digest and your time. It is even more demanding than I thought it was going to be, but in terms of my appreciation of the job in itself it's even much more than I was hoping for."

The father of four – and soon to be first-time grandfather – calls himself a Jew "more by culture and guts than by religion."

"The only High Holy Day that we all respect in the family is Yom Kippur, but we do respect the more historical sides of our culture, of our background.

"For example, we celebrate Passover as a celebration of freedom. To me that's very important, especially for my childrçn, to learn not only the values of freedom but to learn also that the people from whom they descend had to go through this pain to gain freedom."

He is especially proud that his campaign team includes Indians and Pakistanis, "you can see at the same table the Imam and the president of the Jewish association.

"I'm pushing for this kind of getting together and knowing each other and trying to move ahead together. To me that epitomizes really what my dream is. I realize it's utopia but if you don't have a dream then nothing can be achieved ever."

Liberal insiders say the fluently bilingual, ruggedly good looking Saada is a face to watch in the future.

"It's logical for anybody to aspire to better in life, to bigger, to better.

"Promotion is part of what gives us a drive to do whatever you do. But I've been extremely happy with what I've been able to do so far.

"When you feel that you are able to move things, even if it's slow, if it's modest, you've got to remain very humble about it but you are moving ahead.

"Maybe this is to some extent more important than moving in terms of image."

In the meantime, Saada is just glad to be on Parliament Hill.

"As an immigrant, as a father, as a future grandfather, as a member of the world community, I feel privileged to be here."

Stephen Bindman is national legal affairs correspondent for the Southam Newspapers based in Ottawa.

St. Catharines Jewish cemetery re-dedicated after desecration

ST. CATHARINES — Close to 500 people of different faiths gathered here June 7 for the re-dedication of Jewish gravestones and a Holocaust memorial that were desecrated in April.

"This is the start of a new beginning and will give us more strength after the setbacks," said Rabbi Martin Applebaum, who presided over the emotional service.

This city's only Jewish cemetery was vandalized in two separate attacks in April. Two men were arrested and charged with several offences, including causing indignity to human remains.

One of them had ties to neo-Nazi organizations, and remains in custody. His pre-trial was slated for last week.

A total of 43 tombstones were toppled or damaged, flower beds were trampled, windows smashed, and a Holocaust monument desecrated.

Damage was estimated at between $5,000 and $8,000.

Members of St. Catharines' B'nai Israel Synagogue joined loved ones of those buried in the cemetery for the re-dedication service. Also in attendance were Israeli consul general Jehudi Kinar; Ontario Attorney General Charles Harnick; Monsignor Melvin Schaefer of the St. Catharines diocese; Rabbi Martin Goldberg of Temple Beth El in Niagara Falls, N.Y.; St. Catharines mayor Tim Rigby; as well as local and federal politicians.

A container of washed stones was set out so visitors and family members could place them on the new gravestones as symbols of remembrance.

Local resident Leo Possen, 81, unveiled the refurbished Holocaust monument.

Synagogue president Sam Walters said he found the presence of so many people and faith groups at the service comforting.

"I believe this will give the Jewish people the strength to stand up and say this will never happen again," he said. "It makes us feel we do not stand alone."

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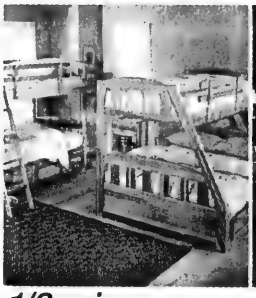

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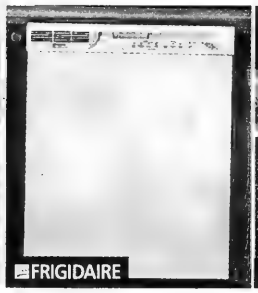

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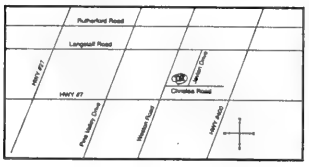

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What's New

By Miriam Herman

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DEADLINE REMINDER

What's New and About People deadlines: Monday, June 22, is deadline for July 2 issue and Monday, June 29, is deadline for July 9. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 391-1839, fax 391-0829.

Friday, June 19

ELDER CARE

Seneca College and York University are hosting an all-day institute, The Changing Dynamics of Elder Care, at York University's Glendon Campus (Bayview and Lawrence). **Norine Cooper** 491-5050, ext. 5228.

Sunday, June 21

YIDDISH FOLK ARTS

Ashkenaz: Roots and Raw Material, A Day of Workshops in the Yiddish Folk Arts for musicians, vocalists, writers, dancers, performers, textile and graphic artists, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., at the Royal Conservatory of Music, 272 Bloor St. W. Register, 703-6892.

SOD-TURNING

Sod-Turning Celebration for the Ernest Manson Lubavitch Centre, attended by government representatives, rabbis and members of the Jewish community, 10:30 a.m., at the Thornhill site on Bathurst Street and Flamingo Road. The centre is in recognition of the late Ernest Manson, who dedicated the two-acre parcel where the facility will stand. Information, **Rabbi Zalman Grossbaum,** 905-731-7000.

JEWS FOR JUDAISM

All-day Counter-Missionary Survival Seminar, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. at Jews for Judaism Centre, 800 Steeles Ave. W. Main Exchange Plaza. $35 registration includes materials and catered lunch. 905-761-0040.

Monday, June 22

SISTERHOOD MEETING

Adath Sholom Sisterhood general meeting with guest author **Nomi Berger** discussing her first non-fiction work, *My Brother Peter*. 7:30 p.m. $2.

Tuesday, June 23

WOMEN'S ROSH CHODESH

Women's Rosh Chodesh Tammuz Celebration at Shaarei Shomayim Congregation, 8 p.m., shiur Miriam: Prophecy in a New Key with **Reena Zeidman**, chair of Jewish studies, Queen's University. Ma'ariv following shiur.

ISRAEL AFTER 50 YEARS

To celebrate Israel's 50th anniversary, New Fraternal Jewish Association presents **Col. Yaen Vered** (retired IDF), speaking on Israel After 50 Years – Can Peace Be Achieved?, plus folk singer **Naomi Bell,** 8 p.m., Lodzer Centre, 12 Heaton St.

SISTERHOOD LUNCH

Shaarei Shomayim Sisterhood lunch, an afternoon of laughter with comedy group **Sam Rosen** and **Norman Winkler**, 12:30 p.m. **Ruth** 905-731-6660.

KABBALAH CENTRE

New Month of Cancer (Tammuz), 8:30 p.m., Kabbalah Learning Centre, 678 Sheppard Ave. W. 631-9395.

RABBI STERN LECTURE

Rabbi Moshe Stern lectures on What Does it Mean to be a Kohen in Contemporary Modern Life? 7:30-8:30 p.m. This concludes the series on Halachah and Topics of Current Interest.

PIANO CONCERT

Pianist **Judith Kenedi Peleg** performs at Leah Posluns Theatre, 8 p.m. Program includes Bach, Beethoven, Schuman, Liszt. Part of funds will go to Mazon Canada.

Wednesday, June 24

TORONTO PRIZE

Establishment of the Toronto Prize for Excellence in Research at Ben-Gurion University to recognize outstanding achievement in science and technology, medicine or the humanities to be announced at the Ambassador Ball at the Sheraton Centre, organized by Toronto

[Cont'd on page 19]

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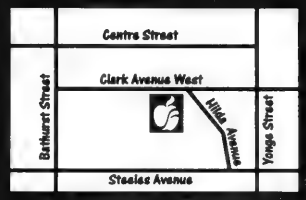

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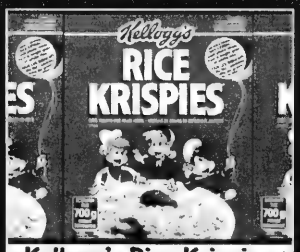

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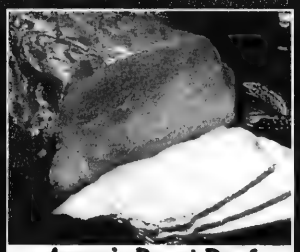

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699

Double Rye Bread
From the Bakery
850 g loaf
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What's New

[Cont'd from page 18]

chapter of the Canadian Associates of Ben-Gurion University. Event also marks Israel's 50th anniversary. **Claire Horowitz**, executive director, Ontario region, 665-8054.

STRESS RELIEF

Baycrest Centre stress relief demonstrations for seniors 55+. Herbal tea preparations, acupuncture, aromatherapy, Tai Chi, 1-3 p.m., Wagman Centre. Guests $2. Register, 785-2500, ext. 2267.

Thursday, June 25

REENA MEETING

Reena Foundation, Batay Reena annual general meeting, 7 p.m., at the Toby and Henry Battle Development Centre, 927 Clark Ave. W. Thornhill. RSVP 905-763-8254, ext. 7052.

JEWS OF SPAIN

Forest Hill Place of Lifestyle Retirement Communities features a talk on the Jews of Spain by **Selma Sage**. Reserve. **Marlene** or **Susan** 785-1511.

And What Else Is New

ONEG SHABBAT

Atid chapter of Toronto Hadassah-WIZO (late 20s to mid 30s) annual Oneg Shabbat, Friday, June 26. Vegetarian potluck dinner. Single women welcome as members. **Shayla** 447-2537.

BLOOD DONOR CLINICS

Bathurst Jewish Centre, 4588 Bathurst St., Monday, June 22, 4:30-8:30 p.m.

Mount Sinai Hospital, 600 University Ave., Thursday, June 25, noon to 4 p.m.

BAYSVILLE SYNAGOGUE

1998 summer season of B'nai Isaac Synagogue begins the weekend of June 26. Saturday morning services 9:45 a.m. For other times and further information, 636-2223 or 705-767-3084.

MOM'S 'N' TOTS CENTRE

Mom's 'n' Tots Fun Centre at Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue for 2 and 3-year-olds, September through June, 9-11:30 a.m. Traditional Jewish learning, singing, arts and crafts, supervised synagogue environment, outdoor playing area. Register. **Elise** 785-6638

VOLUNTEERS WANTED

The Holocaust Education and Memorial Centre of Toronto is in need of volunteer guides/docents for the museum. Training provided. **Rachel**, 635-2883, ext. 301.

STUDENT JOB SEARCH

Human Resource Centres of Canada for Students post employers' vacancies for free, provide qualified candidates and assist students in their summer job search. Call 1-800-935-5555 to locate centre nearest you.

ESL CLASS FOR ADULTS

Toronto District School Board offers free English (ESL) class for adults for residents of Canada. Everyday Conversation (pronunciation, reading, listening , grammar), intermediate level, Monday to Thursday, 3:30-6:30 p.m., Bickford Centre, 777 Bloor St. W., Room 305. Adult ESL Administration Centre, 393-0528.

SINGLES SHOW DATE

Singles 25-50, last chance to see the musical *Rent*. July show date. $25 (group rate). Call **Rhonda** to reserve your spot. 905-731-9441.

FOR SENIORS

Association of Jewish Seniors general meeting, Thursday, June 25, 9:30 a.m., Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue. Everyone welcome. **Goldie** 635-2860.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club: Monday, June 29, 1 p.m., **Stanley Witkin** travelogue on Morocco; July 14, Kingston cruise with entertainment; Aug. 19, cruise and musical *Little Shop of Horrors*; Oct. 27, *Man of La Mancha* at Stratford. **Lena** 785-5773. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel, **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

LZA Seniors Club has seats for *Man of La Mancha* at Stratford Sept. 10. **Libby** 782-2059 or Borochov office 630-9444. Ladies Folkdancing Thursdays 1:30 p.m. Cultural Discussion Group Tuesdays 10 a.m. at Borochov Centre, 272 Codsell Ave. Centre is open Monday to Friday 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). June 25, comedy film *Fishke Bmilium* ; June 30, picnic in Earl Bales Park, 11 a.m.; July 2, lecture by **Shula Ofir**, regional director, Israel Aliyah Centre; July 9, bingo and other games; July 16, Israeli film; July 23, one-day trip to Muskoka, $15, register with **Rivka Kreuzer** 223-0904. For information, **Jerry Bengall** 633-6360 or **Malka Cola** 630-5771.

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: June 28, Sunday dance; June 29, Cullen Gardens, Whitby; July 6, Thornhill Square Mall; July 13-19, Catskills; July 23, Casino Niagara; Aug. 10, shuffle off to Buffalo; Aug. 16, barbecue party and entertainment; Aug. 24-27, Leelanau Casino, Magic of Michigan, $399. 395-7881.

Young at Heart Seniors: Catskill trip at Raleigh Hotel, Aug. 14-23, $1299 (Cdn), double occupancy, all inclusive. Singles price is higher. Hotel subsidizes half of increase in exchange rate. **Helen** 635-6343.

SINGLES EVENTS CAN BE FOUND ON PAGE 22

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. 225-2112.

Osteoporosis Support Group meets Tuesday, June 23, 1:15-2:30 p.m. **Florence Baum,** public health nurse and therapeutic touch practitioner, discusses The Use of Therapeutic Touch for Osteoporosis. Resource person is **Joan Turner**.

Author **Ken Vegotsky** discusses Stress Free Living – The Magical Power of the Mind, Thursday, June 25, 1:15-2:15 p.m.

Israeli Club Etrog meets 7 p.m. Tuesdays for movies, sing-alongs, lectures, bingo, dances. June 23 is a sing-along. **Anna**.

Movie, *In and Out*, Sunday, June 21, 2:30 p.m.

Sunday dance•June 21, 7:30-10:30 p.m.

BATHURST JC

Bathurst Jewish Centre, 4588 Bathurst St. 636-1880.

Stroke Recovery Group's annual banquet Wednesday, June 24, 6-9:30 p.m. at Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue. Tickets on sale, $16 per person at BJC. Ext. 229.

BJC's Centre Camp. Some spaces still available in Centre Fun and speciality camps for July 27-Aug. 21 session. Ext. 378.

Limited Tic Tac Two spaces available for September, Tuesday/Thursday group only. Some full-day daycare spaces available for July-September. Ext. 248.

BLOOR JCC

Bloor Jewish Community Centre, 750 Spadina Ave. 924-6211.

Seniors Club: Thursday, June 25, guided tour of the Elgin and Winter Garden Theatre, leaving Bloor JCC 9 a.m. $2.50. Register at front desk by June 23. **Judy.**

RABBI PACHINO TRIBUTE DINNER

Rabbi Marvin and Judy Pachino enjoying a light moment with Prof. Sydney Eisen (left) at the tribute dinner honoring the rabbi on the occasion of his retirement. Dinner was hosted by Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto (CHAT). [Rebecca Ansel photo]

ROSENBERG MEMORIAL LECTURE

An overflow audience turned out to hear Aviva Gottlieb Zornberg speak on Encountering God in Unplanned Moments at Beth Tzedec Congregation for the Goldberg Family Endowed Annual Memorial Lecture in tribute to the late Rabbi Stuart and Hadassa Rosenberg. Shown above, from left, are Rabbi Baruch Frydman-Kohl, senior rabbi of Beth Tzedec; guest speaker Aviva Gottlieb Zornberg; and Ronni Rosenberg, daughter of Rabbi Stuart and Hadassa Rosenberg. [Mollie Rothman photo]

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From coast to coast

Klatt's computer cut off from Internet access

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Another door being used by Bernard Klatt to get access to the Internet was shut down last week, making it harder for him to host Web sites devoted to extremist causes.

Valley Internet Providers (VIP) terminated Klatt's access to the World Wide Web through its company after inquiries from *The CJN* revealed Klatt's company, Fairview Technology Centre (FTC), was either directing Internet inquiries regarding the extremist Web Sites to other computer hosts or continuing to host the Web sites himself. FTC's access to the Internet – the actual physical connection – came through VIP, which serves clients in the Okanagan Valley area of British Columbia.

Dan Hidlebaugh, operations manager for VIP, said the company picked up FTC's client list after FTC and BC Telecom ended their contractual relationship recently, severing FTC's "pipeline" to the Internet. That left Fairview's clients, many of them senior citizens and members of computer clubs, without access to the World Wide Web, Hidlebaugh said.

VIP agreed to provide them with Internet access while at the same time allowing FTC's computer to remain on its system so that it could forward e-mail from FTC's clients to their new e-mail address at VIP. Hidlebaugh said when VIP took over FTC's clients, its technicians purged FTC's computers of the extremist Web sites. But, he added, "I'm not sure if he's capable of getting in the back door."

A search of the Internet earlier last week revealed that FTCnet continued to host Zundelsite, Stormfront and Freedomsite (Canadian Patriots Network) after BC Tel ceased providing FTC with access to the World Wide Web.

Klatt ended his ties with BC Tel after the telephone company amended its contracts to make those hosting Web sites liable for the sites' content.

Speaking before VIP terminated FTC's Internet access, Sol Littman, Canadian director of the Simon Wiesenthal Centre, called on BC Attorney General Ujjal Dosanjh to review the possibility of prosecuting Klatt.

"In view of the fact he is still operating in the same old way, the FTCnet matter has to be examined again," Littman said.

Dosanjh has said there are insufficient grounds to support a criminal prosecution of Klatt.

In a news release, Littman said he was "especially sorry for the citizens of Oliver who hoped they had heard the last of Klatt and the negative attention his operation brought to the town."

Oliver Mayor Linda Larson agreed the town has received negative publicity, but she blamed Littman for much of it, saying he hurt the community when he called it "the hate capital of Canada."

Klatt, she said, does not represent anyone in Oliver but himself. "Klatt is a quiet guy who keeps to himself. No one knew anything regarding support of these groups.

"It's been very difficult," she continued. "That word 'hate' that Littman used for this community is very powerful and it's hard to get rid of. There's no white supremacist group here. Only a telephone line."

The people of Oliver have steered clear of Klatt once they became aware of what he was doing but "the word hate has left a stigma on the international level," she said.

When a resident told someone in England she was visiting from Oliver, she was told "'oh, that hate place,'" Larson said.

"How do you get rid of that? I'd have to save a pod of whales or a rainforest to get rid of the stigma."

Larson acknowledged the publicity about Klatt has educated the community of 4,200 on the extremist right. Since Klatt became well known, the town has set up a multicultural committee to examine issues related to racism, such as a possible community response to a racist group coming to the area. And on March 21, the community backed a poster project to commemorate the international day against racism, she said.

Two weeks ago, a film crew from Vision TV was in town to film a documentary about the town's relationship with the local Osoyoos Indian band while Rogers Communication recorded a program on the community's multiculturalism festival.

Meanwhile, Justice Minister Anne McLellan has agreed to a request by Dosanjh to expand the review of the country's anti-hate legislation to include suggestions from British Columbia that would toughen the law.

British Columbia proposes to make it a Criminal Code offence to possess hate material if possession was for the purpose of distributing it to promote hatred.

It also proposes

- to update definitions in the law to cover hate spread by computer and to allow the seizure of computer hard drives (memory storage);
- to expand the list of identifiable groups protected from hate propaganda to include such categories as sex and sexual orientation.

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Zukerman named to direct NACO

By PAULA SMITH
Special to The CJN

OTTAWA — Pinchas Zukerman has been appointed music director of the National Arts Centre Orchestra (NACO).

The announcement was made by The National Arts Centre (NAC) at a recent video press conference, via link-up with Zukerman, who was travelling in Europe.

At the press conference, Zukerman talked about plans for the week-long celebration of Israel's 50th anniversary, which will take place at the NAC from Nov. 15 to 19.

The plans include programs for children, and exhibits of Israeli art and artists from the past 50 years. There will also be free noon-hour and evening concerts on the L'Chaim Stage in the foyer of the NAC.

A gala concert fundraiser will be held on Nov. 18 to raise funds for the NACO tour to the Middle East in 2000. Zukerman said the concert will benefit NACO and will also raise funds for a proposed program that will bring Israeli, Palestinian and Canadian youth together to study and play music.

Zukerman said he will spend at least 10 weeks a year in Ottawa.

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ISRAEL AT 50
YOUR DATE WITH HISTORY

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Elijah Antflick	אליהו	Jessica Herschman	שרה	Alisa Minden	אלישבע	Andrew Segal	ישעיה
Lauren Babbin	ליבה	David Himmel	דוד	Allen Morris	אברהם	Aaron Simon	אהרן
Matthew Brown	מנחם	Matan Kezwer	מתן	Michael Pearlstein	משה	Cara Sklar	קשורה
Ariella Fine	אריאלה	Samantha Kimel	שושנה	Jessica Pollack	יפה	Ariel Stern	צבי
Fern Goldstein	פרופה	Adam Lazier	אהרן	Jessica Roher	חנה	Peter Weinstein	פנחס
William Goldstein	זאב	Alexis Levenson	שפרה	Shaun Rotman	ישראל	Noah Zatzman	מנחם מענדל
Lauren Goodman	חיה	Michael Levine	מיכאל	Jason Rotstein	יהושע		

Bayview Campus

Rachel Albert	רחל	Erin Cooperberg	אירית	David Isaacman	דוד	Erin Schachter	אהרונה
Noam Ami	נעם	Michael Cytrynbaum	מנחם	Danielle Katz	דניאל	Laura Siperman	אביבה
Janice Bacher	חנה	Hilary Edelstein	חיה	Nathalie Kogan	טלי	Tatyana Slavny	טיבלה
Jessica Balter	מלכה	Mark Edelstein	משה	Stephanie Krol	ציפורה	Jessica Spritzer	יעל
Laura Bercuson	סוניה	Macey Edson	מריישה	Brandon Marek	אהרן	Jeremy Steele	יעקב
Sherri Berkal	שירה	Samantha Goldman	שושנה	Milton Mednick	חיים	Adam Stein	אדם
Rachel Bernstein	רחל	David Goldstein	דוד	Alissa Mikelberg	אביבה	Elana Steingart	אלנה
Jordana Birnbaum	עדינה	Jonathan Gonsenhauser	יונתן	Jaclyn Pearl	יעקובה	Rachel Wallach	רחל
Lorne Birnbaum	ליזר	Lynne Gordon	מיכל	Jordan Pelc	יצחק	Joel Warsh	יוסף
Brenda Bowman	אלישבע	Ariel Greenberg	אריאל	Shauna Reznick	שיינה	Kaley Willer	שרה
Adam Braun	אברהם	Andrea Greenblatt	טילא	Carly Rogenstein	איטה	Daniel Woolfson	חיים
Tamara Caplan	תמרה	Or Har-Gil	אור	Elana Rosenberg	אילנה	Melissa Zelsman	מרים
Adam Cohen	ראובן						

MOUNT SINAI HOSPITAL

Open Meeting of the Board of Directors of Mount Sinai Hospital

Mon., June 22, 1998
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Mount Sinai Hospital
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Executive Board Room
Main Floor

To confirm attendance or to receive agenda and procedures, contact the Corporate Secretary at (416) 586-5082.

From coast to coast

High school division winners at the National Bible Contest included (second from left) Sharon Weltman, Aliza Kaplan, Carolyn Gehr, Aviyoel Sokol, with contest supervisors Arlazar Eliashiv, Shimshon Hammerman and Yael Seliger.

National Bible contest winners

OTTAWA — Jewish students from across Canada recently gathered here to compete in the 39th Annual Canadian National Bible Contest.

The contest, held at the Hillel Academy and the Agudath Israel Synagogue of Ottawa, drew 178 students from Winnipeg, Calgary, Vancouver, Victoria, Montreal, Toronto and Ottawa.

All contestants, students from grades 5 to OAC, from both day and supplementary Jewish schools were qualifiers from the February Regional Chidon. Students at the national contest competed over a day and a half in one of four groups: an English division for supplementary schools, and three Hebrew divisions for day schools.

Yael Seliger, director of Education Services at the Board of Jewish Education, Toronto, noted the level of excitement of heading into the finals at Agudath Israel. All contestants had participated in two difficult oral rounds, then approximately 40 students moved on to the next level, and finally it was down to three to five students from each of the four divisions.

The three judges presiding over the contest were: Prof. B. Levy, from McGill University; Rabbi J. Unterman, Toronto Board of Jewish Education; and Mr. Y. Elmalech, Torah Education Department of the World Zionist Organization. All agreed that the level of knowledge exhibited by the students was astounding.

"The stakes are always high," said Seliger, "and in the end only the top three students in each division are finally declared the winners, but in truth, all the participating students were winners of the highest caliber motivated by the love of studying Torah."

The winners this year are: Supplementary School Division, Michael Chochinov, Temple Israel, Ottawa; Ethan Orwin, Downtown Jewish Community School, Toronto; and Ilana Lucas, Beth Tikvah Congregational School, Toronto. Day School Division, grades 5 and 6; Saar Warner-Lipton, Associated (Finch), Toronto; Leah Poliszuk, Netivot HaTorah, Toronto; and Shalom Naumann, Eitz Chaim (Patricia), Toronto. Kalah Israel, Etya Barnea, Eitz Chaim (Viewmount), Toronto. Grades 7 and 8; Shoshana Winter, Netivot Hatorah, Toronto; Mark Edelstein, United Synagogue Day School, (Bayview), Toronto; and Jordan Pelc, United Synagogue Day School (Bayview), Toronto. Grades 9 to OAC; Carolyn Gehr, Herzliah (Snowdon), Montreal; Aviyoel Sokol, Yeshivat Or Chaim, Toronto; and Aliza Kaplan, The Gray Academy, Winnipeg; and Sharon Weltman, Ulpanat Orot, Toronto.

שישאר ביננו

גידי קורן וחברים

לוחש הסוסים:

נערה נפצעת ומאבדת חלק מהרגל שלה בתאונת רכיבה מחרידה. סוסה האהוב נפצע גם הוא, ושניהם נשארים נכים בגופם אך בעיקר בנפשם. ואז מתחיל מסע ההחלמה הארוך בעזרתו של לוחש הסוסים, שמביאן לנפשו של הסוס, ודרכו מגיע גם אל הנערה. והו סרט מיוחד במינו שבגיבו והפיק רוברט רדפורד הנצחי והמדהים מכל - המפיק במאי הוא גם השחקן הראשי. לא זכור לי צירוף כזה בעבר! התוצאה הסופית יפה מאוד, ובעיקר לאלה ביניכם שאוהבים רומנטיקה. הסיפור המרגש הזה מלווה בצילומים מדהימים של מונטאנה הפראית. אל תחמיצו. תשע בסולם קורן.

ישראלים עליך פראג- יהורם פירוצקי:

ברשימה קודמת דיווחתי לכם איך הדוד סם כבש את פראג וכיצד החלום האמריקאי הופך להיות מציאות באחת הערים היפות בעולם. אז כדי לא להשאיר את האמריקאים בודדים במערכה, גם אחינו בני ישראל החליטו לא לקפח את העיר היפה. וכך הגיעו תיירים מגדות נהר הירקון אל גדות הוולטאבה. תחילה בבודדים, אחר כך בקבוצות. עד שיום אחד יורשיו של אתא טורק החליטו לחסל את בתי ההימורים בתורכיה וזרם התיירים הפך לשטפון. וכך על גשר קארל אשר נבנה במאה ה- 14 והפך עם השנים להיות אתר תיירות מרכזי, אפשר בלי בעיות לקיים אסיפת בחירות לכנסת ישראל בכל שעה משעות היום. ובשעות הערב, כאשר עומדים דחוסים בלובי מפואר של אולם קונצרטים מקומי, עולה השפה העברית בשתי אוקטבות על אחיותיה הלועזיות. גולת הכותרת של פראג היא מתחם הארמון עליו שומר צבא הרפובליקה עשרים וארבע שעות ביממה. וכל סוף שבוע מתקיים ברחבה שלפני האתר טקס החלפת משמר עבור תיירים וצכים לאומניים. אז כאשר החיילים צועדים בתוך בגדיהם הססגוניים עם רובים מכודנים ועוד אביזרים נוצצים, שמעתי בעברית צחה כמה הצעות ייעול לא רעות. גבר אחד אמר שכדאי לשלוח את חיילי המשמר ובגדיהם הצבעוניים לשמור על מערת המכפלה. לכיבוש הישראלי של פראג אפשר גם להוסיף את בתי המלון הרבים שם דוגלי האימפריות ישראל וארצות הברית לא נפרדים אף פעם מהחזית. וכמובן שולחנות הקלפים, גלגלי המזלות ומכונות ההימורים בקזינו, שמתחילים לאט לאט להבין עברית.

יהודה עמיחי-"פתוח, סגור, פתוח" :

כל ספר חדש של יהודה עמיחי הוא חגיגה לאוהבי שירה, ולמי שכמוני, קורא יהודה עמיחי כבר שלושים וחמש שנה- זה כמעט יום קדוש. עמיחי הולך ומשתבח מספר לספר. בספרו החדש אהבתי במיוחד את הטיולים שלו למקומות משמעותיים בחייו, בהם אהב, נלחם,חלם. וכך הוא כותב על יד מרדכי, בה נלחם במלחמת השחרור:

"בקיבוץ יד מרדכי. המתים שנמלו כאן
עדיין משתכלים מן החלונות כמו ילדים חולים
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למטיילים ולתיירים. חיילים עשויים מפח דק
קמים ונופלים וקמים. מתי פח וחיי פח
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From coast to coast

Minds meet at gathering of media, faith groups

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

OTTAWA — Faith groups should demand more and better coverage from Canadian media. At the same time, the media should pay more attention to, and show greater sensitivity toward, religious groups and issues, a two-day conference heard here last week.

Some 300 delegates to Canada's first-ever Faith and the Media conference, held at Carleton University, debated how the media can and should improve coverage of religion, and what faith groups can do to bring that about.

Delegates from over a dozen religious organizations rubbed shoulders with reporters and editors – from both the religious and the secular press – and public relations practitioners. There was general agreement on the idea that religion is important in most Canadians' lives, but less consensus on what media outlets should be doing to reflect that.

The Jewish community was represented by Rabbi Reuven Bulka of Ottawa, *CJN* editor Mordechai Ben-Dat, and several communal officials.

Topics examined included whether faith groups and the media can work together, how things seem from a religious point of view, and how to cover "hot potato" issues like abortion and homosexuality.

Muslim groups complained about a general media bias against them.

Unresolved was what constituted coverage of religion versus coverage of spiritual and ethical issues.

But for the most part, media representatives were taken to task for under-reporting or ignoring religion, or reporting on it insensitively.

A report by one-time *Globe and Mail* religion writer Barrie Zwicker said, "There's isn't nearly as much faith coverage as there should be," but what there is suffers from too much emphasis on religion and not enough on spirituality.

Canadians are hungry for spirituality, delegates heard, and are far more religious than the media believe. An Angus-Reid poll released at the conference showed that six out of 10 Canadians say religion is an important part of their lives, while another survey showed that 6.2 million Canadians attend religious services every week.

But the poll showed that 65 percent of those who attend a house of worship weekly believe the media do a poor job of covering faith and religion.

To indicate where the media's priorities are, the survey revealed that there are 76 full-time sports reporters at Canada's 19 largest daily newspapers, and just five religion writers.

Several speakers noted an anomaly: Jews received media coverage well out of proportion to their numbers.

Author Lois Sweet revealed the findings of a scan of over 1,300 clippings, and said that even though the results are unscientific, a visitor from outer space would conclude that Canada's largest religious groups are Roman Catholics and Jews.

Canada's 1991 census showed that 45 percent of Canadians were Catholic, while just 1.2 percent were Jewish. Minorities such as Hindus, Buddhists, Muslims and Sikhs, who together comprised 2.8 percent of the population, are often treated as media "oddities," and receive almost no serious coverage, Sweet said.

(There was no discussion of whether the Jewish community welcomed the coverage, or what form it took.)

Other areas explored at the groundbreaking conference included:

• There is "no bigger story" than religion because many issues dividing people are ethical and moral, said Peggy Wehmeyer, religion correspondent for ABC News and the first such reporter for the U.S. networks. Religion becomes part of stories on ethics, gays, racism, immigration and many other issues. But the national media suffer from "religious illiteracy."

• Sweet, author of *God in the Classroom*, conceded that journalists bring their own, sometimes secular, biases to their work. Religion writing in Canada suffers from "benign neglect," and current religion pages in newspapers "are designated for the converted, like the Wheels section."

At the concluding plenary, Sweet said the media should take religion more seriously and "cover it as if it matters," while faith groups should demand better and more accurate reporting, and adopt "non-defensive" attitudes.

• Grounds for complaints from religious groups that the media ignore them are "shaky at best," said Peter Desbarats, former dean of the journalism school at the University of Western Ontario. However, coverage of religion in Canada is "extensive, if not deep." But the media fail to convey how important religion is to Canadians, partly because journalists are "rationalists" and religion represents a "fundamentalist" view. He, too, noted that Jews receive disproportionately high coverage.

• *Globe and Mail* editor William Thorsell was taken to task by faith leaders and delegates for his stand that there's no reason for his paper to cover religion, unless it affects public policy. Thorsell said religion "is just one part of sociology."

• The media should pay attention to religion, "not because it is good or right, but because it is important," said University of Manitoba religion professor John Stackhouse. Religion "weaves its way through everything."

But in the final analysis, if a person finds God, inner peace and harmony, "and if the *Globe, Macleans* or the CBC don't pay attention, who cares?"

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Students explore Holocaust

By WENDY SCHNEIDER
Correspondent

HAMILTON — One of the Hamilton Jewish community's most far-reaching and successful programs is its annual High School Symposium on the Holocaust planned by the Holocaust Education Committee.

This year's event, held recently at McMaster University, attracted approximately 500 students from several high schools in the area.

The keynote speaker was Holocaust survivor, Alicia Appleman-Jurman, who captivated the audience with vivid descriptions of an idyllic childhood in Poland, brutally interrupted by the German occupation.

A natural storyteller, she brought the horrors of the past to life, as she skillfully recounted the series of events that transformed the lives of her family through ghettoization, deportation, sickness and betrayal to their ultimate deaths.

Her account of events after the war was equally compelling, as she described the long journey by ship to Palestine, the hope in the hearts of her fellow passengers as they caught their first glimpse of Haifa, and the brutal treatment they received at the hand of the British soldiers who boarded their ship and threw many of the passengers overboard.

Appleman-Jurman told the audience she feels compelled to bear witness to the experiences of a million and a half children who never lived to tell their own stories and to attack the myth that they went like sheep to slaughter. She further communicated that message in her description of numerous acts of heroism and self-sacrifice carried out by her contemporaries.

Following the keynote address, students were divided into small groups, where they heard further testimony from local survivors.

Among the speakers was Ed Carter-Edwards, a Smithville resident who was one of 168 Allied airmen shot down in enemy territory during the war and sent to Buchenwald for three months. Their story is the subject of a National Film Board documentary, *The Lucky Ones*.

TOWARD 2001

Meeting the Needs of the New Century

Annual Report

UJA Federation of Greater Toronto

TOWARD 2001

Meeting the Needs of the New Century

An Optimistic Steiner Looks Ahead

As UJA Federation president Joseph Steiner begins his second term, Adi Neuberger talked to him about the challenges ahead.

What were some of the most important issues facing the Jewish community this past year?

Internal unity was our primary concern after the fallout from the proposed conversion legislation in Israel last fall hit home. From the start UJA Federation acted as a unifying force by facilitating dialogue between interested parties and through the dissemination of factual information to the community.

Other ongoing projects such as building a new Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto and the growth of UJA Federation's $150 million Legacy Campaign also warranted a great deal of our attention this past year.

Speaking of the Legacy Campaign...how's that shaping up one year after its launch?

The endowment side of Legacy is doing extremely well. Thanks to the efforts of some of UJA Federation's most supportive donors, as well as other communal leaders, Legacy has raised over $60 million in endowments, most of which are already paid in full. There is still work to be done to boost Legacy's capital fund raising so that we can strengthen existing communal facilities, and build new ones, especially in York Region, where one third of our Jewish population lives. The economy is doing well and as a result so are many of our community members. Now is the time for all of us to consider investing in the future.

As we approach the second year of your term as President, what issues are emerging that are taking top priority at UJA Federation?

We will be focusing more energy and resources on expanding Jewish education, especially supplementary and informal Jewish education. Our day school system is one of the strongest and most sophisticated in the world, but there are still many children who are not benefiting from it.

Providing more services and programs for Jews living in York region is also a big priority for UJA Federation in the coming years. We've already come a long way through the opening of our first York Region satellite office but there's so much more we need to do to make those living north of Steeles feel like they are part of the community.

How do you see the role of UJA Federation evolving as we embark on the millennium?

I believe the community is increasingly recognizing the central role of UJA Federation in its ability to assess the needs of the community and to plan for fulfilling those needs. UJA Federation is able to look at the overall picture like no other communal organization can.

Why was celebrating Israel's 50th so important for UJA Federation and the entire community?

No other single organization has the combined manpower, skills and resources to organize the entire community for such an elaborate, inclusive celebration. Everyone came together under the auspices of UJA Federation and the Consulate of Israel because, although our community is undergoing many changes, the centrality of Israel remains constant. Since UJA Federation was created, one of its main purposes is to provide meaningful ties between Jews in the Diaspora and the people of Israel. It's a vital link that strengthens our eternal bond with our homeland.

How does your experience as President measure up to your previous expectations of what

Most of my prior community involvement focused on Jewish education so until the last few years I had very little exposure to the broader community. From where I sit now I have a much bigger picture of our community and the myriad activities that are providing the Jewish connection to thousands on a daily basis. We have a tremendous network of programs and services and thousands of volunteers. We have a strong foundation that allows us to go forward into the future with pride, confidence and vision.

TOWARD 2001 Meeting the Needs of the New Century

UJA Federation Campaign For Fifty Vice-Chair, Glennie Lindenberg

UJA Federation's Campaign For Fifty

UJA Federation's most ambitious annual campaign will go a long way toward helping Jewish Toronto's central organization meet the needs of a growing community, says Campaign Vice-Chair Glennie Lindenberg.

Lindenberg recently previewed the upcoming **Campaign for Fifty** — a dramatic departure from past campaigns — to more than 200 community members at UJA Federation's Annual General Meeting. The objective is to raise $50 million annually by 2001. That's $13.5 million more than the amount raised in last year's campaign. In order to achieve what campaign leaders call "a bold beginning for a new Jewish century," UJA Federation will be asking donors to pledge for 3 years, based on a 25% increase with additional gifts going toward new initiatives in three areas: strengthening Jewish identity, protecting the vulnerable and furthering Jewish rescue.

"The focus of our message," said Lindenberg, "will be to stress the life-giving work of UJA Federation and to encourage all of our UJA Federation leadership to speak proudly and boldly about the primacy of UJA Federation in our community."

One hundred and twenty campaign division chairs and vice-chairs will lead UJA Federation's efforts to contact more than 27,000 supporters. Lindenberg is urging contributors to return to their highest gift ever, which for many, was during the 1989 campaign.

"Our campaign has not significantly grown in the past ten years — although as you know, our community has grown tremendously in that period — while government funding to our agencies has been cut," explained Lindenberg. "Campaign leadership has taken our goal of $50 million very seriously and we are determined to produce outstanding results."

The **Campaign for Fifty** is being chaired by Brent Belzberg and Larry Tanenbaum. Judy Engel heads the Women's Campaign and Abe Glowinsky, Glennie Lindenberg and Howard Price are Campaign Vice-Chairs.

Shem Tov award winner Thelma Herman (far left) brought her two grandsons Mathew (not in the photo) and Darren (second from left), daughter Susan Abenstein and friend Rina Lio to the Annual Meeting. Other Shem Tov award winners were Michael Kerbel, Brahm Seitz, George Weinberger, Steven Weinrieb, Jack Zarek and Elaine Zimmerman.

Past UJA Federation President Sandra Brown.

TOWARD 2001

Legacy Planned Giving Chair, Leslie Gales

Legacy Leaps Beyond $60 Million

UJA Federation's $150 million Legacy endowment and capital campaign is off to "a great start," according to Leslie Gales, Chair of Planned Giving for Legacy.

"It's been an absolutely marvelous beginning," Gales told UJA Federation's Annual General Meeting last week. "The response has been tremendous."

Since Legacy started, more than $60 million has been raised - funds which will be used to secure the future of Toronto's Jewish community through the strengthening of communal infrastructure, programs and services. Over $4 million in Legacy donations, will, for example, be directed toward the construction of a new building for the Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto.

Gales and others leading the unprecedented community fund raising effort are attributing the campaign's success to an improved economic climate, new tax incentives applying to charitable donations of stock and other assets and Legacy's diverse range of gift giving opportunities.

Michael Kerbel with his wife Rachel, son Mark and his wife Sabrina.

Stephanie Olin browses through the UJA Federation Annual Meeting agenda.

TOWARD 2001

Meeting the Needs of the New Century

TOWARD 2001

1997/98 INCOME

Annual Campaign Gross	**$35,500,000**
Less:	
Provision of doubtful pledges	(2,233,000)
Annual Campaign	(3,201,000)
Credit Card Commissions	(190,000)
Net from Annual Campaign Available for Allocation	**$29,876,000**

1997-98 ALLOCATIONS

Overseas Allocation Available from Annual Campaign **$13,695,000**

Israel and International
- Jewish Agency for Israel
- American Joint Distribution Committee

Domestic Allocation Available from Annual Campaign **$16,181,000**

Domestic Allocations

NATIONAL

Campus Agencies	
Campus Services - Model	$43,392
Campus Services - Grant	57,565
Canadian Jewish Congress	1,292,931
National Unity (CJC)	13,083
Immigrant Services	
JIAS Administration	525,463
Immigrant Relief	481,060
Jewish Telegraphic Agency	10,903
Travel Fund	20,715
Continuity	11,775
TOTAL	**$2,456,887**

INTEGRATION

Bernard Betel Centre	$13,833
Jewish Vocational Services	48,005
Bathurst Jewish Centre	158,536
Schools	
Associated	66,124
CHAT	6,095
Orah	19,892
Furniture Bank	12,758
FSU Students	200,000
TOTAL	**$525,243**

HUMAN SERVICES

Bernard Betel Centre	$75,916
Jewish Vocational Services	421,350
Jewish Family & Child Service	1,528,756
Bathurst Jewish Centre	200,532
Bloor Jewish Community Centre	22,700
Jewish Information Service	94,494
Toronto Jewish Free Loan Cassa	56,667
Senior Care	29,222
Reena	50,345
TOTAL	**$2,479,982**

CONTINUITY AND CULTURE

Action Committee for Jewish Continuity	$300,000
Bathurst Jewish Centre	162,428
Bloor JCC	55,545
Ontario Jewish Archives	17,560
Oskar Schmidt Museum	13,195
Holocaust Centre	49,516
Committee for Yiddish	9,482
Jewish Campus Services	401,514
Jewish Camp Council	42,581
Jewish Family & Child Service-Camp	56,464
Bathurst Jewish Centre-Camp	45,160
BBYO	35,154
TOTAL	**$1,188,599**

JEWISH EDUCATION

Board of Jewish Education	$844,718
JESNA	4,830
Elementary Schools	4,656,843
Associated Hebrew School	
Bialik Hebrew School	
Eitz Chaim	
Leo Baeck Day School	
Netivot Hatorah Day School	
Or Haiemet Sephardic Day School	
Sheiarim Hebrew Day School	
United Synagogue Day School	
High Schools	1,939,246
Beth Jacob	
Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto	
Ner Israel Yeshiva	
Or Chaim	
Ulpanat Orot	
Supplementary Schools	21,831
Midrasha LiMorim	42,988
Orah School	25,751
TOTAL	**$7,536,207**

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From coast to coast

Resignations reduce rabbinical ranks in Winnipeg

By MYRON LOVE
Prairie Correspondent

WINNIPEG — The Jewish community's rabbinical and cantorial ranks have been significantly reduced this spring, as four rabbis and two prominent cantors have left.

Of those leaving, Toronto readers will probably be most familiar with Rosh Pina Congregation's Cantor Hesh Mayersdorf. Originally from New York, Cantor Mayersdorf was a chazzan for 14 years in Toronto before coming to the Rosh Pina two years ago. His departure comes about as a result of financial problems plaguing Winnipeg's second largest synagogue and the cantor's unhappiness here.

"We encountered some wonderful people in Winnipeg," says Cantor Mayersdorf, "but, sadly, we found that the Jewish institutions here are more concerned about politics than mentshlechkeit."

Instead of being appreciated for his talents, Mayersdorf says, he kept hearing people wondering why he was here.

"I found the community is fixated on doing things a certain way and were not open to change," he says. "The [Asper Jewish Community] Campus is a wonderful thing, and I hope it gives the community a shot in the arm, but to grow, Yiddishkeit needs more than a new community centre.

"I tried to do the best I could musically and instil some Yiddishkeit."

The synagogue hardest hit by change has been Temple Shalom, Winnipeg's only Reform congregation. Richard Yaffe, Temple Shalom's longtime cantor and choir director, left his position at the end of February, citing unhappiness with the "process surrounding discussions" of a new two-year contract. Cantor Yaffe had been associated with Temple Shalom for 23 years of the congregation's 28-year existence. In that time, he has signed numerous two-year contracts without any difficulty.

"Other issues arose that weren't part of any discussions," he says.

"Assumptions were made that I would object to certain things, but I was never asked. My role as cantor and choir director had evolved considerably over the years. The music component of services at Temple Shalom also changed over the years to reflect the preference of rabbis, boards and members as well as current trends in temple music. In the past, this was accomplished through dialogue. I wish I had been given the opportunity to participate in constructive dialogue with the present board, in order to understand its vision of music at Temple Shalom."

A lawyer by profession and a native Winnipegger, Cantor Yaffe has no plans to leave the city. He says he would like to continue to work as a chazzan and choir director. He is also thinking about forming a Jewish community choir and reports that he has had several encouraging calls from people who have sung under his direction.

The synagogue is also losing its spiritual leader of the last 10 years. Rabbi Jeffrey Gale is leaving to take a position with a much larger synagogue in Wantegh, N.Y., 35 miles from Manhattan.

"After 10 years, I felt it was time to move on," he says.

Looking back over his accomplishments in Winnipeg, he points to the growth of Temple Shalom's school under his guidance and the greater acceptance of Reform Judaism and Reform philosophy in Winnipeg's Jewish community, as he sees it. As examples, he cites the Board of Jewish Education's pluralistic attitude, his appointment as a teacher at Joseph Wolinsky Collegiate and the acceptance of egalitarianism in the city's Conservative synagogues.

He is disappointed, however, that his own congregation – which numbers about 100 families – has grown little during his tenure, and also about the departure of Cantor Yaffe. But he emphasizes that the fact that they are both severing ties with the shul is coincidental.

The most recent rabbi to announce his departure is Rabbi Yacov Benamou, the rabbi of the Herzlia Adas-Yeshurun Synagogue, south Winnipeg's only Orthodox congregation. The Morrocan-born Rabbi Benamou has been at the Herzlia for three years. He is leaving to become principal of a Sephardi day school in Chicago.

'Time to move on'

As a result of Rabbi Benamou's departure, the city's only Orthodox rabbi will be the Lubavitch Rabbi Avraham Altein of the Ashkenazi Shul in North Winnipeg. (There are three other small Orthodox synagogues in North Winnipeg in addition to a Chabad House where Rabbi Altein also presides, but none of the three can afford a full-time rabbi.)

In the south end, the board of the Shaarey Zedek Synagogue, the city's largest congregation, decided not to renew the contract of Rabbi Deborah Schloss, who was the number 2 rabbi after Rabbi Allan Meyerowitz.

Rabbi Schloss has been hired by the Beth Yeshurun Congregation in Houston, Tex., a city with a Jewish population of about 50,000. The 2,300-family synagogue is one of the largest in North America, Rabbi Schloss says. There are two other rabbis on staff. Rabbi Schloss takes up her new position on Aug. 1.

Finally, Rabbi Yossi Rivlin, the Board of Jewish Education's director of Judaic Studies, has had one of the shorter tenures in Winnipeg. By mutual agreement, he is returning to New York at the end of the school year after just one year here. Although he was successful in creating a western Canadian association of Jewish schools, there has been dissatisfaction on both sides during his stay.

April 9, 1998

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Vancouver Jewish day school may close

By PETER CAULFIELD
Pacific Correspondent

VANCOUVER — The Vancouver Hebrew Academy elementary school will close its doors at the end of this academic year if it is unable to find enough money to cover an operating deficit of $350,000.

Parents with children at the only Orthodox elementary day school in the Lower Mainland reacted to the news by calling an emergency meeting at Schara Tzedeck synagogue.

A steering committee of 10 parents was formed to address "a very complex and sensitive" situation.

According to one parent, the steering committee will remain in existence until a board of directors is established. (The school has not had a board for two years.)

The parent said the steering committee is also preparing a financial plan, and is actively looking for funds.

"We have already managed to raise some money," she noted.

Hebrew Academy principal Shayndel Feuerstein said she would not hesitate to work with a board "as long as it is supportive of the school's mission statement, and it is prepared to work within the framework of the school and not against it."

Vancouver Hebrew Academy, which was established 11 years ago, has approximately 135 students from preschool to Grade seven.

The school is located in rented space in the Lubavitch Centre, adjacent to the Jewish Community Centre of Greater Vancouver in Oakridge.

Dr. Sally Rogow, professor emeritus of the faculty of education at the University of British Columbia, who has two grandchildren attending the school said, "Hebrew Academy is a very happy school. There is a nice atmosphere you immediately feel when you walk through the doors."

Rogow, who has been a volunteer tutor and story-teller at Hebrew Academy said, "Vancouver Hebrew Academy is a child-centred school with high standards of education, individualized programs of instruction, and a teaching staff that is exceptional.

"Many of the children who attend Vancouver Hebrew Academy come from very large families, and not all of them are able to pay the school's full tuition. Because there is a policy not to turn away any child for lack of money, the school has to make up the difference."

Solly Kaplinski, principal of Vancouver Talmud Torah, the largest Jewish elementary day school in the Lower Mainland, said his school would endeavor to accommodate as many of Hebrew Academy's students as it could "if their school should close. I certainly hope, however, that Hebrew Academy doesn't cease operation.

"Jewish parents should have the option to send their children to a school with the curriculum and the atmosphere they want."

Rogow says she hopes that money will be found in time and that the school survives.

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Negotiations with Swiss reach 'critical' stage

By DANIEL KURTZMAN
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

WASHINGTON — As negotiations to settle Holocaust-era claims against Switzerland reach a critical stage, there is no clear indication that efforts to reach an agreement will succeed.

Despite an unofficial June 30 deadline, a key player in the negotiations said there was unlikely to be any agreement soon.

At the same time, the negotiator, Michael Hausfeld, a lawyer representing Holocaust victims, cautioned against both "false hopes" and "undue pessimism."

It is against this backdrop that conflicting reports have emerged about whether Switzerland's three largest private banks have made a firm offer to Jewish negotiators.

One source familiar with the negotiations said the Swiss banks – Union Bank of Switzerland, Credit Suisse and Swiss Bank Corp. – offered a settlement totaling more than $1 billion (US) to resolve claims brought by Holocaust survivors who charge that the banks failed to return their assets after World War II.

The banks denied that an offer had been put forward, as did a reliable source, who characterized the negotiations as "tenuous." Another source said a "chasm" of differences remained between the two sides.

The World Jewish Congress (WJC), lawyers representing Holocaust victims and the Swiss banks have been holding settlement talks in recent weeks under the aegis of the U.S. State Department. The negotiations are being held under rules of strict confidentiality.

A key sticking point in the talks involves the question of what exactly an agreement with the banks would cover.

The WJC, which has spearheaded international efforts to pressure Switzerland to confront its wartime past, has been pushing Switzerland to reach a global settlement that would resolve all claims stemming from Swiss actions during World War II.

Such a settlement would presumably address the claims being pursued in a multi-billion class-action suit brought by Holocaust survivors.

The banks, however, have so far refused to negotiate any claims not directly related to the banks themselves. And the Swiss government, together with its central bank, the Swiss National Bank, has ruled out using taxpayers' money to pay into any settlement.

"Switzerland will not participate in such settlements," Swiss President Flavio Cotti said last week.

In a move that could increase pressure on the Swiss government to reach a settlement, lawyers representing Holocaust victims are planning to sue the Swiss National Bank for its role in accepting the vast majority of gold looted by the Nazis, including gold stolen directly from Holocaust victims.

The suit was postponed earlier this month amid attempts to first reach a settlement with the private banks.

A spokesperson for the Swiss National Bank, Werner Abegg, said, "We believe that there are no grounds for class action suits against us, and we will use every legal option to defend ourselves from such unjustified claims."

One source said the difference between what some Jewish negotiators are seeking and what the banks are willing to negotiate has further complicated matters.

There are some who feel that if the Swiss National Bank doesn't join in with the other banks in a global resolution, "they don't want any resolution," the source said.

Another source said, however, that such an assessment is "flat-out wrong."

The reported settlement offer from the banks was said to have come just days before the New York State Banking Department decided to approve a merger between Union Bank of Switzerland and Swiss Bank Corp. The U.S. Federal Reserve gave final approval to the deal, which will form the world's third largest bank.

The WJC made no objection to the move, which some took as a sign that progress had been made with Swiss banks toward reaching a settlement of Holocaust-era claims.

On a related front, lawyers involved in the negotiations met this week with an advisory group of Jewish organizations to consult them about the current status of the negotiations.

Like the participants in the settlement talks, those who took part in the advisory group signed strict confidentiality agreements and declined to discuss the meeting.

The June 30 date was set by U.S. public finance officers, who want a progress report on the negotiations to avert the threat of sanctions against the banks.

PM rules out early election, unity gov't

By MICHAL YUDELMAN
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said last week he has no intention of holding early elections or forming a national unity government.

Netanyahu, expressing confidence that neither the Right nor the Left will cause his government to fall, said that once he reaches a pullback agreement he will persuade all coalition partners, ministers and the public to support it.

"I'm not dealing with coalition considerations at all. I see no reason to hold early elections, I believe this government will survive, and I'm not going to [form] a national unity government," he said.

But opposition leader Ehud Barak, who met Netanyahu for an hour-long briefing last week, said he emerged "at a loss" as to whether a second pullback is in the offing at all.

"It's my impression the prime minister is more concerned with the possibility of losing his seat than with the fate of the peace process," Barak said.

Netanyahu said the second pullback agreement will be the last agreement Israel signs before the final status talks and constitutes the last of its commitments to the Palestinians according to the Oslo accords.

Contrary to prior statements issued by his bureau, Netanyahu said he did not rule out a referendum on the second pullback and was considering it as one of the ways to muster wide public support.

Netanyahu said he did not ask Labor to join a national unity government at his meeting with Barak, noting they did not discuss political issues. He said he had updated Barak on the peace process, just as he updates ministers.

Barak warned that "the more time that passes until the pullback agreement, the more damage it is causing us and Israel's security. Obviously, the obstacles to the peace process are only in the coalition and the right-wing extremists."

Barak said a national unity government is not on the agenda, "because the issue is not the government's composition but its way, and this one is heading for disaster. I will not be part of it."

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Amir's friend convicted of failing to prevent shooting

By ELLI WOHLGELERNTER
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Margalit Har-Shefi, a friend of Yitzhak Rabin's assassin Yigal Amir, faces up to two years in prison after she was convicted Sunday of failing to prevent a felony.

Tel Aviv Magistrate's Court Judge Nira Lidski acquitted Har-Shefi of a second charge of helping Amir obtain the means to commit a crime. Sentencing has been set for September 15.

"Only one conclusion can be made from all the evidence, and that is that the defendant knew Yigal Amir was planning to commit a crime, that is to say to murder the prime minister," Lidski said, reading from her 110-page decision.

"She took him seriously, not as a liar indulging in fantasies," she said.

Lidski said there were contradictions in Har-Shefi's testimony, and that it was clear that she was aware of the intention of Amir, a law school classmate at Bar-Ilan University.

Har-Shefi's lawyer, her uncle Yossi Elon, said an appeal is planned.

Elon's brother, MK Benny Elon, defended his niece, saying that "the General Security Service (GSS), whose job it is, did not prevent the murder; the special agent [Avishai Raviv], whom the GSS used to try to prevent the murder, did not prevent it; but this young lady is the one who is meant to have prevented it?"

Leah Rabin called the conviction "one very small ray of light in the very dark world in which we have lived ever since that murder. We expected that she would be convicted, because obviously she was a conspirator and she knew all about his intentions, so she certainly was one part of the machine that was planning this.

Margalit Har-Shefi

"Whether she was the only one I don't know, but all the evidence has proved that she was definitely a part and definitely collaborated and helped him with it," Rabin told Reuters.

Lidski said Amir told Har-Shefi about two occasions in which he set out to kill Rabin but failed, and dismissed Har-Shefi's main line of defense – that Amir appeared to her to be all talk and no action.

The first occasion was on January 22, 1995, when Amir, Har-Shefi, and other activists went to Yad Vashem, where Rabin was supposed to take part in the dedication of a cattle car used by the Nazis. Amir brought his pistol with him and planned to shoot the prime minister, who cancelled the visit due to the Beit Lid bombing that day. Amir told Har-Shefi of his plans on the way home.

Amir then planned to shoot Rabin on September 11, 1995, when he took part in the Kfar Shmaryahu interchange dedication. But by the time Amir arrived, the ceremony was over and Rabin had left. He then told Har-Shefi of his failed attempt, according to evidence presented at the trial.

Har-Shefi showed no emotion as the verdict was read. She sat sketching on a pad, rarely looking up. She refused to answer questions from reporters.

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Reform seeks prayer area at Kotel

By HAIM SHAPIRO
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — A group of Reform Jews, who are demanding the right to pray at the Western Wall, were able to come about 100 metres closer on Sunday than they had the week before, but not without another wave of Orthodox criticism.

Ashkenazi Chief Rabbi Yisrael Lau said he was happy the occasion had passed peacefully, but he described the mixed-sex prayer service as nothing more than a demonstration, and said that he hoped in the future everyone would respect the sanctity of the Wall.

Deputy Religious Affairs Minister Arye Gamliel called the event a Reform "provocation" and said that in response the ministry would not participate in a meeting at the Wall scheduled for Monday with the Ne'eman Committee, to consider the allocation of an area for non-Orthodox prayer.

One week earlier when the group of 170 leaders of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations (UAHC) went to pray at the Wall, they were allocated a site next to the southern exit of the Western Wall Plaza, behind a maze of police barriers and several rows of parked cars. On Sunday, the police allowed them to pray closer to the Wall itself, with no parked cars and only a single line of police barriers.

Rabbi Eric Yoffie, president of the UAHC, said following the service that he has nothing but praise for the police and is grateful for what he termed the "slight progress." He said a portion of the Western Wall should be set aside for egalitarian prayer, with men and women praying together.

"All this should not be necessary. The Western Wall is very long. They should set aside one section for egalitarian prayer and another for those who want Orthodox prayer," Yoffie said.

The prayer itself, led by Rabbi Lynn Landsberg of Washington, D.C., to the accompaniment of a guitar, was uneventful, although a small group of haredi youths clustered nearby and passers-by occasionally made derogatory comments.

In another reaction, Betsy Cohen Kallus, a leader of the Women of the Wall, said following the service, that the fact the police could protect the Reform group showed that it could also protect her group if it wanted to. The Women of the Wall, which includes women of all religious streams, holds regular prayers together in the women's section of the Wall, but the police do not allow them to read from the Torah, in order not to anger some haredi worshippers.

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The Week in Israel

June 8

• Nearly 200 lay and rabbinic leaders from the North American Reform movement held a peaceful gathering at the Western Wall. Rabbi Eric Yoffie, president of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, urged the government to prevent passage of any conversion legislation.

June 9

• Media reported that Israel and Lebanon were close to an agreement under which the body of Itamar Ilya, a naval commando killed in a failed operation last September, would be exchanged for several Lebanese prisoners in Israel as well as the bodies of Hamas fighters held by Israel.

June 10

• Pakistan promised Israeli officials that it would not transfer any nuclear technology to Iran, according to *Yediot Achronot*. The paper said there had been secret contacts between the two countries.

June 11

• Agriculture and Environment Minister, Raphael Eitan called on Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to hold early elections.

June 12

• Demographic figures relating to Jerusalem revealed that its Arab population is growing four times faster than the Jewish population and is expected to reach 45 percent of the population in 20 years, up from the present 30 percent. At the end of 1996, Jerusalem's population was 602,100 of whom 421,000 were Jews and 180,900 were Arabs.

Statistics also showed Jerusalem remains the poorest large city in Israel outside Bnei Brak.

50 Years Ago

ON THE FRONT, ***June 6*** **–** Jewish fighting unity has at long last reached a harmonious operation. Hundreds of new recruits – Haganah, Irgun and Stern Group commandos – reported to a former British military camp near the front line in the Ras el Bin sector. All of the soldiers are now under a unified command within Israel's Defence Army. This is the first Jewish Army in centuries.

With files from JTA

Canada donates to peace projects

RAMALLAH — Canada is contributing nearly $600,000 toward several peace initiatives in the Middle East, announced International Co-operation Minister Diane Marleau during a three-day visit to Israel, the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

"Peace is everyone's responsibility, and this includes the active involvement of Israeli and Palestinian communities," said Marleau. "We want to support local initiatives that bring many people together to resolve conflicts, address common problems and build the regional economy."

In addition to announcing the new funding, Marleau witnessed the signing of a joint agreement between Canada and Israel to build a rehabilitation centre for land-mine victims.

The Canada-Israel Regional Rehabilitation Centre, to be built in Africa, will aid land-mine victims financially, socially and medically. The two countries announced the project last year as a way of marking Israel's 50th anniversary.

Among Marleau's ports of call was the peace village of Neve Shalom. The village, which was founded in 1972 by Jews and Arabs of Israeli citizenship, has already received a $25,000 grant from the Canadian Fund for Dialogue and Development, which enabled it to launch several programs to promote understanding and cooperation between Jews and Arabs, especially youth.

Neve Shalom

Recipients of Canadian funding will be:

• The Tel Aviv-based Peres Centre for Peace will receive $72,000 to establish Peace Informatech, an information technology training facility. It will train Palestinian and Israeli students, and provide employment and joint venture opportunities in the private sector.

• The Wi'iam Conflict Resolution Initiative, which promotes dialogue, and supports traditional Arab conflict resolution methods, will receive $200,000. The facility will train volunteers in conflict resolution and address women's issues.

• A further $210,000 will go toward the People's Peace Process, which brings together a wide range of grassroots Israeli and Palestinian groups committed to the peace process. A delegation is expected to visit Canada to advise Canadians on how to support the peace process.

• And $100,000 will go to the Middle East Security and Arms Control Project, which brings together influential regional experts in arms control and regional security. The University of Toronto will lead the project.

All the money comes from the Peacebuilding Fund, which is managed by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA). It is separate from the $55 million CIDA earmarked in 1994 for the improvement of Palestinians' lives in the autonomous areas.

The Peacebuilding Fund was launched in 1996 as a joint venture between CIDA and the Foreign Affairs department, and has a $20 million endowment over two years.

Marleau also visited the Development Study Centre (DSC) in Rehovot, which will serve as Canada's partner for training and research in the joint land mine project.

Following the signing, she told a group of international students that Queen's University in Kingston will be working with the DSC on the joint land mine effort.

Marleau did not meet any Israeli cabinet ministers but did hold talks with senior Palestinian Authority (PA) officials, including Faisal Husseini.

Husseini said Ottawa should consider suspending trade with Israel and apply economic sanctions in order to pressure Israel on the peace process.

Marleau also visited several CIDA-funded projects in the territories, including the Rafah refugee camp, where, according to media reports, she appeared visibly moved by the squalor. "It's a pity that more Canadians cannot see what I have today," she was quoted as saying.

Accompanying Marleau were two opposition MPs, Gurmant Grewal (Reform) and Louise Hardy (NDP).

With reporting by Ron Csillag in Toronto and Edgar Asher in Jerusalem.

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Israel's ultimate survivor

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

Two years after assuming office as Israel's youngest prime minister, Benjamin Netanyahu has emerged as the ultimate survivor. Like a cat with nine lives, Netanyahu has survived a series of crises that might have felled a lesser politician.

Mideast Analysis

Even before he was sworn in on June 18, 1996, he deftly manoeuvred his way out of a crisis over the selection of senior cabinet ministers. Before he could catch his breath, rumors swept the country that Israel and Syria were on the cusp of a war. And following the opening of an archeological tunnel exit in eastern Jerusalem, Netanyahu was faced by an unprecedented eruption of Palestinian violence in the territories.

In March 1997, the Palestinians broke off talks with Israel after Netanyahu announced his intention to build Har Choma, a massive housing project in disputed territory in Jerusalem. As a result, Israel's relations with Egypt, Jordan, Morocco, Tunisia and Oman deteriorated. A month later, the Bar-On influence-peddling scandal rocked his government to its foundations.

In September, a botched assassination attempt by the Mossad on the life of Hamas official Khaled Meshal in Amman backfired – bringing Israel's relations with Jordan to the breaking point and prompting Canada to recall its ambassador in Tel Aviv.

In November, Netanyahu's close aide, Avigdor Lieberman, stepped down to defuse a revolt within Likud ranks over plans to abolish party primaries.

At the beginning of 1998, David Levy, the foreign minister, resigned, the third minister since Benny Begin and Dan Meridor to do so, leaving Netanyahu with a razor-thin majority in the Knesset.

And in May, with Netanyahu having rejected as unacceptable Washington's proposal for a 13 percent redeployment from the West Bank, Israel's pivotal relationship with the United States, its only real ally, came under severe strain.

Given his record so far, one might have expected Netanyahu to fare poorly in public opinion polls. For a long while, in fact, he trailed far behind Ehud Barak, the leader of the Labor party. But in the past few months, he has overtaken his arch rival, who is increasingly viewed as ineffectual and vague in his policy pronouncements, and now Netanyahu reportedly has a five to six percent advantage over Barak.

By any yardstick, it is an amazing comeback, particularly in light of Netanyahu's demonization at the hands of the Hebrew press and the widespread perception that, in the words of a British magazine, he is a "serial blunderer."

Despite his current popularity in surveys, Netanyahu has failed to deliver on his election campaign promise of giving Israelis "peace with security."

Peace talks with the Palestinian Authority are in a deep freeze, and negotiations with Syria, severed in early 1996, have not been resumed. Last year, Israel was hit by three suicide bombings that claimed the lives of two dozen civilians. According to the General Security Service, there was a marked increase in the number of terrorist attacks in 1997 as compared to 1996.

Meanwhile, the level of mutual trust between Netanyahu and Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat has sunk so low that they have not met in months. Both remain dependent on American diplomacy to push the peace process, or what is left of it, forward.

The Hebron redeployment in January 1997 remains Netanyahu's sole tangible achievement in peacemaking, but speculation abounds that he may finally be prepared to accept Washington's ideas for a double-digit withdrawal from the West Bank in exchange for concrete Palestinian concessions.

After two years in power, Netanyahu, for whom political survival is paramount, still wavers between two opposing poles: a Zionist Revisionist commitment to the Land of Israel and a pragmatic impulse for compromise. Since he has not established a clear political identity, few Israelis, including most of his cabinet colleagues, lack any notion where he is heading.

Israel seeks proof of Iranian killing

By NAOMI SEGAL
Jewish Telegrahpic Agency

JERUSALEM — Israel is seeking clarification regarding reports that Iran executed a Jewish community leader in Tehran.

Deputy Defence Minister Silvan Shalom, answering questions in the Knesset last week, said Israel had appealed to the Red Cross, the United Nations and other international organizations to verify what happened, and what has happened to other Jews who have been arrested in Iran.

Shalom's remarks followed recent reports that a 60-year-old activist in the Jewish community in Tehran had been hung, reportedly because of his ties with Israel and his efforts to help Iranian Jews emigrate.

According to the reports, the man had disappeared a month ago. Two weeks ago, Iranian authorities reportedly informed the family that he had been executed without explaining why.

The man's brother was quoted as saying that he had been killed because of his activism in the Jewish community. According to reports, some 13 Jews have been executed in Iran since the Islamic revolution in 1979. Over 10,000 Jews are estimated to live in Iran.

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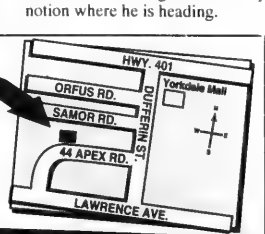

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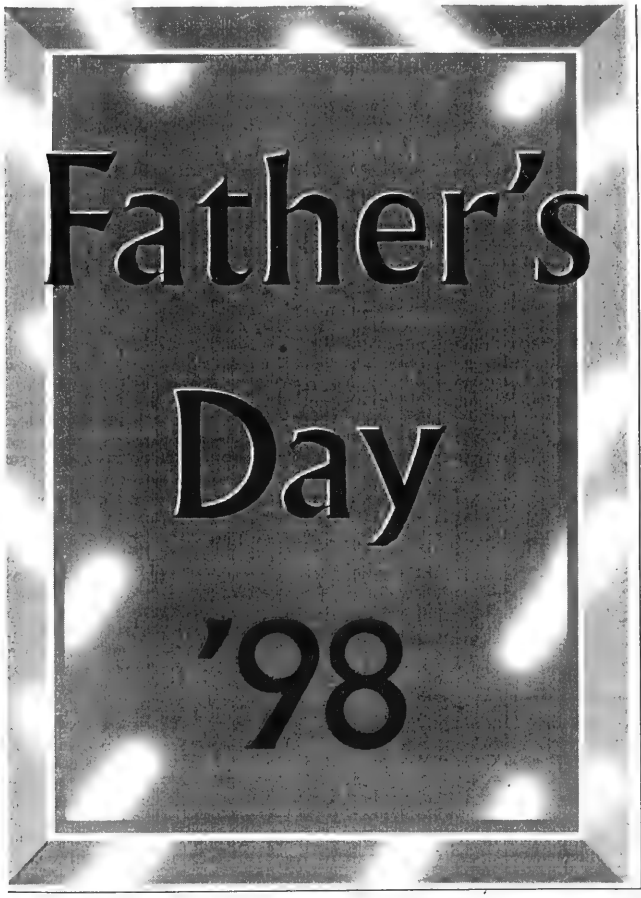

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Travel, Arts & Business

The Wanderer one of 13 books to receive awards

By BILL GLADSTONE
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — The 10th annual Jewish Book Awards at the Leah Posluns Theatre recently honored 13 Canadian books on Jewish themes, with prizes in 12 categories. Cheques totalling a record $6,250 were awarded — although a modest sum, it was still much improved over the annual $500 with which the awards first started.

The Martin and Beatrice Fischer Prize for Fiction went to Regine Robin for her book *The Wanderer*, which had previously won a Governor General's Award in its original French version and was recently translated into English.

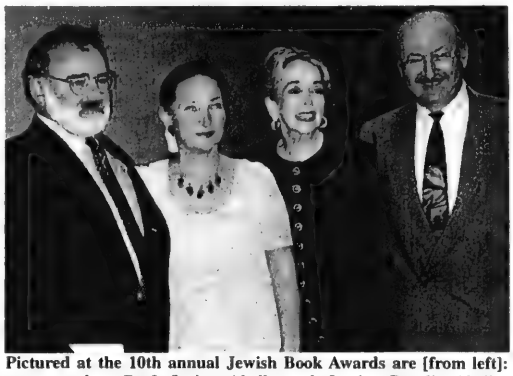
The book tells the story of a French-speaking Jewish woman who tries to fit into Montreal society but is haunted by memories of the Holocaust and other difficulties. Robin, who was not present to accept the award, is herself a French-born writer who lives in Montreal.

One way or another, the Holocaust was the predominant literary theme of the evening, so it seems appropriate that the awards are sponsored by the Koffler Centre of the Arts with assistance from the Holocaust Education & Memorial Centre of Toronto. The program featured three categories of prizes relating to the Holocaust.

The Canadian Society for Yad Vashem Award for Holocaust History went to Isabel Vincent for *Hitler's Silent Partners*, her book on the Swiss banking scandal involving Nazi gold; the Dorothy Shoichet President's Award for Holocaust Literature went to Roma Karsh for her novel *Endless*; and the Elie Wiesel Prize in Holocaust Memoir was shared by Elaine Kalman Naves for *Journey to Vaja* and Vera Schiff for *Theresienstadt*.

Another Holocaust-related book, *How Silent Were The Churches* by Alan Davies and Marilyn Nefsky, won the Joseph and Faye Tanenbaum Award for Canadian Jewish History. Meanwhile, the Rachel Bessin/Isaac Frischwasser Memorial Award for Young Adult Fiction went to Carol Matas for *The Garden*, which centers on the experiences of several young people in the immediate post-Holocaust era and during the founding of the Jewish state.

[Cont'd. on page 37]



Pictured at the 10th annual Jewish Book Awards are [from left]: guest readers Prof. Irving Abella and Justice Rosalie Abella; Koffler Centre president Dorothy Shoichet; and Adam Fuerstenberg, chair of the Jewish Book Awards Committee.

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Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

WORKSHOPS IN YIDDISH FOLK ARTS

The Ashkenaz Foundation is offering Ashkenaz: Roots & Raw Material, a day of workshops in the Yiddish folk arts for students, skilled amateurs and professional artists.

Seven workshops will be offered for musicians, vocalists, writers, dancers, performers, and textile and graphic artists. Sessions include klezmer music fundamentals with clarinetist **Martin van de Ven**; klezmer new directions & improvisation with musician-bandleader **David Buchbinder**; papercutting with **Ruth Stern Warzecha**; and dance with **Sharon Wise**. $55 for the full day, vegetarian lunch included, or $30 for morning only. June 21, Royal Conservatory of Music, 273 Bloor St. W. 703-6892. [www.ashkenaz.org].

* * *

Yiddishland Cafe: The 14th Yiddishland Cafe evening features the work of Canadian-Yiddish poets **M. Ravitch**, **Rokhl Korn**, **Y.Y. Segal**, **P. Miransky**, **Chava Rosenfarb** and **S. Simchovitch**.

The performers are **Stella Walker**, mezzo-soprano, **Sageev Oore** on piano, and **Chaya Thalenberg**, reading in Yiddish and English. $10 in advance, $15 at the door. 471 Lawrence Ave. W. June 28, 8:30 p.m.

* * *

Centre Spotlight: Gloria Valentine, **Eddie Rice**, **Fern Dworkin**, **Bradley Dworkin**, **David Feig** and others are featured in the June showcase of talent in a friendly coffeehouse cabaret atmosphere. Adults $10. June 20, 8:30 p.m. Winchevsky Centre, 585 Cranbrooke Ave. 638-2222.

* * *

Fringe Festival: Psychotherapist and grandmother **Gissa Israel** explores our prevailing beliefs about motherhood in *Ma Where Are You?* a one-woman show to be performed July 2 to 7 at the Royal Conservatory of Music as part of the Fringe Theatre Festival. $8. 535-8037.

Also part of the Fringe festival is *This Hotel*, a play by **Alex Poch-Goldin**, directed by **Kelly Thornton**, about the search for love, the manipulation of emotion and the power of sex. July 5 to 21 at the Helen Gardiner Phelan Playhouse. $8. 481-3888 or 535-5919.

Good Grief, written and performed by **Tannis Burnett**, focuses on the theme of love and loss after a pet's death. July 2 to 10, Annex Theatre, $8. 534-5919.

This year's Fringe Festival runs July 2 to 12. [www.fringetoronto.com].

* * *

At the Galleries :

• Four women artists represent themes of violence against women, minorities, and children in Epilogue, on view to July 25 at A Space gallery at Harbourfront. 979-9633.

• Animation Alley, a gallery specializing in animation art, is hosting a Cartoon Breakfast, featuring original animation artwork of Bugs Bunny, Marvin Martian, Daffy Duck and other Looney Tunes characters. Free. June 20 & 21, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. 365 Eglinton Ave. W. 482-5111.

• Free guided walking tours of York University's outdoor sculpture collection are offered Wednesdays at 1 p.m. throughout the spring and summer. Tours last 20 to 40 minutes. Lee Rodney, 736-5169. E-mail [lrodney@yorku.ca].

• *The Alef Beit* (Psalm 119), **Nancy Hazelgrove's** series of brightly colored prints, is on view June 25 to July 23 at the Justina M. Barnicke Gallery, Hart House. Meet the artist June 25, 5 to 7 p.m. 978-2453.

* * *

Arts in Brief :

• Physician-poet **Ron Charach** of Toronto, who writes on Holocaust themes, has recently published a book of poetry, *Past Wildflowers*. Four of his poems are to be included in *Blood and Bone*, a world anthology of physician poetry in English to be published by the University of Iowa Press.

• The renowned Israeli-born musicians **Itzhak Perlman**, **Yefim Bronfman** and **Pinchas Zukerman** are slated to join the **American Friends of the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra** for the 6th annual Berkshire Celebration, July 9 to 12. Contributions of $1,500 U.S. per couple and up are required to attend this benefit weekend. Joy Williams, 212-697-2949.

• Jazz pianist **Mark Eisenman** performs with **Rob McConnell's** new 10-piece band at the Top of the Senator, June 16 to 21.

• York University recently conferred an honorary doctorate on **Jacques Bensimon**, managing director of TFO, the French service of TVOntario.

•Medina Theatre Ensemble presents *There Comes a Time*, a new Canadian play by **Fran Elliot** and **Roselle Stone**, directed by **Reva Stern**. B'nai Brith Building, 15 Hove St., North York. June 18, 7:30 p.m. Non-members $6, members $4. 633-2057.

• The Stratford Festival, which recently got under way, includes productions of *Julius Caesar*, *Man of La Mancha*, *Much Ado About Nothing*, *A Man For All Seasons* and *The Miracle Worker*.

The festival is also offering *The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie*, adapted from the novel by British novelist **Muriel Sparks**, who is Jewish.

Idealism shines through

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Though the politics surrounding her execution remain murky, the idealism of pioneer, poet and martyr Hannah Senesh shines through like a beacon.

This is true of the life of the Hungarian heroine as well as of the production of *Hannah* by the late Toronto playwright Eleanor Siminovitch, at the Bloor Jewish Community Centre (Bloor JCC).

Hannah made history in two ways for its sponsors, the Jewish Theatre Committee and Bloor JCC. It was the first full production of one of the committee's prize winning plays, and *Hannah* itself was the first prize winner 10 years ago.

Directed by Sylvia Lennick, *Hannah* is based on the diaries and letters of the young Hungarian, who after working on a kibbutz in Palestine, parachuted behind enemy lines in World War II to reach her homeland, in an attempt to save Jews from deportation by the Nazis.

Hannah is played by 18-year-old Lauren Cash, whose youthful energy and idealism suit the character well in Act 1, but she fails to capture the maturity and dedication of the older heroine as she goes to her death rather than reveal her secret British army code.

Hannah is a difficult role because that kind of idealism does not

[Cont'd. on page 37]

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CANTORS ENTERTAIN AT BETH DAVID B'NAI ISRAEL BETH AM

About 700 people were recently entertained by four cantors at Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am in celebration of Yom Yerushalayim and Israel's 50th anniversary. Standing on the bimah in front of the new stained glass window are [from left]: Cantor Yehuda Rottner, of the host synagogue; Cantor Sid Dworkin of Shaar Hashomayim Congregation, Montreal; Cantor Arie Lieb Subar of Congregation Beth Ora, Montreal; and Cantor Yair Subar, Beth Sholom Congregation, Ottawa. The cantors were accompanied by the Muskat Symphony.

Shaarei Shomayim celebrates Israel's 50th

By DOROTHY LICHTBLAU
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Four well-known cantors presented a program of familiar and well-loved songs at a recent concert that marked the inauguration of annual cantorial concerts at the Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue and commemorated Israel's 50th anniversary.

Two of the singers, Yaakov Motzen and Shlomo Simcha Sufrin are respectively the cantor and chazzan sheini at the Shaarei Shomayim. The others were cantors Alberto Mizrahi, chazzan at the Anshe Emet Synagogue in Chicago, and Shlomo Miller, who has performed in concert in North America, Europe and Israel.

Motzen, a native of Tel Aviv, started the evening with *Ata Nigeleta* by Genchoff. His polished stage presence and full-bodied voice suited both light and more complex musical fare. And, in duos or trios with Mizrahi, Miller and Sufrin, he displayed his able musicianship.

In Israel, Motzen studied music with Yosef Goland and chazzanut with Cantor Yitzchak Eshel. Already an established professional, Motzen came to Canada in 1978. In the intervening years, he has given concerts in numerous countries as well as served as the cantor of Shomrim Laboker-Beth Yehuda and later of Adath Israel Poale Zedek congregations, both in Montreal.

Each cantor demonstrated a clearly individual form, but solo or blended, the voices were powerful and effective.

Mizrachi's style was suave and earthy. His evocative medley of Ladino songs was lively and delivered in deliciously rich tones. The selection added to the diversity of the evening. A Greek-born tenor, Mizrahi studied with cantors David Koussevitzky and Moshe Ganchoff and has performed in nine languages in recital halls around the world.

Kharhutz Mechomer by Lov was one of the songs offered by Miller, whose performance was strong, confident and technically proficient. A vocalist from the age of five, he received his basic training in chazzanut from his father, Rabbi Aaron Miller, and later studied with teachers in Canada, the United States and Israel.

Two Shlomo Carlebach songs, *Moishe v'Ahaaron* and *Mizmor l'Dovid* were joyfully sung by Sufrin. These and the Green/Fried melody *Nisht Dedaiget, Yiden* added variety to the program.

A young man who has devoted himself to bringing religious Jewish music to stage, radio and home entertainment systems, Sufrin delivers his music with heart-felt soul. Three of his albums are *That Special Melody, Tehillim* and the latest, *Aish.*

The performers sang an opera medley that was entertaining and playful, and Miller, Mizrahi and Motzen presented a lively rendition of Moishe Oysher tunes.

The cantors were supported by the Shaarei Shomayim Choir as the evening ended with variations of Adon Olam.

The overall success of the evening was enhanced by the accompaniment of Daniel Gildar and the back up voices provided by the choir.

Senesh's idealism shines through

[Cont'd. from page 36]

exist in the world any more, says committee chair Ralph Wintrob.

As Hannah's roommate, Malka, in the kibbutz, Lisa Rothman gives an excellent performance as does Howard Davis as the Hungarian officer who accuses Hannah of treason against Hungary and hounds her to death.

As Hannah's mother, Fran Elliott gives a subdued and professional rendering, but staging limitations require her to act in the background. David Wand as Itzhak, Hannah's companion behind the lines, is effective, as is John Barker as the Nazi interrogator.

Trudy Deacon, as the Hungarian prison guard who admired Hannah's selflessness, takes full advantage of the ambivalent role she plays.

Wintrob says the committee hopes for a wider audience when it stages its next play in the new theatre being built at the Bloor JCC.

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Canadian Jewish books honored

[Cont'd. from page 35]

Rosalie Sharp, Irving Abella and Edwin Goodman, who jointly edited the book of memoirs by Canadian Jews entitled *Growing Up Jewish*, shared the Louis Lockshin Memorial Award for Memoir/Biography. Jeffrey Sharp, in accepting the award for his mother, divulged that the book had earned more than $100,000 in sales to benefit the Ashkenaz Festival of New Yiddish Culture.

The Betty and Morris Aaron Prize for Scholarship on a Canadian Subject went to Elizabeth Greene for *We Who Can Fly*, a celebration of writer Adele Wiseman's life and achievements. The Morris Winemaker Prize in LiteraryCriticism went to Norman Ravvin for *A House of Words*, which is in part a study of Canadian and American Holocaust fiction.

Martin Lockshin, author of *Rashbam's Commentary on Exodus*, took away the Penina Rubinoff Memorial Award for Biblical Scholarship, while Simcha Simchovitch won the Izzy and Betty Kirshenbaum Foundation Prize in Yiddish for his book of poetry *Funken in Zhar* (*Sparks in Embers*). Finally, Carol Rose won the Henry Fuerstenberg Award for Poetry for her collection, *Behind The Blue Gate*.

During the reception afterwards, Adam Fuerstenberg, chairperson of the awards committee, told *The CJN* that the committee received an unprecedented 40 titles for consideration and that the main function of the awards is to give writers some much-needed attention and recognition. "As you know, writing is the loneliest job there is," he said. "It's like being a lighthouse operator."

For Prof. Irving Abella, who gave a reading during the program (another was given by Madame Justice Rosalie Silberman Abella), the evening symbolized "the coming of age of Jewish culture in Canada and the recognition that the literature here has reached the level of Jewish literature anywhere in the world."

"There is an amazing amount of productivity in our community in terms of keeping Canadian Jewish culture alive," said historian Paula Draper. "Personally, I'm thrilled to see the level of interest in preserving the stories of Holocaust survivors."

"Our writers and poets are important interpretors of the Jewish life and culture in Canada, so I think that any recognition they get is extremely worthwhile," said Jay Brodbar, director of community planning for UJA Federation.

TRAVEL TALK

BY BILL GLADSTONE

VINTAGE SAILING SHIP IS A CANADIAN ICON

Prominently moored in Halifax harbour, Nova Scotia's famous goodwill ambassador, the Bluenose II schooner, was recently treated to a $500,000 refitting according to Wilfred Moore, chairman of the Bluenose II Preservation Trust.

Immortalized on the Canadian dime, the original Bluenose was the fastest fishing vessel of its kind in its day. Built in Lunenburg in 1921, she was a working fishing vessel that competed in international boat races after each fishing season. Once in a rare while she lost individual races but she never lost a series of races, and carried the International Fisherman's Cup back to Lunenburg for 17 consecutive years until 1938, the last year the contest was held.

Although the Bluenose was the pride of Lunenburg and the glory of Nova Scotia, the ship spent her last years toiling in relative obscurity. Sold to the West Indies Trading Company in 1942, she carried cargo around the Caribbean and southern United States until she struck a reef off Haiti and sank in 1946.

An icon of the halcyon days of sailing ships, the Bluenose is also a reminder of the bygone era when ships would return from the bountiful ocean with holds full of fish. Bluenose II, built in 1963 as a replica of the original, has been enlisted as a promotional tool for provincial tourism and has visited many Canadian and American ports.

Sailing aboard the Bluenose II is a memorable experience. Passengers must make sure they are out of the way when the crew hops about the deck, adjusting the sails, ropes and booms according to the captain's orders. "To be on board the Bluenose II under sail is such an overwhelming feeling that any other boat is like a dinghy," says Moore. "It's her lines, it's her shape, it's her speed, it's the way she cuts through the water so effortlessly. She's simply majestic."

If the present ship is a good facsimile of the original, the ship's new captain, Wayne Angus Walters, is likewise a reasonable facsimile of the Bluenose's legendary first skipper, Angus Walters, his grandfather. "I don't look at it as following in his footsteps because he was a fisherman and I'm a deep-sea-going person," said Walters. "His vessel was a fishing vessel and this is just a replica."

Surprisingly, Walters did not hear countless sea stories as a child on his grandfather's knee. "My grandfather never really wanted to make fishing for a living sound attractive to me because it was a hard way to make a living. All the stuff about the Bluenose was documented in books, and it was in school that I read about it. He preferred that I not be attracted to the sea, so he didn't tell me any great stories.

"I inherited his stubborn streak and went to sea anyway, but in a slightly different way. Instead of fishing, I went to the deep sea on cargo ships, research vessels, and bulk carriers that took me around the world."

The Bluenose II is very fast, Walters concedes, but is it as fast as the original? "You can't tell because you'd have to put them side by side under the same conditions. So there's no way we'll ever know if one is faster than the other."

Bluenose II's home is a dock in Lunenburg, where it rests between voyages. On occasion, it is moored at the wharf by Privateer's Warehouse in the historic properties section of Halifax. Usually when the vessel is in port, the public is invited to step aboard at dockside for free, or buy tickets for two-hour harbour cruises.

An evening of Heart and Soul

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Popular Jewish music star Avraham Fried will headline Heart and Soul: an evening of Jewish music and song, at the Ford Centre for the Performing Arts, June 24, 7:30 p.m.

The program is sponsored by Chabad Lubavitch of Markham, a congregation of over 250 families in the Bayview-Green Lane area of Thornhill.

Also performing will be Cantor Ari Klein, the Toronto Jewish Male Choir and the Nafshenu Orchestra.

Fried sings in Hebrew, Yiddish and English, and has released numerous top-selling albums. Based in New York, he has performed internationally.

Klein, a native of Montreal, has held positions in Montreal, New York, and Johannesburg. He is now chazzan of the Park East synagogue in New York. A media release describes his technique as "a blend of the traditional cantorial liturgical music of (Yossele) Rosenblatt and (Moishe) Koussevitzky."

The Toronto Jewish Male Choir is the successor of the Thornhill Jewish male choir, which sang at Friday evening, holiday and High Holy Day services at Chabad Lubavitch of Markham. Although composed entirely of amateur singers, it has given several very well-received concert performances.

Besides concerts, the Nafshenu Orchestra has performed at many simchahs.

For more information, or for tickets, call Faye Rewald, 905-709-2372.

FACE OF EMOTION

Emotion is written on the face of a singer, above, at a Lisbon fado club. The traditional Portuguese music dealing with love and loss is popular among tourists and locals. The last International Expo of the millennium opened in Lisbon May 22, and runs until Sept. 30. [Frances Kraft photo]

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4	Bathurst & Steeles (Mac's Milk)	9:45AM	Mississauga Golden Square Ctr.	10:15AM	Miss. Chinese Ctr. (Rear Entrance of HK Bank)	10:45AM	6:00PM
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6	Gerrard & Broadview	1:45PM	Spadina Chinatown Ctr.	2:15PM	Miss. Chinese Ctr.	2:45PM	9:00PM
7	Kennedy & Steeles N.E. Corner	2:15PM	Commerce Gate	2:30PM	Jane & Wilson	3:00PM	10:00PM
8	Dragon Centre	4:15PM	Gerrard & Broadview	4:45PM	Spadina Chinatown Ctr.	5:15PM	12:00AM
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Time to shape up before you tee off

By BEVERLEY BURDEYNEY
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Now that spring is well upon us, golfers are returning to their favorite sport with all the hopes and dreams they nurtured during the winter.

Those dreams include smoother swings, longer drives, fewer putts and lower scores. But unless golfers include fitness in their plans, with specifically tailored exercises to address golf's demands, their dreams could turn into nightmares. Injuries and golf go together for the player who is not fit.

There is a remedy: a "Fitness for Golf" exercise program designed specifically for golfers.

The idea of the program is to incorporate a series of exercises designed to improve flexibility and strength. As golfers get older, strength and flexibility diminish unless something is done to counter the process. An exercise program, in addition to enhancing fitness, can provide golfers with the best chance of reaching their potential and lowering their scores.

Unlike its popular image, those who have golfed for any length of time realize golf is a physical sport that can result in injuries. A golfer is particularly vulnerable in his or her back, regardless of age. Golfers are notorious for suffering back problems – and not only because they may not be swinging properly. The back simply is not built to take the strains and stresses of the golf swing.

Physical fitness can help produce a smooth swing

Nevertheless, the back can be strengthened and made more supple so it can withstand the swing's rotational forces. A safe, effective program can be devised that does not include trips to the gym or using heavy equipment. There is no point in taking on a program that is inconvenient or that requires a lot of time. After all, you could use that time for golf!

For best results, the program should be followed three to four times a week for at least 20 minutes a session. All the better if you can supplement it with walking or swimming.

The Fitness for Golf program is directed specifically at improving the body's alignment and structure. It utilizes the pelvic tilt, the key movement in the program. The pelvic tilt strengthens all the key muscles – front (abdomen), lower back, and side to side (hips and pelvic area).

The pelvic tilt is the big secret behind getting the best muscle workout. It not only unites the upper and lower halves of the body but it helps maintain balance and alignment while engaging all of the muscles cooperatively and efficiently.

The pelvic area can be compared to the foundation of a house. If the foundation is strong and solid, then the building will be stable. Every golfer has heard that posture and address are keys to better golf. In that vein, the pelvic tilt will provide a much better chance of maintaining proper spine angle – the posture at address – throughout the swing.

The result will be more consistent shooting, without bobbing up and down or side to side during the swing.

There are 10 basic exercises based on the pelvic tilt that will increase the body's strength, balance, flexibility and range of motion and enhance the transfer of energy through the club shaft and club head to the ball. A more controlled, powerful swing will result with less chance of injury or strain. You will be fit for golf.

Allow your exercise program to become part of your life. Be sure to take enough time to warm up before every round. Tour pros stretch, so should you.

The result can be long term gains, not short term "miracles" that rarely last. Golf is a sport for a lifetime. Accept the challenge and improve over the long term, the only term that really matters.

Beverley Burdeyney is a personal exercise coach, fitness writer and president of Fitness for the Links.

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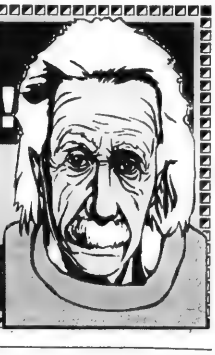

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• • •

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Exceptional custom [SOLD]3 bdrms. Finished lower level. CAC. Updated kitchen & baths. *Susan Copeland.

• • •

AVENUE ROAD/ST. CLAIR - $499,000.
Stunning 4+ bdrms. [SOLD]ower level. CAC. 4 years new. Landscaped garden w/deck. Garage. *Barbara Kaplan or *Jacqueline Yaffe.

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LEDBURY/FAIRLAWN - $899,000.
Custom home. Main [SOLD]y rm. & library. Master suite w/sitting room & fireplace. Lower level games room + nanny's room w/bath. *Bobby Simpson.

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5 HOUSES FOR SALE

ALAN NEWTON

REAL ESTATE LTD. REALTOR

BATHURST-CENTRE-YONGE — $799,000
100'x 250' ft lot! Fab. large home, indoor pool, whirlpool, exercise room, hardwood flrs, walk-out bsmt.++++*Ted Waxman

• • •

BATHURST-CLARK "DESIGNER DECOR"
Exquisite 4 bdrm., main floor library, appliances, has all the bells and whistles! Approx. 4,600 sq. ft. *Ted Waxman

• • •

"RIDGEGATE" SPECIAL - BATHURST S. STEELES
Reduced for fast sale! Largest 4 bdrm., 2 storey, 2 family rooms, hurry don't miss out! *Mary Fenyes

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BATHURST-STEELES – JUST REDUCED!
Executive 4+2 bdrms., large principal rooms, new Greenhouse kitchen, fin. basement with walk-out to trees & park. *H. Gould

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BATHURST-WILSON – SPLIT LEVEL BEAUTY!
Immaculate 3 bdrm., renovated, open concept, family room with walk-out, fin. bsmt., wet bar, $$ spent in reno's! *C. Gabison

• • •

BATHURST-CLARK – QUIET CRESCENT
Fab. 3 bdrm home, renovated kitchen, dble garage, fin. bsmt, extras! Close to all amenities. $299,000. *Ted Waxman

• • •

BATHURST-STEELES ONLY $289,000
Fab. 4 level, 3 bdrm. sidesplit, custom kit., fin. bsmt. *Helen Winer

• • •

CLARK & YONGE
3 bdrms., 2 storey foyer, family room, $274,900. *Helen Winer

• • •

AWARE 1ST TIME BUYERS! CHOICE OF 2
Townhomes, 3 bdrm. asking $184,900 or 4 bdrm. asking $199,000. Close to school, park, TTC, Shuls. Must see! *Carey Rosenzweig

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CONDOMINIUMS FOR SALE

BATHURST-STEELES FAB. LUXURY BUILDING!
2 bdrm. suite with balcony & terrace, about 1800 sq. ft. $299K. Many more condos available. Call *Helen Winer

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85 PLUM TREEWAY
– Finished Basement
– 3 Bedrooms
– Bathurst/Steeles
$184,900

93 PLUM TREEWAY
– 4 Bedroom
– Finished Basement
– Starter Home
$199,900

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• **WILMINGTON TRIPLEX** - $298,000. Large 2x3 bedroom, 1x1 bedroom, ensuite washrooms, balconies, double garage, large lot, won't last!

5 HOUSES FOR SALE

WILMINGTON/GARTHDALE
Want to be a landlord. Make money & live in your own home. Buy this nice triplex 2-3 bedroom, 1-1 bedroom, 2 car garage & parking.

SHEPPARD/WILMINGTON
Lovely side split 3 bedroom, 3 baths, huge fam. room w/out to garden, rec. rm. & wet bar, appliances, 2 car garage, steps to shopping & synagogue.

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BATHURST-WILSON
Luxury home under construction, 4 baths & much more!
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10 HOUSES FOR SALE PRIVATE

Atkinson/Centre - 2 stry., 4 bdrms., sitting rm. off master, 4 bths., sunken liv. rm., sep. din., lib., fam. rm., + Florida kit., mn. flr. lndry., prof. fin. bsmnt., low main backyard w/inground pool. Call evenings at 905-881-2764.

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5 HOUSES FOR SALE

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BLUE FOREST AREA
Cust. built 4 bdrm., den, fam. rm., kit. w/out to balc., fin. lower lvl., fireplace, ravine lot, many xtras.

• • •

WILSON HEIGHTS SHEPPARD
Ideal start SOLD bdrm., 2 baths, lge. lot

• • •

DOWNSVIEW SUBWAY $249,900
2 storey, 4 bdrms., 2 baths, sep. liv. & din., fin. bsmnt., 50'x 150' lot. Don't miss!.

• • •

OVERBROOK WILMINGTON
Spac. bung., 3 bdrms., 2 baths, 2 kits., fin. bsmnt., gar., steps to all!

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BATHURST WILSON TRI-PLEX
2-3 bdrm. + 1-1 bdrm. apts., balcs., garages, great buy!

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10 HOUSES FOR SALE PRIVATE

Bath./Centre - 3 bdrm. condo T/H. Lge. master bdrm. w/sitting area, hrdwd & cer. flrs., California shutters, CAC, alarm, 5 appl. $264,900. 905-881-6462.

Bath./Wilson - bung., 3 bdrm., 2 x 4 pce. bths., appl., large lot. $239K. Call Alison at 630-8818.

Hamilton - 4 bdrm., 2 1/2 bth, 2 fam. rms., fin. bsmnt., 5 min. walk to McMaster Hospital, Orthodox shul, day school, Yeshiva, golf. $315K. 905-526-8257

15 HOUSES FOR RENT

Bath./Drewry, 3 br. townhouse fully furn., Kosher kit., CAC, right on Bathurst next to shul and day school. 416-225-6483.

Bath./Sheppard - 4 + 1 bdrm., 2 + 1 bth. $1,700/mo. Available August 1. Call 416-635-1923.

30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE

3000 Bathurst - 24 hr. sec., 3 bdr., sun rm., lge. liv./din. area, prky. flrs, 5 appl., 2 pkg., locker, avail. Sept. 1998. Message at 905-709-2912 or 905-889-4576.

30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE

ANTIBES
Just listed Antibes large 3 bdrm. Condo luxury bldg. Wrap around balcony.
Erica Fortinsky
Re/Max Realtron Rlty.
(416) 222-8600

YONGE & STEELES PALLADIUM
Unique open concept, 1 bdrm. + sol. (den), white kitchen w/windows, bright garden view. Priced well.
SANTEE LEUNG
(416) 441-2003
Santee Realty Inc.

Bath/Steeles-Townsgate,2 bdr, 2bth, huge cor $249K 736-8007

35 CONDOMINIUM FOR RENT

3000 Bathurst
Lge. 1 bdrm. + den, wood flrs., Shabbat elevator, pkg. July 1. $1200 incl. utilities.
Marshall Cohen, 520-0079

Bath./Glen Cairn - Lge. 1 bdr, den, 5 appl., 2 bths., sec., $1,225 + util. Aug. 1. 491-1094

60 SHARED ACCOMMODATION

Bath./Sheppard - Furn. room in apt., private bth,. Kosher, pkg., female. No Sat. calls. 638-9240.

70 UNIVERSITY ACCOMMODATION

Female to share 2 bdrm. in downtown Montreal with Concordia student & cat. $375/mo. Call Ariel (905) 881-1920.

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

BATHURST-SHEPPARD
Very lg. 1, 2, 3 Bedrms., ample closets, some 1½ baths & 2 balc., roof, laundry, ravine setting, pool, ind. pkg., 6 apts. per flr. From $850.
960-3238 - Bus.
631-9377 or 631-0388 - Super

Bath./Glencairn, bright 1 bdrm. bsmt., sep. entr., parquet flrs., n/smoker, n/pets 416-783-8435.

Bath./Lawrence - 3 bdrm. in 6 plex, 2 bths., eat-in kit., prkg., $950/mo. 416-783-8700.

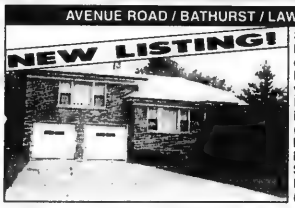
5 HOUSES FOR SALE

DAVID EICHORN

REALTY LIMITED

787-1712

AVENUE ROAD / BATHURST / LAWRENCE



Spacious ranch bung. on generous 60 x 117 ft. lot. Live in or build your dream home! Plans & permits included for 4,500 (approx.) sq. ft. home. Prestigious location — asking $429,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

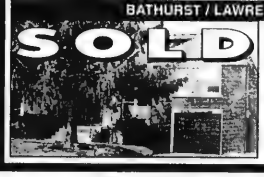
BATHURST / LAWRENCE — NEW LISTING
Lowest price in area! Detached brick bung. on 50 ft. lot, hardwood floors, only $209,900. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / LAWRENCE — SPACIOUS EXECUTIVE HOME
Exciting value in a Central North York location! App. 3,000 sq. ft., 3-years-new, custom-built. Shows to perfection — gleaming hardwood floors, main floor laundry, family room, library. Only $499,000! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

YORK DOWNS / SANDRINGHAM

Prestigious area, serene setting, 60 x 188 ft. lot (irreg.), custom spacious family home, approx. 3,700 sq. ft. + fin. bsmt., 5 bdrms, 4 baths, fam. room, only $629,000. ACT NOW! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / LAWRENCE



Spacious 4 + 1 bdrm. family home, fam. rm., library, huge master bedroom with ensuite, only $369,000. Call Michael Klugman at (416) 787-1712.

SOLD

BATHURST / GLENCAIRN — SHOWS A 10++
Builder's own custom-built exec. home, loaded w/ upgrades, Marlee roof, marble entry, fireplaces, approx. 3,000 sq. ft. + beautifully fin. bsmt., only $589,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

BATHURST / PRUE — SPACIOUS 5 + 1 BDRM. SIDE-SPLIT
Prestigious location! Fam. room, hrdwd. floors, gorgeous 50 x 125 ft. lot, close to park, quiet street, only $529,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

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CLANTON PARK AREA — STUNNING 3 BEDROOM!
Renovated + decorated, on 70 x 115 ft. lot (irr.), gleaming hardwood floors, thermopane windows, newer furnace and A/C, only $269,000! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

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BATHURST / LAWRENCE — EXCLUSIVE
3 bdrm. bung. on 50 ft. lot, east side of Bathurst, sep. entry to in-law suite, only $339,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

BATHURST WILSON

NEWLY DECORATED SPACIOUS 1, 2 & 3 BDRMS.

- Large balconies
- Central air conditioning and heating
- Hardwood Floors
- Sunken living rooms
- Surveillance cameras and card access system
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- Close to conveniences and TTC
- Underground parking available

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125 Neptune Dr.
(416) 787-7171

Bath./Wilson - new bach. bsmt. apt, priv. entr., full kit., bth. No Shabbat calls. 416-636-3936.

Bathurst/Sheppard - Bright, sunny 1 bdrm apt avail. for rent, pkg. July 1. $800/mo. 635-5031

110 COTTAGE FOR RENT

Balfour Beach - 4 bdrm., sandy beach., day camp, August. 416-633-6999, 1-905-476-2815

Belle Ewart, 2 cottages on Ige lot, nr. water. 416-636-0733.

Lake Simcoe, lakefront estate, Beaverton area,lux. 4 bed. Sandy beach. Sunsets. Tennis. Seas./mo, 226-0009, 749-6600.

112 FURNISHED COTTAGE FOR RENT

Big Bay Point, beaut 4 bdrm + loft, fam rm, 3 bth, wrap around deck, sandy bch, 636-8236.

Lake Simcoe, rustic 4 bdrm, lkfront, scrnd porch, privacy, 90 min from TO, August $3000. 416-487-6050.

115 COTTAGE FOR SALE/ RENT

Monthly or seasonal, Big Cedar Pt., Lake Simcoe. Clean, cute 3 bdrm. cottage, steps from camp Arrowhead, across from priv. beach. 905-764-7504.

130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT

Boynton Beach - 55+, 2 bdrm., 2 bth., furn, newly reno'd, active clubhouse, avail 7/1 - 12/31/98. $1,000 US/mo. 914-425-8156.

FORGOT ABOUT YOUR HIDDEN TREASURES? WANT TO SELL THEM?
CALL TANYA AT (416) 391-1836
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130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT

Hallandale, 1 bdrm conv., 2 bths., for seas. rental, Jan., Feb., Mar, 1999. On intercoastal, across the St. from ocean, highrise bldg., gorgeous view, fully furn. & equip. 2 sets of dishes. $1500./mo. U.S. + utilities. Call 732-247-6744.

135 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT

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160 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR RENT

Beit Shemesh - English speaking community, 3 1/2 bdrm. apt 663-5540 or 972-3-635-5708.

Jerusalem. Central. 3 rooms, 2nd floor, fully furnished vacation apt. Sleeps 4 + 2 extra beds. Tel: 972-2-672-5845 Fax: 972-2-623-4959.

230 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

This is a small ad with a **BIG OPPORTUNITY**. Call Susan 416-410-1715/905-826-9949

240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Large Conservative Congregation in Midwest seeks Hazzan Sheni to read Torah, conduct daily minyan, do some teaching in religious school as well as lead shacharit services on High Holy Days and some services during the year. Excellent salary for qualified individual. Please send résumé with references and photograph to CJN Box # 7046.

MEPHISTO the ultimate walking shoes made in France - Seeking mature F/T & P/T sales staff with retail experience for Toronto downtown locations. French would be an asset. Please fax résumé to 905-881-0052.

RN's, RPN's, HCA's, live in/out and cleaners needed. 391-0582

Sun. morning Hebrew school in West Toronto requires exp. teacher for Sept. for a small multi-age class. Excellent remuneration for the qualified candidate. Call Arlene at 766-8261.

240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

ESTÉE LAUDER

Part-Time Beauty Advisor

Eaton's Promenade

Give your career a new look!

If you enjoy helping people, have good sales and communication abilities, and want to learn the skills to providing first-class sales and customer service, then we have an opportunity for you.

You will be an employee of the department store and must be flexible to work weekends and evenings.

Interested applicants should fax their resume to the attention of: **Lesley Beriault at (416) 413-5287**, no later than **Friday, June 26, 1998**.

We thank all applicants in advance and advise that only those under consideration will be contacted.

No phone calls please.

Synagogue with mechitzah seeks Modern Orthodox RABBI. Send résumé: Herzlia Search Comm., c/o 600-294 Portage Ave., Winnipeg, Man. R3C 0B9

Teacher, P/t, junior grades, excellent opportunity, North York. Fax résumé to 416-789-7730.

247 DAY CARE

Bathurst & Centre - Thornhill. Loving & safe environment for your baby. Lots of personal attention with E.C.E. teacher Over 15 years experience. 3 openings beginning July. Refs. & receipts. Call 905-764-6936.

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To Place Your **FREE** Ad **call 905-276-6167 Ext.# 65**
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Women seeking Men

LIKE TO CUDDLE
Very smart female, 40's, like to exercise, movies, concerts, cuddling, looking for an educated, nonsmoker who is kind, has high integrity & traditional values to share my life with. Ad# 1213

WARM & FIT
Attractive, warm & fit Jewish woman, who likes long walks & good conversation, looking for a nonsmoker, who is over 50 & has a zest for life, should be in good physical shape & have a good sense of humour Ad# 1214

KIND HEARTED
Single female, 5'5", red hair & hazel eyes, kind hearted, attractive & like many things including, dancing, picnics, movies & golf Ad# 1215

LONG TERM RELATIONSHIP
Single professional lady, nonsmoker, Jewish, very sincere, honest, down to earth, seeking gentleman, 37-45, with good sense of humour, kind & nonsmoker. Ad# 1263

SUMMER ROMANCE
Single Jewish lady, brown hair, green eyes, very down to earth, enjoy travelling, long walks, theatre, reading, movies, seeking gentleman, 48-58, Jewish, compassionate, strong sense of humour. Ad# 1282

YOUNG AT HEART
Single lady, 51, young, separated, professional, honest, sincere, very kind, seeking dark skinned gentleman, 35-50 for the sweet romance of the summer. Ad# 1283

LONG TERM RELATIONSHIP
Classy, charming, affectionate, Jewish lady, professional, very down to earth, enjoy movies, theatre, long walks, seeking gentleman, 48-58, Jewish, kind, honest Ad# 1239

FRIENDSHIP
Petite lady,5'2", 118 lbs., independent, neat, honest, sincere, have many interests, seeking gentleman 60-70 who welcomes life to enjoy learning & sharing experience. Ad# 1225

A LOT TO OFFER
Tall female, 50, Jewish, business professional with good communication skills, trustworthy, romantic with a good sense of humour, a lot to offer the right gentleman, seeking a male, 6', 49-60. Ad# 1226

AMBITIOUS
28 year old Jewish female, pretty, ambitious, sexy, striking & down to earth, enjoy sports, working out, dining out, dancing, travelling & having a good time with friends, seeking tall, professional, classy male, 20-30 preferably Jewish for friendship. Ad# 1275

THEATRE & TRAVEL
Petite, youthful, Jewish high school teacher, like sports, theatre, travel, movies & outdoor activities, seeking a thoughtful nonsmoking Jewish man, 50-60 for good times. Ad# 1276

LIKE MUSICALS
Divorced Jewish female, 49, dark hair & eyes, friendly, caring, attractive & sensitive, like cooking, movies, theatre, musicals & exploring the city, seeking someone who is a good communicator. Ad# 1229

LONG TERM RELATIONSHIP
Single female, widow, 49, attractive, fun to be with, seeking male who likes long walks, good conversations, theatre, who is down to earth & stable Ad# 1231

GREEN EYED BEAUTY
Female widow, in late 40's, 5'3", brown hair, green eyes, cute, look like Connie Francis, like reading, dancing, walking, sports & good conversation, seeking male with same interests. Ad# 1208

NEW TO SYSTEM
Single female, new to system, would like to hear from any interested males, call up & leave a message in my box. Ad# 1329

WELL ESTABLISHED
Single Jewish female, 54, blonde hair, fit, zesty, loving, warm, caring, enjoy travelling, music, outdoors, seeking well established male, 60-69, nonsmoker, sincere, fun loving. Ad# 1031

FRIENDSHIP
Single female, homemaker, like books, music, travelling, swimming, financially independent, seeking a male who is healthy, sincere, intelligent, 65-80 for friendship Ad# 1016

LADY OF SUBSTANCE
Professional lady, 50's, blue eyes, curly brown hair, 5'6", very attractive, Jewish, very down to earth, terrific sense of humour, enjoy outdoor activities, dining & dancing, very sensitive & kind, seeking established gentleman to share the good things in life.Ad# 1246

GOOD MORALS
Jewish female, 43, health care professional, nonsmoker, good morals & values, emotional, like dancing, tennis, seeking a Jewish male, 40-49, 5'10" or taller, great kisser. Ad# 1221

GOOD COMMUNICATOR
Single Jewish female, in my 30's, blue eyes, slim build, considered attractive, like music, comedy clubs, theatre & good conversation, seeking a compatible man, nonsmoker who is a good communicator. Ad# 1212

SEEK GENTLE MAN
Single female, seeking man who is gentle, likes animals, children & is interested in computers & art. It would also be a plus if you like to travel Ad# 1293

READY FOR ADVENTURE
Single lady, 32, 5'7", very fit, easy going, nonsmoker, enjoy outdoor activities, winter or summer, seeking gentleman with similar interests Ad# 1196

Men seeking Women

ECLECTIC INTERESTS
Easy going professional man, brown hair & eyes, 6'2", 170 lbs., have a good sense of humour, seeking someone romantic & unattached Ad# 1323

BE MY SUNSHINE
Tall, handsome male, 40, originally from Montreal, enjoy outdoor activities, good sense of humour, very warm hearted, seeking slim, kind, sincere, honest lady for long term relationship. Ad# 1244

SUMMER ROMANCE
Gentleman, kind, sincere, very quiet & a bit shy, seeking lady to make my summer special. Ad# 1249

LET'S TALK
Gentleman, early 40's, handsome, fit, creative, enjoy sports & other outdoor activities, seeking lady, early 30's, attractive, sincere, intelligent. Ad# 1250

HAND IN HAND
Gentleman, outgoing, fun loving, enjoy movies, dining & dancing, good conversation, long walks & the romance of life, seeking lady who is trustworthy, honest, sincere, kind Ad# 1011

MARRIAGE MINDED
Gentleman, tall thin, 70, American Jewish, warm, cultured, well travelled, handsome, sincere, trustworthy, seeking marriage minded lady under 65, affectionate, soft, slim, very feminine, sincere & kind. Ad# 1240

COFFEE & SMILES
Single male, 18, brown hair, green eyes, enjoy dining, dancing, shopping, working out, seeking young lady with very outgoing personality, terrific sense of humour, attractive with a zest for life Ad# 1241

LONG TERM RELATIONSHIP
Single Jewish gentleman, 37, 5'8", 200, many interests, seeking lady to share the sunshine of love & life. Ad# 1243

CONSERVATIVE MALE
Single male, 5'8", conservative looking, buy, sell & analyze stocks, despite my accomplishments I don't take myself too seriously as you will see when you hear my ad.Ad# 1255

SEMI RETIRED
Single male, 69, well established, very athletic, looking for sincere, honest, caring, female for friendship, possible relationship.Ad# 1034

HAVE NO BAGGAGE
Jewish male, 41, attractive, honest, kind, affectionate, brown hair & eyes, nonsmoker, enjoy movies, dancing, seeking Jewish female, 32-42,petite, attractive. Ad# 1277

QUIET LIFESTYLE
Single male, 40, 5'8", get compliments on my looks & have a quiet lifestyle, like movies, walks, dining out & cycling, looking for a Jewish woman, 35-44. Ad# 1227

SENSE OF HUMOUR
Single male, 30, dark hair, 5'8", 150 lbs., in the accounting profession, have a home in Richmond Hill, have a good sense of humour, like movies, dinners, night clubs & theatre. Ad# 1228

CALL ME
Gentleman, 18, brown hair, brown eyes, 6', enjoy outdoor activities, swimming, camping, movies, dining & dancing, seeking lady, 18-20 with similar interests. Ad# 1223

INCURABLE ROMANTIC
Single male, 30, 170 lbs., medium build, brown hair, blue eyes, good sense of humour, enjoy dining, dancing, theatre, movies, very family oriented, seeking special lady to share the future with Ad# 1300

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retrieve your messages

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Do you require a nanny? Exp. Philipino nanny willing to work in Canada. New Agency. Please call 416-752-0817.

Exper. cleaning lady seeks job, homes, good refs. 289-4392.

Frustrated by trying to find a suitable nanny? Let us help you. We have dependable, caring nannies who are thoroughly qualified, personally interviewed & pre-screened. All refs. are checked. Some are CPR trained. Low finders fee.
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High quality house cleaning. Call Dora, 736-1179.

Maria's Italian Cleaning Team. Mature Italian & Portuguese cleaning women. **For a free estimate,** please call 416-706-3203 and leave a message!

Nannies, elderly & disabled caregivers seeks live-in/live-out jobs. Exp. w/refs. 905-677-4580

Nannies, live-in/out, full/part-time, in-home elderly care, FT, PT, RN's, nurses aides, cleaning. Bonded,refs. **416-630-0674** or **416-224-9907. #1 Domestic.**

255 DOMESTIC HELP WANTED

Homecare for elderly couple req'd. Req'd for elderly Jewish couple in the Niagara Region who live independently in their own home. Live-in or F/T days (morning until after dinner). Cooking meals (must be a good cook), maintaining the house incl. laundry, some personal care (eg: giving eye drops), ability to give support yet allow seniors to maintain independence and privacy (seniors are not looking for a new companion). Reply to CJN Box # 7060.

255 DOMESTIC HELP WANTED

Caregiver req'd for senior lady for weekends only. Call Fran at 905-882-1356 or Cathy, collect at 514-287-1256

257 HEALTHCARE AVAILABLE

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GOODIS, Bettye Rose - on June 6, 1998.

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KRAMER, David - on June 7, 1998, late of 130 Neptune Dr.

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HAMMERSCHLAG, Bertha - on June 8, 1998, late of 4005 Bayview Ave.

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KRIESER, Henia - on May 28, 1998, late of 11 Alderbrook Dr.

DACKS, Jack - on May 29, 1998, late of 4383 Bathurst St., #811.

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FAITH, Jack - on May 30, 1998, late of 78 Stormont Ave.

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Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
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On Campus

McGill U launches new Middle East Program

By JANICE ARNOLD
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — Israeli, Jordanian and Palestinian graduate social work students will spend a year studying together at McGill University, under a program that will receive up to $3 million over the next three years from the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA).

A total of 36 students, equally divided between the three groups, are expected to take part in the coming five years in McGill's new Middle East Program in Civil Society and Peace Building. As the name suggests, the program's long-term goals are far loftier than providing these students with an opportunity to advance their education abroad.

They will be expected to return to their homelands for the second year of their fellowship as "ambassadors" for peace, models of constructive coexistence, schooled in the most modern methods of promoting social justice, who have shown that Arabs and Jews can work together on common concerns.

The additional government money, announced recently by Minister for International Cooperation Diane Marleau, will enable the program to expand to include students from the Palestinian Authority and lay the foundation for ongoing trilateral contact in the Middle East.

This year's inaugural Fellows were two Jordanians and three Israelis, including a Bedouin. They ranged in age from the 20s to 50s.

Four are returning to their countries where they will be expected to apply what they have learned. (The fifth is staying on to complete a PhD.)

While each followed their own course of study, they all participated in a year-long interdisciplinary seminar entitled Civil Society, Inequality and Peace Building, which reflects program founder Jim Torczyner's belief that when a country combats poverty and safeguards social rights, it is in a better position to seek peace with its neighbors.

"This program has created an opportunity and a gate for people who do not often get a chance to meet with each other, to study and work together, to learn about one another, and to share ideas, knowledge and hope," said Noga Porat, a community organizer at a grassroots agency in Jerusalem modeled on Project Genesis in Montreal, founded and brought to Israel six years ago by Torczyner, a social work professor.

Feminists

"This program has given me the opportunity to learn about the lives of people who live so close to me, but yet are so far away. It has given me a chance to learn about our commonalities instead of our differences, and about social problems that we are all concerned with," said Porat.

Amal El-Sana, a Bedouin from the Negev Desert and first female university graduate of her community, said she hopes to make use of what she learned here about women's rights and community advocacy among her people.

Away from home for the first time in her 25 years, she said, "The process that we went through this year as a group from Jordan and Israel was very fascinating and exciting for me. I felt that I was a bridge between the Jordanians and the Israelis. Being an Arab from Israel, I belong and identify with both groups.

"It is great to see how we are now working together as one group, that we share the same feelings and concerns about peace in the Middle East."

Both feminists, Porat and El-Sana dream of one day opening a shelter for Jewish and Arab women.

The two Jordanians, Hmoud Al-Olimat and Mohammad Maani, are professors at the University of Jordan (UofJ). Following the Israel-Jordan peace treaty, Torczyner was instrumental in having McGill sign an agreement in 1996 with the UofJ to help develop a graduate school of social work, the first in the Arab world.

The fifth fellow, New York-born Merav Moshe, is director of field work at Ben-Gurion University's social work school and a key organizer of Genesis in Israel.

Torczyner said a strong bond developed between the group. "You have become a powerful metaphor for what is possible and I am convinced you will spread that message back home next year," he said at the closing ceremony.

Next year's program will expand to include the school of architecture for the study of low-cost housing, a common concern in the region.

The program will grow in other ways in the Middle East. Practice and research centres are to be established with institutional partners in Israel, Jordan and the Palestinian Authority, where returning Fellows will put into practice what they have learned in the areas of social welfare and human rights. These centres will also enable linkages between the three and McGill.

The centres will also oversee other new aspects of the McGill program: academic exchange and a seminar and publication series on peace and social development (including a Web site).

"Senior academic leaders in Israel, Jordan and the Palestinian Authority have agreed already to sit together and serve on an executive committee and provide policy direction to the program," Torczyner said.

In announcing the CIDA funding, Marleau said the McGill program's emphasis on basic human needs are consistent with Canada's current assistance to the West Bank and Gaza.

"The project is inclusive; Palestinians, Jordanians and Israelis will all participate equally...[It] encourages communication and cooperation between governments, academics and non-governmental organizations in the areas of housing and social work...This project has the potential to make an important contribution to the cause of peace in the Middle East."

She said she hopes Canada's contribution will "serve as a catalyst to mobilize further financial support from those who have a stake in the outcome – and they are many.

Jewish student press holds conference in New York

By DAVE GORDON
Special to The CJN

NEW YORK — From May 26th to May 29th, the Jewish Student Press Service in New York held its annual spring conference for Jewish student journalists.

Students from across the States as well as eight Canadians attended. It was an opportunity for students to listen to, and interact with members of the professional Jewish media.

In attendance this year were three writers from *Images* (Toronto's Jewish student newspaper), three editors from Montreal's the *Hillel Hub*, as well as the editor of University of Western Ontario's news-bulletin *Lifeline*.

Some students at the conference were seasoned editors and some were at the journalism starting block.

The seminars and workshops covered a variety of subjects. One panel featured a former writer from New York's the *Village Voice*, and also featured the former editor (Jennifer Bleyer) of a Jewish-punk magazine called *Mazeltov Cocktail*. Her reasons for starting the magazine were that, "a lot of Jews feel 'excommunicated' from the established campus scene. This offers an alternative model to express their Judaism in a university mode."

Mazeltov Cocktail contained articles such as *Bar-Mitzvahs gone awry*, and others on topics such as a Yiddish-speaking punker, Jewish punks in the military, and an interview with a Chasidic Rabbi punk-rocker. The editor of *Mazeltov Cocktail* also informed us of another seemingly obscure publication — a Lubavitch Surfer's magazine. A regular column in that magazine relates the parsha of the week to a part of the ocean that the writer has surfed.

Lester Friedman, professor at Syracuse University, gave a lecture called, Is American Jewish Cinema Dying? on the small number of Jews in modern movies. The films in the past twenty years with visible Jewish characters, he explained, were made by the same handful of baby-boomer Jewish directors. According to Friedman, Hollywood will soon run low on Jewish directors if the stock isn't rebuilt with younger talent.

J.J. Goldberg from the *Jewish Week in New York* addressed the participants on the politics of U.S.-Israel relations. An interesting fact he related was that U.S. aid to Israel is one quarter of the total foreign aid spending.

Lisa Hostein, editor of the *Jewish Telegraphic Agency*, posed the question: what makes Jewish news? She used the example of Monica Lewinsky as a case study, and whether or not one should consider her a "Jewish" story because she's Jewish. This type of controversy has carried over to many student publications. Sometimes editorial boards are hard-pressed to find answers as to whether something ought to be in print with remote Jewish content.

The complexities of editorial decision-making continued with a hands-on workshop. Sam Apple, editor of *New Voices in New York*, led a workshop on editing submissions for style and brevity. As a group, we were challenged to tighten a 400-word paragraph to the smallest possible word count. The winner skimmed it to 84.

Letty Cottin Pogrebin ,former editor of *Ms.* magazine, answered questions about student activism, and later the group had an opportunity to shmooze with other writers and editors on the last night of the conference at the closing dinner. Guests included Orthodox feminist writer Blu Greenberg, Gary Rosenblatt, editor of New York's *Jewish Week*, Sam Norich, editor of *Forward*, Robin Cemalest, editor of *Artnews* (the longest running art magazine in the US), and David Twersky, editor of *New Jersey Jewish News*.

Like last year's conference, it was a terrific networking experience, and a chance to learn new skills as an editor and writer.

Swiss settlement opposed

[Cont'd. from pg. 1]

But in a June 5 letter to attorneys involved in the class action suit, Toronto and New York lawyers Sergio Karas and Richard Crisona raise serious objections to the proposed out-of-court settlement.

They claim that the structure of the proposed offer would "betray" the interests of Holocaust victims because it would award a large portion of the recovered funds to individuals rather than depositors or their heirs.

The banks have reportedly offered $1.6 billion, with some $600 million, or nearly 40 percent, intended mainly for indigent Holocaust survivors, including those who had no deposits in Swiss banks.

(According to the June 5 edition of the *Forward*, the World Jewish Congress has agreed to a settlement of about $3 billion.)

Karas and Crisona argue that the offer violates the terms of reference of the litigation, since the depositors would be prevented from gaining access to "a large portion of the settlement."

The pair seek assurances that the interests of the depositors will be protected so as "to maximize their recovery," and that the World Jewish Congress will not establish a philanthropic fund with money intended exclusively for "the benefit of depositors and their heirs."

Crisona and Karas, who represents some 20 clients in Toronto, maintain that they are not trying to undermine the ongoing talks between the banks and the World Jewish Congress.

The negotiations, which reportedly face a June 30 deadline, are taking place in strict confidentiality under the sponsorship of the U.S. State Department.

"...our clients do not necessarily want to intervene, or to derail the overall settlement of the litigation," writes Crisona, whose firm represents Karas & Associates in New York City.

"They do, however, need some assurance that their interests are being adequately protected, and that their representatives are not foregoing maximizing the class recoveries in order to establish a philanthropic fund that has no legitimate place in the settlement of these consolidated lawsuits."

Karas and Crisona are still awaiting a reply to their letter.

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It's a three-peat! CHAT rules softball diamond

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The CHAT Tigers are number one in softball again — for the third year in a row — as the boys in pinstripes steamrollered the opposition in last week's championship game in TDCAA small schools competition.

CHAT earned the coveted "three-peat" with a smothering 15-4 victory over Mary Ward to cap a perfect 15-0 season, including playoffs. CHAT took an early 3-0 lead and never looked back as they hammered Mary Ward's pitchers with hit after hit in virtually every inning of the seven-inning affair.

On the mound, CHAT pitcher Josh Colomby shut the door on Mary Ward, scattering hits and never allowing the Catholic school to mount a big inning. It was his 27th straight win for the Tigers. CHAT has lost only two games — when Colomby was absent — since the hard-throwing hurler came on in relief in the championship game two years ago and helped the Tigers pull off a win.

CHAT's defence was nearly flawless in the championship game, as they snagged several potentially dangerous line drives while turning over key double plays to snuff out any chance of a Mary Ward rally. The last out of the game came on a nifty double.

Though Mary Ward gave CHAT the most trouble during the regular season, they served as meat for the grinder during the championship game. CHAT had more trouble on its march to the title in the quarter-final and semi-final games, when they fell behind in the first innings of both games, 4-0 and 6-0 respectively.

CHAT rallied quickly in both matches. Head coach Rob Fishbaum attributes the comebacks to one key factor.

"I think it's really character," he said. "They know if they get down, they can get back.

"I see a lot of teams that get down and start kicking the dirt. They fold their tents. This team has a lot of character. They don't give up. They've come back in the past."

Fishbaum believes the 1998 edition of the Tigers is technically very sound and it's the best-hitting of the three championship teams he's coached. Despite racking up 15 runs against Mary Ward, "our big hitters didn't hit very strong today," he said.

Catcher Nathaniel Lipkus, 18, agreed that CHAT has had the power to rally from early deficits. This year's final was fairly routine compared to last year's championship, when CHAT had to go to extra innings to win the title, he pointed out.

Centre-fielder Jason Wang, who scored three home-runs in the final game, attributed the Tigers' success to "a total team effort." A back up on last year's team, Wang said CHAT picked up the intensity for the championship game and played error-free ball.

Shortstop Ryan Yermus, 17, pointed to great team chemistry as a key factor in the win and in the semi-final comeback. Despite falling behind 6-0, the Tigers came back for a 14-7 win, he said.

The Tigers' full roster includes: Daniel Warner, Jeff Moscoe, Daniel Kobrossi, Michael Tweyman, David Safer, Jacob Rifkind, Ronen Maze, Jared Faust, Jeff Niman, Jack Latner, Josh Waks, Jeff Hershenfield, Daniel Lipton, Jared Rochwerg, Colomby, Wang, Lipkus and Yermus. Corey Birnbaum served as an assistant to Fishbaum.

The Tigers roar and score — this one a close play at home plate. [Paul Lungen photos]

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Y honors handball star

By MYRON LOVE
Prairie Correspondent

WINNIPEG — Rebecca Hoffer, a member of Canada's National Handball Team, was awarded the Max Nusgart Memorial Award at the 26th annual Y Sports Dinner on June 8. The award is presented yearly to the Manitoba Jewish Athlete of the Year.

Hoffer, one of only two team members from outside Quebec, has been a national team member since 1996. The team won silver medals last year at the Pan American Championships in Brazil and at the Sportia Cup in Montreal.

In the fall, Hoffer will begin training with the team for the 1999 Pan Am Games, scheduled to be held in Winnipeg next summer.

In winning the Nusgart Award, Hoffer was chosen over six other contestants including last year's winner, 17-year-old judo champion Olia Berger, and 16-year-old Aaron Pfeffer, also a judo champion who was also nominated last year. The other nominees were rhythmic gymnast Mira Lecker, 11; gymnast Leah Dlot, 15; baseball player Sean Kravetsky, 14; and cyclist and weightlifter Riva Benditt.

Another highlight of the evening was the presentation of the Rose and Max Rady Jewish Community Centre 1998 Recognition Award to Earl and Cheryl Barish, the principals behind the International Basketball Association and its Winnipeg entry, the Cyclones.

The keynote speaker for the evening was Marv Levy, former head coach of the defunct Montreal Alouettes of the Canadian Football League, who also enjoyed a successful coaching career in the NFL.

The annual event attracted 900 people this year, according to dinner chair Ken Kronson. The funds raised go toward supporting athletic programming at the Rady Centre.

Israel over Russia

MOSCOW — Israel has defeated Russia – in chess, that is.

An Israeli chess team beat a Russian squad by a score of 11½ to 9½ in a one-day Internet chess tournament.

World chess champion Gary Kasparov coached the Tel Aviv team in the match, which was dedicated to the Jewish state's 50th anniversary.

Among those who played for Russia were a member of the country's parliament and Russia's chief rabbi, who lost his two games.

The Inside Back

Schlepp me out to the ball game

By JORDAN MAX

Last Laugh

I suppose it had to happen sooner or later; eventually I would be called upon to publicly assume my fatherly duties in an ancient tribal ritual dating back to the beginning of time.

No, I'm not talking about a brit milah (past that) or bar mitzvah tutoring (not there yet), but something almost as monumental, namely baseball league.

My sons, ages 7 and 5, had been looking forward to the day when they could finally assume their rightful place in the universe, assuming they could actually fit into their uniforms first. Never mind that the kids can't pronounce the name of their team's sponsor; it's nearly impossible to come up with a cheer that rhymes with Part-Time Controllers. They just give me that quizzical look. Hey, I tell them, it could be worse, they could be the Viagra Hydraulics. No, scratch that idea...

Now, this may sound sacrilegious to some, but baseball is actually the third most boring spectator sport around, surpassed only by snooker and chess. It certainly leaves lots of time to let your mind wander. Somehow, though, when it's your own child participating, it's almost riveting, even if you're watching as much for injury as for hits or plays made.

As the weeks go by, I rush home from work (three times a week – gevalt!) to gulp some dinner (if there's time) and take one of the boys off to their destination. Mind you, it does prevent me from staying too late at the office.

It takes something to kvell about to realize just how much of our own egos are potentially bound up in our children's abilities and performance. This really isn't about baseball anymore; instead it's a defining moment of revelation about my capacity as a modern-day parent. At the start, I was rightfully nervous about their debut, because it would illustrate my ultimate success or failure as a father, in full public view.

Despite all other nurturing, teaching, role modeling, and disciplining in numerous other areas over the years, what it would ultimately boil down to was my ability to teach these boys to catch, throw and hit a little softball, and run to the general vicinity of the bases.

I wondered as well, would I, when faced with the prospect of public celebration or humiliation, become one of those otherwise mild-mannered people who metamorphosized into the loud, boorish, overprotective, I-know-how-to-coach-better-than-this-schlemiel sports parent, or could I somehow disassociate my own ego and anxieties from my children's abilities, successes and failures?

I was pleased to discover that my instinctual reaction was the latter, that is, at least until the first time my kid would get thrown out sliding into home plate.

By the time of the first game, it was immediately apparent that I had not done a good enough job preparing my sons for baseball. I instinctively wanted to intervene, but somehow restrained myself and let the coaches take care of it.

Come to think of it, it might have had something to do with discovering that the majority of their peers was equally unprepared. It was a close game, 13-12. Well, okay, not really that close. At these ages, any hit is pretty much an automatic home run. The only outs come from strike outs. My boys, no, they're not baseball superstars yet, far from it. But at least they made the effort, not just for themselves, but also for the team, and of course, for the honor of its sponsor with the unpronounceable name.

So I've now settled into the pattern of being a baseball dad. Sure, I still wince at their errors, and make mental notes to work with each of them on this skill or that. I still cheer their performance, good or bad, and actually manage to enjoy watching the game. But I now realize it's not only the game I'm watching unfold, it's also their own development, their self-confidence, in facing new challenges, successes and, yes, failures. So play ball, boys. And to all you dads out there, wherever you are, a happy Father's Day, too.

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- 1 16 oz can (2 cups) salmon
- 1 8 oz pkg cream cheese, softened
- 1 tblsp lemon juice
- 2 tsp grated onion
- 1 tsp prepared horseradish
- 1/4 tsp salt
- 1/4 tsp liquid smoke
- 1/2 cup chopped pecans
- 3 tblsp chopped parsley

Drain and flake salmon, removing skin and bones. Combine salmon, cream cheese, lemon juice, onion, horseradish, salt and liquid smoke; mix thoroughly. Chill several hours. Combine pecans and parsley. Shape salmon mixture in a 8x2" log; roll in nut mxture. Chill well. Serve with crackers.

About jobs

Dear Readers,

This will be the last time this column is published. So the topic for this week is change.

Change is a force that drives us all. One place where we have noted a great deal of change is in the world of work. I have spoken of it in this space many times over the years.

One of the most drastic times we notice change is when we lose our job. When I began writing this column, the unemployment rate was high. People were afraid. They needed to know how to cope with their feelings and how to find new jobs. They needed to assess what skills they had that could be transferred to other workplaces, and how much money they needed to earn in order to support themselves and their families.

Computers became a more important part of the workplace and changed or even eliminated many jobs. New graduates were eager to work, and many employers hired them at rates that were lower than acceptable to older, more experienced workers. Many people returned to school. The growth in adult education was immense. I applauded it.

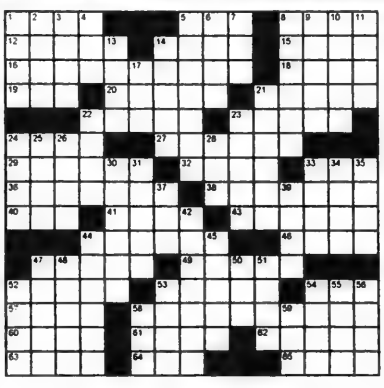
I myself returned to school. After developing and teaching courses on job-finding and stress management, I wanted to learn more about the principles of teaching and learning. I wanted to increase my knowledge of counselling techniques that I had begun to use in my private practice.

This spring, I am graduating from both master of education and bachelor of education programs. I have learned many new ideas and wrote a thesis that contributed to the field of career education. I have also increased my personal knowledge and skill in helping others learn. Finally, I have made myself marketable in the field of teaching.

Many of you will also be graduating from colleges and universities this spring. Some of you will be completing certificate and other training programs. To all of you I wish the very best of luck. I firmly believe that we will embrace the future successfully.

The world of work has been changing and we have proven that we are willing to change along with it. Continued learning will be the common requirement, if we are to be successful into the next millennium.

The Canadian Jewish news CROSSWORD PUZZLE The Canadian Jewish news



Across

1. Noah to Ham
5. Ein Gedi
8. __Yar
12. Change for a NIS
11. Zim carrier
15. Gad's boy
16. Pale of___
18. Tekiah
19. Haifa to Hebron (dir)
20. Similar
21. First minor prophet
22. Join
23. Solomon's secrets
24. Neil Simon sections
27. Medad and Eldad
29. Singer novel
32. Luckman and Gordon
33. Soon
36. Tsimmes mostly
38. Imitate Delilah
40. Biblical measure
41. Cecil, Jewish historian
43. Never a Nazarite
44. Gathering often
16. Price
47. Israel in 1948
49. Jewish camp
52. Elected
53. Terriorists
54. Rent
57. "The___" Wiesel book
58. Pesach platter
60. Not with meat ! !
61. Byzantine and Hellenistic
62. ___in Goray, Singer
63. Bets (Eng)
64. Sacrifice residue
65. Hebrew letters

Down

1. "Mitla___", Uris novel
2. "Rock of _"
3. Chopped liver~
4. Chagall genre
5. Israeli coins
6. Tu B'Shevat planting?
7. Likely
8. Sticks for Bemstein
9. Made aliyah
10. Roasted on Pesach
11. Einstein specialty
13. Funt or Sherman
14. kill biblically
17. Ithamar high priest
21. Star of "Leo and George"
22. Refuseniks' home
23. Media
24. Writer Sholom
25. Eiggteen
26. Like shiva clothes
28. Acted
30. Ancient cave-dweller
31. Say the Viddui
33. Yiddish Institute
34. Erevs (Eng)
35. House for Avram
37. Chazzer house
39. Apiece
42. Israelite desert station
44. Makes the tsimmes
45. Items on Schilidler's List
47. Tzedakah
48. Comedian Fields
50. Damage
51. Cleo killers
52. Actor Lee J
53. Name on towel
54. Deceased
55. Village of Simeon
56. Plagues and Commandments
58. Red or Dead
59. On the___

These puzzles are the work of Kathi Handler of Waterbury, Connecticut.

(Last week's answers are on page 38)

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This Week

National

German firm offers compensation for slave laborers. *Page 3*

Former U of T newspaper pulled for anti-Jewish article. *Page 7*

Time of Your Life

Growing number of retired men are choosing to volunteer. *Page 24*

Health

Too good to be true? Can you exercise watching TV. *Page 31*

Arts

Montreal-born choreographer Kim Frank wins critical praise in Russia. *Page 38*

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Reform Jewry revisits descent policy

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The Reform movement's controversial patrilineal descent policy, adopted 15 years ago, may become clearer with the acceptance of specific guidelines, to be established at the conference of the Central Conference of American Rabbis (CCAR) being held this week in Anaheim, Calif.

Conference in California may clarify patrilineal descent rules

"The changes will move the Reform in the United States closer to the position in Canada," said Rabbi Elyse Goldstein, director of Kolel, Centre for Liberal Jewish Learning.

She is the only Canadian on an 11-member rabbinical task force created two years ago. Its report recommends the use of "clear guidelines" for the policy, and that the term patrilineal descent be renamed equilineal descent or Jewish descent.

"My sense is that the report will not change the situation in Canada," said Rabbi Paul Gollom, director, Canadian Council for Reform Judaism.

The report will be discussed at the next meeting of the Canadian section of the CCAR in September.

The practices in Toronto, home to the largest number of Reform Jews in Canada, will not be changed to any great effect, according to

Continued on page 16

AT THE END OF A DARK TUNNEL, PRECIOUS LIGHT

The symbolism and the imagery in this photo of the rail track at the entrance to Birkenau are powerful and evocative. They require no elaboration. The photographer participated in the recent March of the Living. Please see the related feature story on page 9. *[Eli Melnick photo]*

Facelift for 'Gold Rush' cemetery

By PETER CAULFIELD
Pacific Correspondent

DAWSON CITY — To celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Klondike gold rush, the Jewish Historical Society of Yukon has embarked on an unusual centennial project: repairing and re-dedicating the Dawson City Jewish cemetery.

Society president and co-founder Howard Kushner said that, when the gold rush was in full swing, there were close to 200 Jews living – and dying – in and around Dawson City.

"At the turn of the last century, Dawson City had 40,000 inhabitants, making it the largest city in North America west of Winnipeg and north of San Francisco," Kushner said. (The population of Dawson City today is just 1,500.)

In 1902, the Dawson City Jewish Society petitioned the Canadian government for an allotment of land on the "cemetery ridge" overlooking the gold rush boom town. The society's petition was successful, and Beth Chaim Cemetery, under the direction of Rabbi Robert Bloom, soon opened for business. As the gold rush moved west into Alaska, however, the Jewish community went with it and the cemetery, which had

Continued on page 36

The offices of *The CJN* will be closed on July 1.
We wish all our readers and advertisers
a Happy Canada Day.

Russia and Syria are becoming friendlier — please see page 34

The News in Brief

CANADA

Summer Jobs Grant

TORONTO — Several Jewish organizations benefitted from a $186,000 grant for summer jobs announced recently by York Centre MP, National Defence Minister Art Eggleton.

The grant will create summer employment for 72 young people.

Among the recipients were Petah Tikva Anshe Castilla Congregation; the Koffler Gallery; B'nai Brith Canada; Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue; Bnei Akiva of Canada/Camp Moshava; Camp Eitan; Emunah Women; Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto; Jewish Immigrant Aid Services; and Mizrachi Organization of Canada.

JFS Sends Supplies

MONTREAL — In the wake of this month's explosion at the L'Accueil Bonneau, a large shipment of much-needed supplies from the Jewish community was sent to the homeless shelter's new Marché Bonsecours location.

The effort was coordinated by Le Mercaz, a program of Jewish Family Services (JFS) of Baron de Hirsch.

JFS sent a truckload of merchandise, including men's clothing, linens and other items, in order to assist a "longstanding institution, which for many years has performed a valuable service for the homeless and destitute," said FEDERATION CJA president Stanley Plotnick.

ISRAEL

Religion Bill Submitted

JERUSALEM — Seven Israeli legislators submitted a bill in the Knesset aimed at protecting freedom of religion for all Israelis. One of the legislators, Hagai Meirom of the Labor party, said the bill would allow Conservative and Reform Jews to enjoy full religious rights in Israel.

Israel Willing To Talk

JERUSALEM — Israel reaffirmed that it would hold talks with Lebanon and Syria if the negotiations take place without preconditions. The comment came from a Foreign Ministry spokesperson one day after Lebanese Prime Minister Rafik Hariri told President Bill Clinton during a meeting in Washington that a peace agreement with Israel could be negotiated in three months if Israel resumes negotiations where they left off with Syria in March 1996.

Netanyahu Angry

JERUSALEM — Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu is reportedly angry at Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai for pushing him to reach an agreement regarding a further West Bank redeployment. The prime minister said he would not be rushed into a decision.

An Israeli government official, meanwhile, was quoted as saying a redeployment agreement would have to include a letter of assurance from Washington that it would oppose any unilateral declaration of Palestinian statehood until the peace process is completed.

Monitoring Proposed

JERUSALEM — A Knesset member has proposed that a special unit be formed to monitor haredi Jews who are exempted from compulsory military service in order to devote their lives to Torah study. Ran Cohen of the leftist Meretz party claimed that some 20,000 Haredim who receive military exemptions have paying jobs instead of attending a yeshivah.

Youth Detained

HEBRON — Two youths from a home for troubled children were detained on suspicion of killing a Palestinian on a West Bank road. According to police, the two youths stuck a wooden plank out the window of their van, hitting the Palestinian farmer as they drove past him.

WORLD

Canadians Graduate

NEW YORK — Twenty-two Canadians were among more than 1,700 graduates receiving degrees at Yeshiva University's 67th annual commencement, held recently in the theatre at Madison Square Garden.

Bachelor's and associate degrees were awarded to graduates of Yeshiva College, Stern College for Women, Sy Syms School of Business, James Striar School of General Jewish Studies and Isaac Breuer College of Hebraic Studies.

Guide Distributed

NEW YORK — In honor of Deaf/Blind Awareness Week, which commemorates the birthdate of Helen Keller (June 27, 1880), the Orthodox Union is offering a free guide to help synagogues become more blind/deaf friendly.

Among the tips included in the guide are providing interpreters for services and other synagogue and community events, designating specific seats for the deaf to make it easier to see the interpreter or read lips, and providing prayer books in large print.

CJC Committee Heads Named

MONTREAL — Moshe Ronen, Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) national president, has announced the names of the people who will head the organization's national standing committees.

Prof. Sheva Medjuck of Halifax will chair the social action committee (formerly known as the law and social action committee); Harold Brief and Simon Rosenblum of Toronto will serve as chair and vice-chair respectively of the national Israel affairs committee; Mark Weintraub of Vancouver heads the national community relations committee, with Ellen Cole of Toronto as vice-chair.

Hal Joffe of Calgary will take charge of security; Les Scheininger of Toronto, a former CJC president, will chair public policy and international relations, with Cary Green of Toronto as vice-chair; Rabbi Reuven Bulka of Ottawa will head up religious and inter-religious affairs. Co-chairing the national small communities committee are Michael Sobol of Guelph, Michael Peters of Victoria and Hedda Medjuck of Halifax.

Thomas Kuttner of Fredericton chairs the constitution and charter review committee; CJC past president Prof. Irving Abella of Toronto chairs the war crimes committee and the CJC board of governors; Nathan Leipciger of Toronto will continue as chair of the national Holocaust remembrance committee, adding Harold Sosnowicz of Winnipeg as vice-chair.

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Canadians to share in slave labor compensation

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — For 53 years, Rose Besser has lived with awful memories of forced labor at the munitions factory at Peterswaldau in Lower Silesia.

Treated as a slave, Besser never received a pfenning for her work assembling the timing device for German bombs. But now, thanks to the boastful lies of the industrialist who profited from her unpaid labor and the alert eye of one of his former workers, Besser will receive some compensation for the grueling work she put in at the Diehl Company's munitions factory.

"Happy, not happy, who would believe that this would ever come out?" she says today. Besser will receive 15,000 Deutschmarks (about $12,000) as compensation for 15 months of slave labor.

Besser never thought she'd ever get a cent, but that changed recently thanks to the efforts of a former worker at the plant who declines to be identified. A landsman of Besser from the Polish town of Sosnowiecz, the woman remained in Germany after the war.

She was watching television at her home in Germany last spring when she was stunned to see the industrialist who owned the factory receive an award as man of the year, Besser says. The woman couldn't believe her eyes as Karl Diehl was lauded for his kindness and philanthropy. Especially galling was his public statement that he never used slave labor in his wartime factories.

The woman, of course, knew better. After the camp was liberated in May 1945, she and another girl found and kept a roster of all the slave laborers employed at the camp. With that evidence in hand, she contacted the German media and exposed Diehl's wartime profiteering. The result was twofold: Diehl had to withdraw his claim of never using slave labor and the Nuremberg-based Diehl firm established a trust fund to compensate workers who toiled at the company's factories in Peterswaldau and Langenbielau .

The compensation varies according to the number of months of forced labor. The maximum of 15,000 DM goes to those who worked from nine to 14 months; 5,000 DM goes to those who labored for three to eight months.

In offering the compensation, the Diehl firm states it is doing so "for humanitarian reasons and without recognizing any legal obligations."

So far, only 180 people have applied for the compensation. "I notified people in Toronto, Montreal, Miami, Los Angeles and Hartford," Besser said. "The majority of people don't remember that they worked at the Diehl factory.

"A lot just put it out of their minds," adds her husband, Frank, who was forced to dig ditches near the factory as Russian forces advanced.

For Rose, thinking about the camp still brings on strong emotions and many tears. For her, Peterswaldau was the last in a series of concentration and slave labor camps she endured during the war. She was sent to Peterswaldau in February 1944 from Wiezan and she was put to work on timing devices for bombs.

Conditions in the factory were hard. The women, from Poland and Hungary, were forced to work 12-hour days and subsist on two slices of bread and a bowl of watery soup. The female SS ruled the work camp with ruthlessness, creating a climate of fear among the 1,300 prisoners.

Rose and Frank Besser, shortly after the war

Besser shared a barracks with 250 other girls and slept in a wooden bunk with only some straw for comfort. The massive room was heated by a single stove in the corner. Sick people were taken to an isolation room and then out of the camp to be murdered. For suffering those conditions while making Diehl rich, Besser and the others never received a pfenning — until today.

The deadline for compensation claims is Dec. 31, 1999. Claims can be sent to Helene Maringer, Bockenheimer Land St. 81, Frankfurt Am Mein 60325, Germany.

In other developments, Volkswagen (VW) has rejected compensation demands by 30 former Jewish slave laborers, the *Jewish Telegraphic Agency* reported.

The Hungarian-born survivors, who were taken from Auschwitz to work at VW headquarters in Wolfsburg between 1944 and 1945, plan to sue the car company. The company argues that the German government is responsible for settling such claims because it is the legal successor to the Nazi regime.

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Celebratory publications

The celebration of Yom Ha'atzmaut has come and gone, but the celebration of Israel's 50th anniversary is ongoing.

These celebrations take many forms.

First and foremost are myriad activities: concerts, parties, gatherings and showcases, private and public, that will run throughout the year. Readers are well advised to check their local community calendars for the details of the many public activities.

There are also a number of special publications that have been produced to commemorate the anniversary.

I want to draw readers' attention to two such publications, each unique and exceptionally informative.

The first publication, in fact, is a CD-ROM.

JeMM Productions in Jerusalem has produced an interactive CD entitled *Portrait of Israel*. It is a multimedia exploration, a journey of the people and a journal of the events of the first 50 years of the State of Israel through the stark, evocative photographic archives of one of Israel's leading photographers, David Rubinger.

Rubinger, now a photographer for Time-Life, was born in Vienna in 1924 and at the age of 15, he moved to Israel, where he lived on Kibbutz Bet Zera.

Almost all of us, at one time or another, have seen and been moved by a Rubinger photograph.

He has been witness to the key moments of Israel's young history and has chronicled the country's greatest achievements and its most sorrowful tragedies. So non-intrusive yet so very deeply penetrating are the insights of his camera, that it seems, at times, as if he were an invisible companion along the road travelled by the colorful, diverse subjects in his photos.

In 1997, Rubinger won the prestigious Israel Prize for his life work in photography.

Portrait of Israel is an artistic, moving collection of powerful, emotionally evocative photographs.

It has three sections. The first is called the Gallery. It contains 50 of Rubinger's favorite photographs, each accompanied by a personal voice-over commentary by the photographer himself.

The 50 photos in the Gallery are a chronological time travel tryptich down memory lane. And there are moments, literally, when the shivers from the goosebumps cause the viewer too young to remember 1948 but old enough to know 1967, to pause, reflect and sigh.

For example we see a photo of Oskar Schindler taken in May 1961 as he is greeted in Israel by a cheering, tearfully happy throng of people whom he saved from the Nazis.

There is also the touchstone photo of the Six Day War: the young paratroops at the Western Wall, moments after they participated in its recapturing. We are told in the accompanying commentary why the soldiers seem to be looking heavenward.

"I was crying when I took the picture. Maybe that is why it became so famous. I don't know. I had reached the Wall 10 or 15 minutes after it was taken by these guys whom you see here. The place was so narrow... that I had no way of taking a picture with both the soldiers and the Wall except by lying down in a corner. It is that angle that makes the photo."

Without exception, each of the Gallery photographs freezes the mind and focuses one's thoughts onto an especially precious moment in time.

The first of the Gallery photographs shows the rationing of water for the people of Jerusalem during the War of Independence. The last of the 50 photos shows King Hussein eulogizing Yitzhak Rabin.

The second section of the CD is the Theatre. It contains slide shows on five distinct topics, along with video clips of a TV documentary prepared by Rubinger, called *Then and Now*.

The third section is the Archives; it contains 1,000 photos, including 370 rare and remarkable portraits of 13 famous leaders – from Menachem Begin and David Ben-Gurion, to Anwar Sadat and Ariel Sharon – whose lives have influenced Israel's development. The archival photos are arranged both by subject and by date.

* * *

The second publication is *One Hundred Years of Israeli Art* by Gideon Ofrat, translated by Peretz Kidron, Westview Press.

The author is quick to clarify that even though the State of Israel is only 50 years old, the work deals with 100 years of art.

"This book is about the art of a place (Palestine, Eretz Yisrael, Land of Israel, Israel) rather than the art of a state. To be precise, it is about 100 years of artistic discourse with a national ideal and the manner of its implementation in the land of Israel."

As far as I know, this is the first comprehensive, overview history of the development of "Israeli" art.

* * *

The Rubinger photo journal and the Ofrat art history are exceedingly important educational instruments that may help impart a sense of the poignant past to the younger generations for whom Israel, controversial and even exciting, may be only a place of the present.

MBD

Israel's 50 Jubilee — *from the archives*

AN EMBRACE AND A REUNION

Family members tearfully reunite in Ashkelon in 1994.

[Keren Hayesod – UIA Communications photo]

* * *

For the latest in *Israel at 50* news, check out the *Israel at 50* Web site: [www.feduja.org] or call the *Israel at 50* hotline 416-635-2883 ext. 706.

Special needs kids will go to summer camp, Harris says

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Parents of children with special needs, including those at the Zareinu Educational Centre, are hopeful that a public relations offensive launched last week will loosen government purse-strings, and allow the kids to attend summer camp.

Both Premier Mike Harris and Community and Social Services Minister Janet Ecker were caught off guard by the PR tactic, in which 8-year-old Zareinu student Chantalle Wahl and Ontario Liberal Leader Dalton McGuinty held an impromptu press conference to denounce the Tory government for cuts to a program that allows special needs children to attend camp.

The cuts would affect up to 400 families in Toronto and York Region – perhaps as many as 1,000 – said Carol Goldman, educational director of Zareinu, a Jewish day school for about 50 children with special needs.

Goldman said almost all of Zareinu's 50 students would be affected by the cuts.

Over the past few weeks, families of children like Chantalle received letters from Ecker's ministry, informing them that the financial assistance they had received in the past would not be available to them this summer.

The program, known as Special Services at Home, provides funds for camp mediators – trained attendants for campers with cerebral palsy, Down Syndrome, autism and other disorders.

The letters suggested that anyone dissatisfied with the decision to cut the funds either appeal or go on a waiting list. But Goldman points out that the letters came in April and May – too late for kids who had already been signed up for camp this summer.

Premier pledges to correct the problem

"How do you go on a waiting list in June? The parents are in total despair," she told *The CJN*.

Following the news conference, the premier pledged to correct the problem.

"I can assure you, to the best of my knowledge, we certainly have not reduced any funding or changed any program in this area," Harris said during Question Period, in response to a query from McGuinty.

The premier added: "I can tell you also, if there is a specific child, the one you mentioned, or others, who has been eligible in the past and is not today…we'll make sure they go to camp."

Ecker told reporters that the budget for the special program has actually increased over the past three years, and that she had not approved any cuts.

"I'm not aware of any policy changes that would have caused those letters to go out," she said. "If there were inappropriate decisions that were made, I will follow through with that."

The remarks by Harris and Ecker were of some comfort to Goldman. As of last week, she was flooding both their offices with copies of the rejection letters parents had received.

She was also in touch with Jewish Family & Child Service, which arranges for some of the mediators.

"My goal is not political," she said. "My goal is to send these kids to camp."

Aviva Spiro of Thornhill was one of the parents who received a letter denying her funds for a mediator. But that won't prevent her 6-year-old son, Ezra, also a Zareinu student, from attending camp.

Spiro plans to pay for a mediator (up to $2,000) out of her own pocket, but she will demand reimbursement from the government.

"We got [funding] for the last three years. Where is the money now? I'm not going to back down. This is too important."

JERUSALEM PAVILION

Entertainers at this year's Jerusalem pavilion included dancers, above. The pavilion at the Bloor Jewish Community Centre, was part of Metro Caravan, Toronto's annual multicultural festival.

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Greater Toronto Area

Disabled Israeli vets enjoy R and R in Ontario

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The price paid for 50 years of Jewish statehood was graphically illustrated recently, with the annual visit of disabled Israeli soldiers to Toronto.

Under the auspices of Aid to Disabled Veterans of Israel Beit Halochem Canada, 10 veterans of the all-too-numerous wars Israel has fought came to Toronto recently, to meet the community, and to "know that we support them – that we are behind them," explained Beit Halochem Canada former president Shaila Gottlieb.

Most of all, though, the trip was for the soldiers' benefit, she said, a kind of R and R for those who have, and many still are, suffering from the results of their injuries as well as the psychological devastation of their experiences.

"Some are very traumatized when they come," Gottlieb said. "But when they see that people accept them, and that they are received with honor, they seem so much better. Their families have said they notice the difference in them."

The soldiers are billeted in private homes, and spend time with their host families, as well as with a cadre of volunteers. Among the "touristy" activities they have enjoyed this trip are Niagara Falls, the Science Centre, the Island Yacht Club, SkyDome, a cruise in Toronto harbor, the zoo, and a view of Symphony of Fire from the Manulife Roof Deck.

They were entertained in private homes as well, which gave them the opportunity to interact with people in an informal setting.

One of the highlights of their two-week trip, was a day spent at local day schools – Shearim, Heschel, Associated, Or Ha'emet, Netivot, Leo Baeck, United Synagogue Day Schools and Bialik.

Bialik students [front row, from left] Hailey Rosenbaum, Tamar Ruben and Lauren Henry present a cheque for funds raised at a jewelry auction to Israeli veterans [far right] Amiram Shaar, and [from left] Waitzman Effraim, Adi Nagar and Nimrod Bachar. Looking on are senior division coordinator Jerry Weinberg and event coordinator Nava Yehudius. [Leila Speisman photo]

The CJN caught up with four of the soldiers, Waitzman Effraim, Adi Nagar, Amiram Shaar and Nimrod Bachar speaking to a Grade 6 class at Bialik.

The students were spellbound by the veterans stories of their life in the military, and by their accounts of how they were injured and their rehabilitation.

They were particularly moved by Shaar's story of his participation in northern Israel during the Yom Kippur War. Badly injured, he thought he was going to die. Instead, a close friend risked his own life to save him.

Effraim told the students that with Israel having a small population, compared to the 65 million Arabs in the surrounding countries, the need for peace is imperative.

"We wish to be at peace. We must be at peace," he said.

What was stressed during the program was that disabled veterans range in age from very young to middle-aged, and that the situation affected not only them, but their families as well. Beit Halochem provides recreation for the whole family, not just the veteran.

Gottlieb noted that many are still in pain, although they put up a strong front. "They really have to be strong – many have children going into the army, and they have to be strong to support them."

The visits, she said, demonstrate "the partnership of love: one on one, and soul to soul."

As part of their Israel at 50 celebrations, the Grade 6 class made jewelry, which they sold at auction to fellow students. They donated the $120 that they raised to the Aid to Disabled Veterans Beit Halochem Canada. Grade 6 teacher Tobi Kaufman organized the project.

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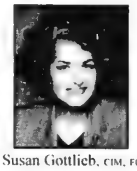

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Hungarian survivor honored

By STACEY STEIN
Student Intern

TORONTO — The achievements and bravery of Hungarian Holocaust survivor Eugene Winter were celebrated recently at a gala dinner held by the Emanuel Foundation in honor of his memory.

The event, at Le Parc banquet centre in Thornhill, also honored the memories of Allan, Ethel and Larry Grossman. Allan Grossman and his son Larry both enjoyed long and active political careers with Ontario's Progressive Conservative party.

Born in Budapest, Winter was a leader in the Hungarian Jewish community. As a member of the Hungarian resistance movement during World War II, he sabotaged several Nazi institutions and liberated occupied cities. After moving to Canada in 1951, Winter helped settle newly arrived Hungarians and Jews in Canada and founded the Canadian Federation of Jews of Hungarian descent.

Guest speaker Moshe Ronen lauded Winter's character and accomplishments.

In his first official address to the Jewish community as president of the Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC), Ronen said:

"It is a great pleasure to participate in this evening, honoring the memory of a great Jew and a great Canadian, Eugene Winter; a man who contributed so much to our community, to our people, to our country."

Ronen also spoke of the need for solidarity within the Jewish community.

"In the tradition of Eugene Winter... we must make common cause, we must form coalitions and network in groups and communities that rightly demand to be accepted and equal in a society which rejects hierarchies based on ethnocultural differences," he said.

Ronen also praised the Emanuel Foundation, which is dedicated to keeping alive the memory of the Holocaust.

"We can not, we will not be silent," he said. "We will not accept the revision of history; that is why the work of the Emanuel Foundation is so critical today and why it is so relevant."

Ronen pledged CJC's commitment to challenging the federal government to deliver on its promise of erecting a national Holocaust museum in Canada.

Actor Kelly Curtis, daughter of Tony Curtis, spoke of the importance of non-profit organizations such as the Emanuel Foundation, founded by Tony Curtis in memory of his father, Emanuel Schwartz.

"I am inspired by your commitment to our important mission," she said.

Citing Winter, Raoul Wallenberg and her father as some of her heroes, she said: "Societally, we've come to equate celebrity – our sports and movie stars, especially – with heroism. We have confused the two as if they are interchangeable, and they are not."

Also present at the dinner were Hungarian Consul General Gabor Menczel and several local politicians, including MPP Monte Kwinter and Toronto councillor Milton Berger.

It was the first time the Emanuel Foundation held its annual dinner in Canada. Proceeds from the benefit dinner went towards completion of the Raoul Wallenberg memorial park in Budapest, built in honor of the Swedish war hero.

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Greater Toronto Area

Former U of T paper pulled for anti-Jewish article

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A former University of Toronto (U of T) student newspaper that linked Jews to the pornography industry has been pulled from its drop-off location at the university and the editors' e-mail privileges have been cancelled.

The move came in the wake of complaints about the contents of a story carried in *The New Edition*, a four-page tabloid newspaper that was distributed free of charge at the U of T's New College and at other locations. The paper, published and edited by former U of T students, carried an article that Jewish groups and the school's assistant principal found offensive.

The article claims Jews control a multi-billion dollar pornography business and participate in it as actors and producers. The article also claims that since Jews are used to "hatred from society, Jews will do its dirty work – such as money lending in the Middle Ages or porn today – for the opportunity to make money.

"Persecuted for millennia in the various societies they've lived in, many Jews developed an allegiance to their own survival as their highest value and care little about the survival of the persecuting society...Many Jews hate the majority culture," the article states.

The story employs "gross stereotypes of Jews that are hurtful and shameful," said Lance Davis, director of education for Jewish Campus Services.

"It's despicable and a misrepresentation of the Jewish people."

Danny Fine, spokesperson on community relations for Canadian Jewish Congress, said the article is "not only insulting, it's also extremely offensive." The article "causes prejudice towards an identifiable group," he suggested.

"I just found the slant of the [article] was totally offensive," said Sally Walker, assistant principal and registrar at New College. "This is not the sort of thing we want circulating in the college." Walker said she collected all copies of the paper she could find at the college.

Until three years ago, *The New Edition* was the student newspaper at New College but since then, the college has terminated its association with the paper, Walker said.

The student council now publishes another newspaper but it appears *The New Edition* has gone "underground" and is published irregularly, she added.

None of the editorial staff or publisher of *The New Edition* are current University of Toronto students, said Susan Addario, a spokesperson for the university's Office of Student Affairs.

Her investigation of the paper revealed that some members of the paper's editorial staff were at one time student leaders or were involved in the campus media in leadership positions. In that capacity, they were entitled to a general delivery electronic mailbox and access to the school's electronic bulletin board. Since publication of the controversial story, that access has been cut off, she said.

The newspaper itself is a ragged collection of items that include record reviews, stream of consciousness rants and a survey of adult magazines. The fourth page of the paper is a full-page ad placed by Chrysler Canada.

The pornography article is an edited version of a much longer item that appeared on the Internet at a Web site operated by someone described as Luke Ford.

The Web site is a collection of articles touching on various aspects of the adult film industry, but it also includes biographical material about Ford, the Web author. He is described as the son of Christian evangelist Desmond Ford who grew up as a Seventh Day Adventist in Australia until he moved to California in 1977.

Intrigued by Judaism, Ford converted in 1992 and much of his biographical material touches on his journey to Judaism.

Ford claims to be "an internationally known speaker and writer" on topics ranging from entertainment to ethics. He also appears to be intrigued by Dennis Prager, the Los Angeles-based author and commentator on Jewish issues. In addition to operating his own Web site on the pornography industry, Ford runs a Web site [www.dennisprager.net] that features many of Prager's articles on Jewish topics.

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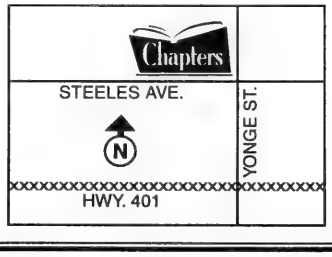

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Congratulations, students

Who among us does not remember our first day of school? For most of us, the scene of the young child fearfully clinging to a parent, cringing at the thought of being separated from home for an entire school day, terror-stricken at the impending prospect of being handed over into the custody of some stranger, possibly even a monster or a witch, is an exaggeration. It did not happen.

But for all of us, our first day was nevertheless, a trip into the unknown and the beginning of the up and down, exciting and dull, joyful and tearful journey we would subsequently call formal education, or simply, school.

At this time of year, in every community on earth where schools exist, students on that journey are moving forward, stepping up onto different platforms and entering different stations along the way. Some are even leaving the journey altogether, graduating from it with undiminished relief, a ceremonial rite of passage, into the next phase of their lives.

It is therefore appropriate, given the time of year, and the intense, mostly motivated movements by countless millions of children on that journey, that we commend all students for their achievements.

For some students who find the journey itself very difficult, merely the effort of staying on as long as they can is an achievement. Others may strive for higher levels of personal excellence and higher individual results may be their achievements.

No achievement, however, is too small to be noticed and appreciated by the people that count most in our students' lives: their parents and their families. Each act of noticing and each expression of appreciation are building blocks, of sorts. Over the years, they form the constantly buffeted foundation on which a student's belief in self, belief in the "system" and belief in his or her future will ultimately rest.

We therefore take great pleasure in congratulating our students for their many worthy and worthwhile achievements. And we hope all parents notice.

Thank you, teachers

In congratulating our children, though, we must at the same time, convey thanks to their teachers. For without the aid of their teachers, our children's journey through school would be a blind, undirected excursion through buildings and portables but not through learning.

To be sure, not all teachers have a lasting influence upon their students. But no teacher desists from trying to influence them. They all participate in our children's education. This too should be noticed and appreciated, especially these days.

Educational budgets are repeatedly threatened and often slashed; teachers' ability to participate to the very best of their abilities has been compromised. Classroom resources are being reduced even as classroom problems – pedagogical, social, psychological and emotional – are increasing.

Our sages taught us to "revere our teachers in the same way that we revere heaven." In this day and age, that notion seems strangely odd. More often than not, teachers are scapegoated by governments, rather than extolled.

Jewish tradition holds that school children may not be interrupted from their studies even for the building of the Temple. The point of the parable is to vividly demonstrate that no activity contains within it more far-reaching societal benefits than that of "being in school," learning, achieving great and small individual achievements.

Therefore, at this time of year, we also say thank you to our teachers.

WISDOM OF THE AGES

"He who doesn't try, can't fail; he who lies on the ground, can't fail."
Moshe Ibn Ezra

Dry Bones
IN THE OLD DAYS, BEFORE TRAVELING SOCCER FANS
WE THOUGHT THAT INT'L SPORTING EVENTS...
...WERE A REPLACEMENT FOR WARFARE AND HAND-TO-HAND COMBAT
INSTEAD OF AN EXCUSE FOR ENGAGING IN IT.

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Rabin honored at Yom Ha'atzmaut in Israel

One dare not fail to recognize the anguish experienced by Leah Rabin at the horrendous assassination of her husband and one does not gainsay her right to express the anger and bitterness which she understandably feels.

In her pain,though, she should not distort facts.

In her interview with Ron Csillag (*CJN*, June 11), she asserted that at the 50th anniversary Jubilee celebration "his name [that of Yitzhak Rabin] was hardly mentioned" and she alleged that "they" do anything to conceal his role in history and the place he has in the people's hearts and minds.

I – with several other Torontonians – was at that Jubilee celebration in Jerusalem on Yom Ha'atzmaut. Not only did the beautiful souvenir book given to all spectators prominently dedicate a page to "He shall be the peacemaker..." (including a photograph of the Rabin-Hussein-Clinton handshakes), but at a very appropriate point in the proceedings, while a huge symbolic dove of peace drifted across the stage, the large video screens portrayed images of Rabin during his long and distinguished career, and *Shir haShalom, The Song of Peace*, now associated so clearly with him and that terrible night, was featured.

Judy Feld Carr
Toronto

Believes Loeb is an Ashkenazi name

I was interested in reading your report (*CJN*, May 28) that Theodor Herzl was of Sephardi descent. This is very possibly so, but your contributor doesn't prove his point by producing the surname Loeb.

Loeb, also spelt Löb, Loewe, Leib, Leibush, Leybl, is an essentially Ashkenazi name, being Yiddish for lion, and it is often coupled with Yehuda or Aryeh. Nothing Sephardi about it.

Shmuel Kohn
Toronto

A different view of spirituality conference

Re: Column by Ron Csillag (*CJN*, June 4) on Spirituality in the Workplace.

This conference was much more about how to approach our lives than our work. Spirituality is about asking questions. It is not about providing answers.

"To do this work you have to be complete with your own religion," Martin Rutte suggests. Through his own process of personal discovery about Judaism, from Orthodoxy to Reform, from Reconstructionist to Conservative, he began to see how alive and flowing, how human and full of foibles and differences Judaism is. He passionately states, "I learned through my exploration of Judaism that we don't want to use religion to separate, but rather to unleash human potential, to deepen the level of authenticity within each and every one of us."

Each of us must go on this personal journey of self discovery, to explore our roots. Unwillingly this conference about work and spirituality takes me back to Lech l'cha and Abraham. For me, what he was really saying was that each of us must explore our own paths and journeys, all the way back, and then move forward. How exciting! This message goes far beyond the place of spirituality in the workplace.

Susan Steinberg
Toronto

Winchevsky School is partner in Centre Spotlight

Re: Article on Centre Spotlight (*CJN*, June 11) dealing with this Yiddish and Jewish variety showcase.

This showcase for Yiddish and Jewish performance is a partnership between the Jewish Artists Scholarship Society (JASS) *and* the Morris Winchevsky School, and your writer failed to mention this.

With, or without further grants, the Morris Winchevsky School will continue to fulfil its commitment to strengthen our Jewish identity through education and culture.

Sol Hermolin
Past President, Morris Winchevsky Schools
Toronto

Arafat's plan for peace does not include Israel

As reported in *The CJN* June 11, Leah Rabin considers Yasser Arafat as a trustworthy partner in the ongoing negotiations. One has to agree with her when she states that he "wants peace," as indeed Arafat proved time and again in words and deeds, beyond any reasonable doubt, his ardent desire for peace in the Middle East, minus Israel.

Isaac Josy
Toronto

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures. Letters sent by E-Mail must also include the sender's municipal address.

Perspectives

The March of the Living: a personal journal

By CHAD FINKELSTEIN

Dehumanization. Rehumanization. After hours of reflection, I decided that these two words seemed to be only ones in the English language that could describe what I saw, that described where I was, that described what happened. For I recently returned from the most important experience of my life – the March of the Living.

In the two weeks I spent in Poland and Israel, I witnessed the contrast between death and life, darkness and light, mourning and pride. The only way that I can begin to express the pain and joy that I felt simultaneously is to tell it exactly as it happened, using parts of my journal. I can start my story here, but the real story can never end.

Sunday/Monday, April 19/20

Today is April 19, the first day of the March of the Living. We are in the middle of spring, so the weather should be nice. Not here, though. Not in Poland. There seems to be an appropriately dark cloud looming over this country.

We immediately set off for Warsaw to visit the Gensha Cemetery, which was built before the war. It seemed like a fitting introduction to our trip. A strange chill passed through my body as I saw my first physical piece of Holocaust history.

Our final stop of the day was at Janusz Korczak's orphanage. Korczak tried to stop young children from being transported to a gas chamber death, until he himself was sent to be gassed along with them at Treblinka.

It has not stopped raining yet.

Tuesday, April 21

We left for the Warsaw Ghetto this morning. It is all destroyed now and the area functions, simply, as part of the city. Without walls around us, it is difficult to envision the brutal confinement. As we walked down the Path of Heroism where the martyrs of the ghetto are commemorated by individual memorials, Polish teenagers yelled at us to "get out." Some of us saw a woman allow her dog to urinate on one of the monuments. We stood on top of Mila 18, the command bunker in the Jewish revolt against the Nazis.

At 4:45, we left for a cemetery in the town of Kielce. Tomorrow we are going to Auschwitz, and I cannot even begin to anticipate my reaction.

Wednesday, April 22

As we neared Auschwitz, the mood in the bus changed. We rolled over the infamous train tracks and entered the camp on a bus with air-conditioning, food and comfortable seats. It was an unsettling entrance for some of us. Though we tried to make sense of where we actually were, seeing a snack bar in front of the camp gates did not make the scenario any easier to grasp. This is Auschwitz?!

The group shuddered as we approached the chilling sign that introduced so many families to their deaths: *Arbeit Macht Frei* – work sets you free.

Actually, the place had a very artificial feel. If I did not know the history, I would never have thought it had been a concentration camp from the way it has been preserved. The owners have transformed the nightmares into a museum, with photographs taking the place of blood stains on walls. One of the survivors remarked that there was no grass at Auschwitz 55 years ago, as there is now. Had there been, she said, she would have eaten it.

Birkenau is where most of the killing took place. With each step I took, I tried to envision what happened on the ground I was walking on. Whose blood and ashes were beneath my feet, forever ingrained into the soil of Birkenau? I tried to imagine what filled the empty wagons leaning against barracks that still bore the stench of death. I tried to visualize what one small wooden "bed" looked like with 15 skeletal bodies crammed into it for only a few hours of uncomfortable sleep. However, I was unsuccessful.

Judy Cohen, the survivor who travelled with us, pinpointed the exact spot where the evil Dr. Joseph Mengele conducted his demonic selections and showed us that where we were standing was where she saw her family for the last time. I still could not picture such inhumanity.

The sun finally came out, but the atmosphere remained the same. We were walking through a factory of death, a place where terrified arrivals were sent straight to the gas chambers and the sky was filled daily with their burnt souls.

The author, seated in the front row wearing sunglasses, is seen with some of his March companions near Tiberius in Israel. Beside him is Josh Jackson. In the middle row, from left, are Leora Sas, Rachel Loewith and Marnie Davidow. In the top row, from left, are David Goldberg, Bram Bregman, Josh Gitlin, Jon Jackson and Mike Shaw.

Thursday, April 23

Today is the International March of the Living. The sun is out again, but now it feels strangely befitting. Whereas yesterday was about mourning, today is about marching in pride. The good weather was welcome.

The march began, led by Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. We were 7,000 strong, and a sea of blue jackets filled the small town of Auschwitz. We walked mostly in silence, except for the odd remark expressing disbelief that we were redoing one of the many infamous death marches. Water was passed around, and one of the survivors declined, saying that he did not get water the first time around and did not want to have any this time. It was an eerie statement that put the day into perspective.

Friday, April 24

I am at Majdanek. This is the only camp where every single remnant has been kept completely intact. We were told that it could be up and running in 48 hours! Again, I try to visualize the horrors but am unsuccessful.

Ten minutes ago, I walked through the gas chamber…I walked through the gas chamber …I walked through the gas chamber…and then I walked out. Barely. It was packed and difficult to concentrate inside amid all the camera flashing. I was at a complete loss for thought. My head was pounding as we entered and a gruesome image appeared in my mind. There I was, with 150 people, marching into the gas chamber. I stood at the back and waited as I saw my peers crowd through the doors. Suddenly, I saw everybody around me in the enclosed area with the holes in the ceiling above our heads. I knew what was supposed to happen after that and I had to get out. I could not breathe; I began to suffocate.

I walked through the gas chamber…I walked through the gas chamber…I am aching for comfort from people, but at the same time, I have never wanted to be more alone in my life.

Then there are the pictures. I have seen them before, but now they all seem new. There are two barracks filled with prisoners' shoes. Two whole buildings filled with belongings that everybody packed but did not know they would never see or use again. More shoes than I have ever seen. I felt a little reserved about touching them. Just thinking about who could have been wearing each pair sent an uncomfortable chill down my spine. But I did touch one shoe and I feel as if I now have physical evidence engraved into my fingertips.

The walk continued past the barbed wire towards the crematorium and the mausoleum. I had been told earlier that there were ashes left at Majdanek, but I did not know where to find them. I walked into the crematorium and looked around. The images were harrowing. From the dissection table to the actual furnaces, it all seemed so surreal. There was also a box with an inscription stating that inside were bones of victims. This object was frightening, even though I could not see what was inside. In a state of mental paralysis, I stumbled over to the mausoleum, expecting to see another memorial. A mountain of ash there, right in front of us, sent a knife right through my heart. It was not a picture. It was the real thing. Hundreds of thousands of actual human beings robbed of their lives and shattered into dust. Like everyone else, I became wrapped in a catatonic state. My eyes were glazed, my mouth dropped and my speech was stifled as shock overtook my body.

I cannot understand.

Sunday, April 26

There is a terrible history here at Treblinka that I never knew. Of the 900,000 people who entered this hell on earth, only 80 survived. Eighty people! Fortunately, and unfortunately as well, the entire camp has been destroyed. All that is left is a field of stones. It is hard to grasp that this place was a demonic death camp. At this point, all of our emotions are so numb, anyway, that I do not think we can have any more of the horror pounded into our minds.

We are all extremely anxious to get out of Poland and head to Israel.

Monday, April 27-Monday, May 4

When we stepped off the plane onto Israeli ground, a flood of life was injected into my body. The rush of adrenaline evoked tears of happiness for the first time since before we left Toronto. People kissed the ground, and most of us danced on the runway, oblivious to the traffic of the airfield. It was 7 a.m., I was physically exhausted, but at the same time, had never been so awake in all my life.

The air was filled with the scent of freedom.

I have never been more relaxed or more joyful than I was that week in Israel. I do not think there are names for the colors that we witnessed on mountainous nature hikes, natural spring and waterfall tours, or captivating sunsets that lit up the sky on a warm Israeli evening. I was proud of who I was and where I was, and those surrounding me were struck by this optimism, as well.

We had seen the evils but were now in a place of life. We stated loudly on the nation's 50th anniversary that we are here and nothing will ever change that. We told the world that never again would the horror and bloodshed of the Holocaust happen. We said it with pride. We said it with emotion. We said it with joy. And we said it together.

The March of the Living is not only about learning about the Holocaust. It is about learning about one's self. I feel that through my daily journal entries, countless rolls of film and selected pieces of feelings that I have chosen to reveal to others, I have learned who I am and have developed a new appreciation for life. It was an extremely important trip for me as a person, not just as a Jew, and one that I will never forget.

What one must come away with from a venture like this is a message to give to the world that no such dehumanization can ever happen again. A message of peace and of racial tolerance. A message that we can never forget.

Chad Finkelstein is a high school student in Dundas, Ont.

NEXT WEEK

we will publish a photo essay depicting some of the sights and emotions of the March of the Living.

Opinions

Jerusalem's Jewish exodus

By ROBERT SARNER

Next month, my brother-in-law and his wife will leave Jerusalem to move to the north of the country. They say it won't happen a moment too soon. Both were born and grew up in Jerusalem. Both insist daily life in the capital has become intolerable, and they aren't going to take it anymore.

By Robert Sarner in Jerusalem

They're not alone. When they bid farewell to their home town in a few weeks, they'll be joining a fast-growing legion of former Jerusalemites who have left the city in recent years. Many have settled in satellite communities near Jerusalem, some in Tel Aviv, others in the countryside; and a small minority have left Israel altogether.

The defection of Jerusalemites is not new. What is new is the sense of a hemorrhaging of young, secular Jewish adults who see little future for themselves in the Holy City. That's the perception, if not the total reality, and it is the object of increasing debate between demographers, statisticians and politicians. Recent numbers paint a more complex picture with two key questions dominating discussion: Just who is actually leaving and what is the impact of their departure on those left behind?

This month, in a new study on the outward migration, the Jerusalem Institute for Israel Studies (JIIS) published data that does not augur well if the city is to remain "the eternal capital of the Jewish people." The departure of Jewish residents, the JIIS reports, is a major factor in explaining why the number of Arabs in Jerusalem is now growing four times faster than the city's Jewish population. The high birth rate in the Arab sector plays a minor role as it is matched by an equally prolific haredi community.

It doesn't take a professional survey to know that Jewish residents are leaving in droves. Within my own circle of friends, relatives and colleagues, I know personally at least two dozen people who have left Jerusalem in the past year or two. Almost all are non-Orthodox, between 25 and 45 years old, who felt less and less comfortable in Jerusalem.

Much like with the migration of Jews out of Quebec in the last 20 years, those left behind start feeling like a threatened species. Every few weeks, with disturbing frequency, you hear of yet another person or young family who is leaving the city. Invariably they cite the same litany of grievances – insanely high housing prices (even with the current slump in the real estate market), poor job prospects, and the growing power and influence of the haredi community, which now represents close to one-third of the city's Jewish population.

There's of course nothing extraordinary about urban folk leaving for what's perceived to be greener pastures away from the city. But in Jerusalem, where anything that threatens the uneasy status quo is cause for controversy, the shifting demographics are attracting increased attention, especially in advance of future negotiations between Israel and Palestinians on the city's future political role.

According to the JIIS study, Jerusalem's Arab residents are expected to reach almost half (45 percent) of the city's population in 20 years, up considerably from the present 30 percent. Mayor Ehud Olmert lost no time in holding a press conference to use the new data to bolster his controversial campaign to add more Jewish residents to the capital by annexing large tracts of land (including several existing communities) west of the city.

The same study also explored why people leave Jerusalem. In 1996, the last year for which statistics were available, close to 6,000 more residents left the city than the number who moved in. The reason most cited was the high cost of housing.

Jerusalem, whose current population stands at just over 600,000, has the dubious distinction of being the poorest large city in the country, after the haredi bastion of Bnei Brak where many residents don't work. The loss to Jerusalem of thousands of young professionals every year isn't helping. In response, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu recently agreed to a hefty financial package to help students, young couples and new immigrants stay in the city, and to create more jobs as part of an effort to strengthen the Jewish presence in the city.

Before moving to Israel from France, my Jerusalem-born wife and I never dreamed of living in Jerusalem. Tel Aviv, whose style of life corresponded more to our sensibility, had figured prominently in our plans. But circumstances got in the way and we settled in Jerusalem. Over time, the city even got into my system. Today, seven years later, we're still here, but it's starting to feel increasingly lonely.

The nuclear fallout hits Israel

By GERALD M. STEINBERG

Although India and Pakistan are far from the Middle East, and their recent nuclear weapons tests were the result of political issues in South Asia, the aftershocks are still shaking Tel Aviv and Jerusalem. These events ended 24 years of stability, in which no new states joined the nuclear club, and in which the non-proliferation regime slowed the spread of nuclear weapons. The regime was less than perfect, and Iraq almost completed a secret program; but without the controls and inspections, it is likely that Iraq, Iran, Egypt, Syria and Algeria would all be nuclear powers by now.

By Gerald Steinberg in Jerusalem

The Pakistani test led to a revival of the fears of the "Islamic bomb" and the spread of nuclear weapons in the Middle East. In the 1970s when Pakistan started its atomic bomb project, a number of Arab countries provided assistance, including Libya and Saudi Arabia. Despite this support, and to their dismay, none of these states have received any nuclear assistance from Pakistan. The Pakistani military has kept its distance from the Arab-Israeli conflict, and relations with Iran are not always cordial. Thus, at this time, it is a mistake to speak of an "Islamic bomb."

In the long term, however, there is cause for concern. If the Pakistani economy is hurt by sanctions, some scientists, like their underpaid Russian counterparts, might be tempted to accept offers of employment in the nuclear programs of Iran, Iraq or other countries. In this way, the technology could leak into the Middle East. However, there are few atomic secrets, and the Iranian and Iraqi nuclear design teams are unlikely to receive much that they did not already know.

The greater concern is that as a result of the Indian and Pakistani nuclear tests, the nuclear non-proliferation regime will be weakened and the incentives of other states in the region to join the nuclear club will grow.

If Iran sees that Pakistan and India have been able to get away with defying international norms, it will accelerate its own program. Iraq, whose nuclear design teams are still intact, will quickly follow suit, and then the dam will break, with Egypt and Syria next in line. Israel, which has maintained the nuclear status quo since the mid-1960s, will be forced to react by developing an open nuclear deterrent and second strike force. This is not only expensive but also highly unstable and dangerous.

The links between the nuclear arms race in South Asia and the Middle East were reinforced by the publication of rumors tying Israel to the Indian tests, and by Pakistan's claims that Israeli F-16s were preparing to attack their nuclear facilities. It is true that Israel and India have developed a low-level relationship in the past five years, but the reports regarding Indian-Israeli military cooperation are greatly exaggerated. All aspects of the Israeli nuclear program are highly classified and any reports of cooperation with a foreign country such as India are not credible. Even if there were some reason to test in secret, Israeli officials are very unlikely to take the risks of exposure by even discussing such issues with foreign officials.

With respect to Pakistan, if there were indeed F-16s in Pakistani airspace, these were probably American aircraft, but it was easier to accuse Israel, and it recalled the Israeli raid on the Iraqi reactor in 1981.

Many parties have an interest in spreading false information regarding allegations of Israeli involvement. First, by attempting to link Israel to the Indian nuclear program and tests, Pakistan sought to delegitimize and isolate India in the Arab world. Facing international isolation and sanctions, Pakistan is looking to Iran and the Arab states for support, particularly financial aid, and the attempt to tie India and Israel into a single foreign non-Islamic force may be seen as useful in this process. (In the 1980s, the Arabs successfully sold the claims of Israeli nuclear cooperation with South Africa, but after the collapse of the apartheid regime, it became clear that this disinformation campaign was uncritically accepted despite the absence of evidence.)

India, for its part, also has an interest in linking itself to Israel, in order to reduce the impact of Delhi's own isolation following the nuclear tests. This may even lead some Indians to exaggerate such ties, precisely in order to help counter the degree of isolation.

In addition, the Palestinians and many Arab states have their own reasons for spreading false claims linking Israel to India. These rumors are designed to tar Israel with the international isolation and sanctions now being faced by Iran, Iraq, Pakistan and India. By using the Indian and Pakistani tests to highlight the Israeli nuclear option, Iran, Syria and perhaps other states in the region are seeking to justify their own nuclear weapons ambitions.

Israel has a strong interest in keeping a low profile with respect to these events, and the tests that shattered the regime can set off a chain reaction that Israel has sought to avoid for 30 years.

Leonardo da Vinci and Judaism

To most people, Leonardo da Vinci is primarily known as a painter of the *Mona Lisa* and other famous pictures. To his contemporaries, however, he was far more than a visual artist; he was also an architect, engineer, scientist, poet and musician. Benet's *Readers Encyclopedia* describes him as "one of the greatest intellects in the history of mankind... In his notebooks there are some 5,000 pages of sketches and comments that reveal his concern with anatomy, botany and mathematics, including mechanical perspective drawings, studies of people and animals, plant studies and landscapes."

By Rabbi Gunther Plaut in Toronto

So how does he get into this column? Recently the Italian Consulate in Toronto sent me a bilingual book (Italian and English), entitled *Leonardo da Vinci and the Judaic Tradition*. That is a subject which, to my knowledge and that of the author (Franco Bontempi), has only recently come to light.

It seems that at a crucial period of his life, Leonardo became a close friend of Amedeo Mendez da Silva, scion of a Jewish family that had converted to Christianity. Because of the conversion, the association of the two men aroused no criticism, but apparently Leonardo not only became acquainted with Jewish tradition and its world outlook for the first time, but it also began to influence his thinking.

The most interesting aspect of this relationship is the revelation that Amedeo was in fact a secret student of Kabbalah and that evidently he transmitted some of its perceptions to his famous friend. Leonardo, in turn – according to the booklet – incorporated some of the insights of Kabbalah into his paintings, but he did so in a manner never fully appreciated until now.

In the past, no one could ever explain why some of Leonardo's obtuse writings that dealt with the themes of his own work were written from right to left. Obviously he wanted to make it difficult for readers to comprehend his true intentions. Unfortunately, even after one decodes the text, much of its meaning is still incomprehensible. Most definitely, Leonardo's writing method imitates Hebrew writing even though the artist did not know that language. But direction was everything to him and he incorporated mystical visions into the background of a few of his famous paintings. The little booklet elaborates some of these by giving examples, but I must admit that even Bontempi's explanation of Leonardo's mysterious designs exceeds my understanding.

There is no question that Leonardo's work has always met with enormous interest and that the attraction of the few paintings he has left to us has always bordered on the mystical.

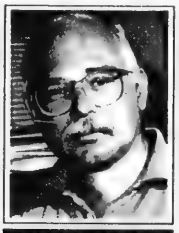
According to Bontempi, the reason is his secret admiration of Judaism – an attitude that at the beginning of the modern age was not only unheard of but also dangerous.

The next time I visit the Louvre and admire the *Mona Lisa*, I shall be sure to take Bontempi's essay with me to check out his observations of Leonardo's connection with Jewish tradition. I have no idea when this visit might occur, but even the mere expectation makes me see the artist in a new light.

The Kirshner File

Debate about motivation courses through the IDF

"Motivation" has been a buzzword in the Israel Defence Forces (IDF) for the past few years.



By Sheldon Kirshner

In military parlance, the word, full of portentous implications, raises two separate but related questions. As measured by the willingness to serve in combat units, are young Israeli recruits and older reservists sufficiently motivated? Is national service valued as much as it was a generation ago?

The issues defy simple explanations because the data seems contradictory.

On the one hand, there has been a measurable decline in the "motivation-to-service" ratio: the desire to join combat formations.

The decline is generally ascribed to several factors: Israel's increased economic prosperity and heightened westernization; the perception that Israel's existence is more secure thanks to a series of peace agreements signed with Egypt, the PLO and Jordan; and the erosion of traditional collective values in the face of growing individualism.

As Lt.-Gen. Amnon Shahak, the outgoing chief of staff, gingerly put it recently: "We are witnessing a preference for the individual over the collective."

Some Israelis, such as Maj.-Gen. Gideon Sheffer, head of the IDF's personnel branch, believe that the late prime minister, Yitzhak Rabin, and his successor, Shimon Peres, are partly to blame for the downward slide in motivation.

In an appearance before the Knesset's Education Committee less than two years ago, the outspoken officer claimed that the Rabin and Peres governments were too liberal in granting exemptions from service. And in Sheffer's judgment, Rabin's ties with Avi Gefen, the counterculture pop singer who reportedly advised youths to avoid the draft, had an effect.

On the other hand, as observers hasten to caution, neither elite fighting detachments – the *sayarots* – nor specialized branches of the IDF associated with electronic warfare and computer systems have had any trouble attracting volunteers.

These caveats notwithstanding, the situation is less than ideal.

In a monograph entitled *Towards A New Portrait of the (New) Israeli Soldier*, published recently by Bar-Ilan University's Begin Sadat Centre for Strategic Studies, Stuart Cohen claims that the "motivation-to-service" rate has declined at an annual rate of two percent since 1992. According to Cohen, the decline appears most pronounced among native-born Israelis from secular, middle-class backgrounds, but less so among new immigrants.

The national religious community, however, has hardly been affected by this phenomenon, possibly because "patriotic" values are stressed in their network of schools and youth movements.

Just as serious, increasing numbers of reservists are evading service. In a presentation to the Knesset's Foreign and Defence Committee, Lt.-Col. Arieh Neiger, a battalion commander in the reserves, claimed that "tens of thousands of soldiers a year get out of reserve duty on some pretext or another."

The problem is so bad that it may well have an impact in the event of war, he warned.

Indeed, a report issued by the state comptroller stated that "social legitimacy" is now given to the evasion of reserve duty, and "a sense of being a sucker" is felt by those who do serve.

A year and a half ago, a pollster named Moddy Kidon surveyed 300 Israeli teenagers between the ages of 16 and 18, and discovered that 22 percent would refrain from joining the IDF if not for conscription. Kidon also found that 40 percent of his respondents think that the army stunts their personal development; 45 percent place personal fulfilment above national ideals; 71 percent believe their parents were more motivated; and 31 percent oppose a mandatory draft.

Even if they are not a completely accurate reflection of current reality, Kidon's findings seem to dovetail with the views of Brig.-Gen. Ika Abarvanel, the former head of manpower in the Ground Forces Command. Several months ago, in ominous tones, he declared, "There is a gradual decline in the value society puts on serving in the army."

This phenomenon, if true, may stem from a perception that the IDF, an institution synonymous with Jewish statehood, has gradually lost its allure as the central unifying element in Israeli society.

The IDF, all but worshipped during and after the 1967 Six Day War, has suffered repeated blows in the past 25 years.

Its lustre was tarnished by the 1973 Yom Kippur War, which caught the IDF somewhat off guard and resulted in frightful casualties; by the 1982 invasion of Lebanon, a war of choice which divided the nation; by the 1987-1993 Palestinian uprising (the intifadah), which was viewed in some circles as an exercise in brutal suppression; by the ongoing mini-war in southern Lebanon, whose end does not appear in sight; and by reports in the Israeli press which accused some Israeli soldiers of having killed Egyptian prisoners of war in 1956 and 1967.

Elite force

Last September, the IDF's prestige took another nosedive when an elite commando force was wiped out in Lebanon without accomplishing its mission.

Despite these facts, and the publication of surveys suggesting that the "motivation-to-service" ratio has fallen, the latest statistics released by Abarvanel suggest that the army's newest recruits are more motivated than in the immediate past.

The reasons are not hard to discern.

The IDF has doubled the pay of soldiers serving in combat field units and given them large demobilization bonuses. Furthermore, the IDF has launched a rejuvenated outreach program in high schools.

Still and all, the vast majority of Israeli men and women are conscripted by the IDF – 79.9 percent of males and 64.4 percent of females, according to figures released last year.

Almost seven percent of males of draft age do not serve for religious reasons (compared to 23 percent for women) and instead study in yeshivot. This phenomenon has caused untold grumbling and led to proposals for universal service.

Yet even as tens of thousands of yeshivah students evade the draft, more and more Jewishly observant officers are attaining senior command positions in the IDF.

The most prominent Orthodox Jews in the army today are Brig.-Gen. Ya'acov Amidror, a former intelligence officer and currently an aide to Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai; Brig.-Gen. Yair Naveh, who commands the paratroopers; and Brig.-Gen. Ephraim Fine, chief of the IDF's planning desk.

Their numbers are expected to grow dramatically in the next decade.

The rise of high-ranking kippah-wearing officers in the IDF hierarchy signifies a sea change: Orthodox Jews are becoming increasingly involved in the temporal affairs of the state. To others, such as Mordechai Gazit, the former head of military intelligence, the proliferation of religiously observant soldiers in the army is an ominous development.

Gazit, who recently caused a firestorm of controversy by likening the yarmulke to the Nazi swastika, believes there is a risk that highly motivated Orthodox soldiers and officers may not carry out orders which contradict their religious and political beliefs. Three years ago, a coalition of Orthodox Israeli rabbis urged Orthodox troops to refuse to vacate settlements in the territories. Would they obey this command?

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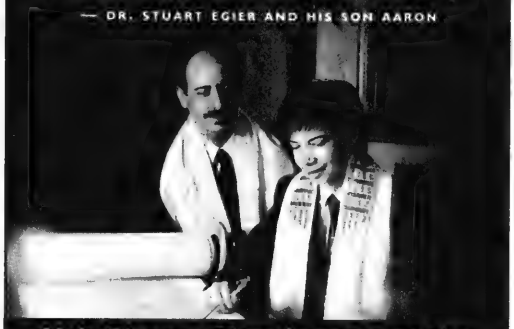

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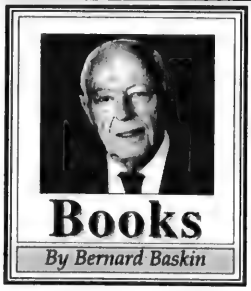


Books

By Bernard Baskin

The Story of the Jews, **by Stan Mack (Random House, $27.95).**

What, a cartoon history of the Jewish people? This is the original and audacious idea of Stan Mack a veteran New York cartoonist and longtime weekly columnist for the sardonic *Village Voice*.

This sweeping pictorial journey across 4,000 years begins with Abraham and Sarah, and provides sketches and brief text for all of the major events, as well as the outstanding men and women who have shaped the Jewish experience. There is also a mini-biography of Jesus that after considerable thought the author decided should be included.

The author, who stems from a secular background, spent two years in researching his material and lived for a brief period in Israel.

Mack's achievement is more difficult than it seems. Much factual information is conveyed in an easily absorbed and delightful fashion. Ideas and concepts that would take even gifted writers considerable space to explain are presented clearly and concisely.

This "hip and contemporary" illustrated narrative is especially recommended for bar mitzvah candidates, high school students and adults seeking a quick overview of a long and singular history.

***

Biblical Literacy, **by Joseph Telushkin (William Morrow).**

This survey of the essential ideas, events, laws, personalities and values of the Hebrew scriptures is a splendid achievement that compresses a vast amount of information in a manner both graceful and authoritative.

The author also makes clear how biblical ideas influence or clash with the thinking and trends of modern society as he draws upon his knowledge of extra biblical sources and commentary.

A feature of the volume is the enumeration and explanation of the 613 biblical commandments. Either for reference or stimulating perusal, this volume is highly recommended.

***

The Luneburg Variation, **by Paolo Mauren (Farrar, Straus and Giroux, $20 (US).**

This is a short novel with an unusual and absorbing theme. It deals with a life and death struggle around the game of chess – and the players are bitter adversaries. The two protagonists of the story are competing young chess champions who meet again as master and inmate in a German death camp and finally in a surprising confrontation 60 years later. At the book's end there is death and retribution as a wealthy man is discovered shot to death in his Viennese villa, an unfinished chess game on his desk, apparently a suicide.

This first novel by an Italian businessman is not just a well-crafted thriller, but also a serious consideration of complex theological questions around the nature of the Holocaust and the absence of God. The author uses chess themes to probe some of the compelling moral and philosophical problems of our times.

The book's title refers to a chess strategy that is well known to both men and is at the heart of the story and its surprising climax.

In a metaphorical sense we are all chess players moved about by history in a game we do not initiate, and only dimly comprehend. But we must play and finish to the best of our ability.

A 'hip' look at the Jews

Jewish software programs

By MARK MIETKIEWICZ

Today, we conclude our look at Jewish software on the Internet. As I have mentioned, there are numerous places where you can buy commercial software and download Jewish shareware and other free programs.

Don't miss the Jewish Software archive at CompuJudaica **[http://www.zoots.com/cj/soft.htm]**. This is a massive repository of Jewish shareware, freeware and demo files for Windows. You can fill in your family tree using the genealogy software. Do you have trouble keeping track of your cubits? The Measurement Converter includes biblical measurements. You can try your hand at the Proverbs Quiz Game.

And when you walk away from your computer, you know it will be in good hands when it is running a Jewish Screen Saver.

Another great resource is Shareware.com because you can always search for the newest low cost programs to appear **[http://www.shareware.com]**.

If you go there and type in the words Jewish or Hebrew, you'll come up with dozens of the newest programs available. I came across a neat little Calendar Conversion program that I'm trying out.

You really have to hand it to the folks at Hebrewsoft. They have scoured the Internet for Hebrew freeware and shareware and linked them back to their site **[http://www.hebrewsoft.com/free&share/]** under the following categories: games, education, Bible software, Jewish software, Internet development tools, word processors and utilities. Try your hand at Hebrew HangMan. Learn Hebrew from the Aleph Beth Tutorial. Download the entire Torah or Kizzur Shulchan Aruch texts.Use one of the gematria calculators to determine the numerical values contained within Hebrew words.

Israel, of course, has an incredible talent pool of software programmers and developers. Take a moment to look at the work being done by sophisticated Israeli hi-tech companies, most of which are geared at industrial users. Maven lists over 90 companies **[http://www.maven.co.il/subjects/idx155.htm]** – everything from Sirius Industries **[http://www.siriustech.com/]**, a developer of medical software, to VocalTec, a world leader in the field of using the Internet to make low cost telephone calls **[http://vocaltec.com/]**.

One of the oldest and best known developers and marketers of Jewish software is Davka Corporation **[http://www.davka.com/]**, which carries a huge variety of programs. And don't miss the weekly special **[http://www.davka.com/bargain.html]**. The Comstar Company also carries an incredible selection of Hebrew Software **[http://www.gy.com/www/he.htm]**.

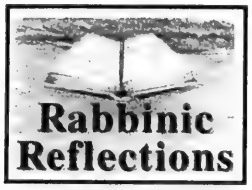
Not only does the next company create some very interesting titles, it probably has the most titles for a Jewish software company. Right-to-Left Software **[http://rtlsoft.com/hebrew/index.html]** is based in Toronto and has developed such titles as Keyboard Melamed, a Hebrew typing tutor and Aryeh to Zebra, a sight and sound Hebrew/English/Yiddish Picture Dictionary. As a bonus, their site has instructions how to include today's Hebrew date on your Web site.

For yet more software links, take a look at Maven **[http://www.maven.co.il/subjects/idx156.htm]**, Hareshima **[http://www.hareshima.com/entertainment/software.htm]** and Brooklyn's B'nei Shaare Zion Congregation **[http://www.bsz.org/linkmain5.htm]**.

As I mentioned in my first article, I could not test out all of the software that I have mentioned. Fortunately, I did try out Babylon, Your Personal Translator. Babylon is an incredible and incredibly easy to use English Hebrew dictionary for Windows **[http://www.babylon.co.il/eng/]**. Right-click on almost any English word and a box appears on your screen with the Hebrew translation. It's that simple. The program is free for 100 days and can be renewed for free. My only regret is that the program doesn't translate from Hebrew into English. But that's a minor quibble for a program that's easy to use, elegant and free.

***

Mark Mietkiewicz is a television producer in Toronto with an interest in the Internet. He can be reached at [mdm@inforamp.net].



Jewish spiritual life needs modern expression

By RABBI RON AIGEN

The story of Korah tells of the struggle for political and religious authority within the ancient Israelite community. In the end, Korah and his followers are swallowed up in an earthquake as a Divine punishment, and Moses and Aaron are vindicated as the rightful leaders of the people. The surviving Israelites, who were not implicated in the rebellion, nevertheless cry to Moses, "We perish, we are all lost, all of us are lost... Alas we are doomed to perish." (Numbers 17:27-28)

Thus, even after the enemy has been eliminated, after the threat to the community is gone, the people still fear that the doom is imminent. This feeling that we are always on the brink of doom and disaster has been a recurrent theme throughout Jewish history.

All too many Jews still focus on the threat to Jewish survival as their raison d'être, rather than acknowledging the positive reality of the vital and vibrant Jewish community that now thrives worldwide.

In the mid-'80s Charles Silverman dared to chronicle the huge success story that is American Jewry in *A Certain People*, but his book was largely ignored. His statistics on the over-exaggerated threats of intermarriage and low birth rates were overtaken by the 1990 National Jewish Population Study which sparked a decade-long obsession with "continuity."

To be sure, continuity is something we are all for. But fear-inspired motivation turns out to be more of a negative than a positive force, generally resulting in a mind-set of circling the wagons and strengthening the barricade. Before we charge ahead, attacking only symptoms that we mistakenly perceive to be the problem, we ought to pause to ask what the real threat to our existence is, if there is one.

Our Torah story offers an important insight. The Israelites cried out that they faced doom. They felt the ground shaking beneath their feet. What they were experiencing was a paradigm shift – the community was undergoing a basic challenge in the structure of political and religious authority. We Jews have experienced that challenge throughout our history – about once every 300 years according to Bar-Ilan University political scientist, Daniel Elazar in his book, *The Jewish Polity*. This is what is contributing to the fears and insecurity of contemporary Jewry.

We are today, in the midst of such a transitional period – no longer living in the world of traditional rabbinic authority, nor have we created a completely satisfactory autonomous secular Jewish civilization. We are in a transitional period of Jewish history, searching for new models of Jewish polity and existence.

We see tensions of this challenge most clearly in the State of Israel today where the values of traditional rabbinic authority clash almost daily with the lives of people who desire democratic secular autonomy. At the same time, however, these "secular" Jews for the most part still make kiddush on Shabbat and festivals, and are unwilling to discard the current religious authorities because they see no alternative to safeguarding the Jewish tradition that they also value. It's much easier to project these tensions onto the external enemies that are more readily identifiable rather than deal with more difficult internal conflict.

What we need to create today is a positive agenda for Jewish life. Not merely a stance of defiance or defence against our enemies, but a creative Jewish response to the world we want. As one Jewish scholar has said. "Israelis typically abide a sense that they are making history – that their actions, their collective decisions, constitute a legacy for well or ill – that they are leaving for the many generations of Jews who will succeed them. American (and Canadian) Jews, too, would do well to become more conscious of their place in Jewish history." (Steven Cohen, *Moment* magazine, June 1987)

Our focus as Jews today must not only be the particular concerns of combating assimilation and anti-Semitism, but also the universal concerns we Jews share for creating socially just societies and protecting our global environment. We need to rethink the use of the considerable energies our many Jewish institutions are now expending and refocus them on promoting a creative expression of Jewish spiritual life. We need to translate our heritage of being "a holy nation and a kingdom of priests" into a contemporary expression of pluralistic democratic societies that allow all individuals their rightful expression of self and all cultures of holiness to flourish.

Rabbi Aigen is the spiritual leader of Congregation Dorshei Emet, The Reconstructionist Synagogue of Montreal.

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Kehillat Shaarei Torah (O)	2640 Bayview Ave. (416) 229-2600	7:00 PM	9:15 AM	9:00 AM	6:30 AM	----------
Petah Tikva Anshe Castilla (O)	20 Danby Ave. (416) 636-4719	7:00 PM	8:30 AM	8:30 AM	6:45 AM	10-15 minutes before sunset
Shaarei Shomayim (O)	470 Glencairn Ave. (416) 789-3213	7:00 PM	9:15 AM	7:30 AM	7:30 AM	10 minutes before sunset

This is not a comprehensive listing of the synagogues in the Greater Toronto area. The information is provided by the Vaad Harabonim of Toronto. In due course we hope to receive similar information regarding non-orthodox synagogues from the Toronto Board of Rabbis. The Vaad and the Board will periodically revise the listings.

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Lastman honored by She'arim

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

Rabbi Joseph Kelman laughs as She'arim treasurer Ken Goldstein presents a doll replica to Megacity Mayor Mel Lastman, honoree at the school's annual brunch. [Leila Speisman photo]

TORONTO — Toronto mayor Mel Lastman, was honored recently by Dr. Abraham Shore Academy She'arim Hebrew Day School.

Nearly 300 people attended the school's annual brunch, held at Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue.

Lastman praised the "unique" school – the only Jewish day school for children with learning disabilities and attention deficit (hyperactivity) disorder in Canada – for "building confidence, in a caring, loving environment. It helps kids who can't deal with a regular school. It provides support, not pity."

He noted that She'arim has a capacity enrolment of 67 students, and there is a waiting list. "It's a crime there is a waiting list. Upper levels of government must get involved and provide more schools like She'arim.

"No child should be denied the chance to be educated as he needs," he asserted. "There should be schools like this all over the city."

A group of She'arim students put on a musical play, about a rich man who learned to share his wealth, that was received with applause and a standing ovation.

Three of this year's seven graduating students spoke about their experiences at She'arim. Brett Barrett compared himself to a building that had all the potential to be successful and profitable, but needed an expert hand to fine tune it.

Joyce Edery thanked the school for giving its students "the tools to allow me to get back on track, if things don't always go smoothly."

Aaron Orzech compared learning disabled children to stars in the night sky, who were not bright enough to be seen and appreciated. Thanks to She'arim, he said, "look into the sky tonight at the brightest star. That will be me."

Rabbi Joseph Kelman, a founder of She'arim, along with former Board of Jewish Education executive director Rabbi Itzhak Witty and the late Rabbi Sheldon Steinberg, chaplain of Jewish Family & Child Service and Mount Sinai Hospital, made special mention of Max Guttman, who died last month.

Guttman had been a longtime supporter of the school.

Plaques were presented to Ruth Friedman and her family and to Philip and Rose Shore, in appreciation for their generosity toward She'arim.

Lastman was presented with a doll replica of himself, holding a CN Tower in its arm.

Kesher program allows teens to participate in Israeli life

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

Kesher participants Idee Rayson, Mike Lightstone, Robyn Waxman, Penina Sandler, Morry Black, Malka Hollinger and Rebecca Kirsh.

TORONTO — Rebecca Kirsh knew she and fellow volunteers were getting through to their young Israeli students – despite the language barriers – when a group of about 10 youngsters came up to them at recess, grabbed their hands and indicated they wanted to play with them.

Kirsh, 19, and six other local students recently completed a three-month program called Kesher (the Hebrew word meaning "connection"), a new initiative of Canadian Young Judaea, UJA Federation and the Canada-Israel Experience Centre.

"Our daily involvement with the residents of Eilat has made an impact on both their lives and ours," wrote the seven Canadian students. "We have grown individually and as a group because of our independence and responsibilities.

"To many, Eilat is simply a tourist centre…we had the opportunity to see beyond the lobby doors," they wrote. "We had the privilege of working with new olim from the United States, Argentina, Brazil, Russia, the U.K. and Ethiopia. We even had the special opportunity of being guests at an Ethiopian bat mitzvah."

Kirsh, who graduated from the School of Liberal Arts in January, taught English to grades 4, 5 and 6 students at an Israeli elementary school during the morning. In the afternoon she worked at an after-school centre for children from dysfunctional families. She also taught a class to older women once a week.

"There were a few kids I really bonded with. There were a lot we helped."

For Kirsh, probably the biggest benefit of the program was being a participant, not just an observer, in Israeli life.

"Everyone was really welcoming. We'd walk down the street and say hi to people. We didn't just go for a few days, and leave."

For both Kirsh and Mike Lightstone, 18, a graduate of Thornlea Secondary School, the Kesher program represented their third trip to Israel.

Lightstone, who taught English in the same elementary school and also helped coach a youth basketball team, planned a couple of lessons about Canada. "Everything was a shock to them – the size of the country, the way we use water, the amount of space we have."

He said he learned a lot about life on this trip – through volunteering as well as through living on his own – and also about different aspects of Judaism.

As a Conservative Jew, he found neither secular Israelis nor Haredim "could understand where I was coming from."

Kirsch, who attended United Synagogue Day School until Grade 3 and the Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto for grades 9 and 10, said that although she's not religious herself, she realized the importance of Judaism during this trip.

She feels Kesher offered "the best of both worlds" – an opportunity to tour as well as to teach English.

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Patrilineal policy called divisive

[Cont'd. from pg. 1]

Rabbi Goldstein. The vast majority of Reform rabbis, she said, require those with a non-Jewish mother to immerse in a mikvah if they are converting to Judaism.

A clarification of the guidelines, however, should remove some of the misconceptions, Rabbi Goldstein said.

Patrilineal descent, which has been controversial both within the Reform movement and outside of it, recognizes as Jewish the children of a Jewish father and non-Jewish mother, as long as they are educated as Jews and engage in appropriate acts of identification such as bar or bat mitzvot and confirmations.

Traditional Judaism recognizes as Jewish a child whose mother is Jewish.

Despite the need to re-examine how the patrilineal descent policy is interpreted, there does not appear to be any move to rescind it.

"I'm in a minority when it comes to being against the policy," Rabbi Goldstein said."It [patrilineal descent] creates further schisms within the Jewish comunity."

In part as a result of the policy, "I don't know what klal Yisrael [the people of Israel] is any more," she said.

The recommendations of the task force do not require a vote, but are up to CCAR officials to implement.

Patrilineal descent was adopted by the Reform rabbinate as a way to cope with increasing rates of interfaith marriage, and the need for rabbis to find a way to integrate into congregational life the growing number of children whose fathers, but not mothers are Jewish.

It has been embraced by the vast majority of Reform rabbis and congregants in the United States, but not so widely in Canada.

As a result of the policy, "the only place an intermarried couple can find a fully welcoming environment is in a Reform congregation," said Rabbi Samuel Stahl, chair of the task force that has made the recommendations.

The problem is, say Reform rabbis, there is no consistency about what it means to be educated Jewishly. While a Reform rabbi in Albuquerque, N.M., may accept as Jewish a teenager with a non-Jewish mother and Jewish father, who has had little Hebrew school education and never had a bar mitzvah ceremony, a Reform rabbi in New York, for example, might require the same teen to have celebrated all of the available Jewish rites of passage in order to be considered Jewish.

If that family then moves from Albuquerque to New York, and the teen wants to join a Reform temple youth group, he may not be considered Jewish.

Or later, when he approaches a Reform rabbi to officiate at his wedding to a Jewish woman, he may not be considered Jewish then, either, and he may be told that he has to convert to Judaism, even though he grew up considering himself part of the Jewish people.

There is no available estimate of the number of Reform Jews who are defined as Jewish by the patrilineal policy. The percentage of congregants in Reform temples who are intermarried ranges from as low as five percent to as high as 70 percent, said Dru Greenwood, director of outreach for the Reform movement's congregational arm.

The patrilineal policy – which is also in place in the Reconstructionist movement – has been blasted by Conservative and Orthodox leaders, since its implementation is an unacceptable break with the historical Jewish transmission of Jewishness through the mother.

With files by Debra Nussbaum Cohen of the JTA.

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אין די לעצטע עטלעכע וואכן האָט די ידישע ליטעראטור געליטן צווישן גרויסע אבידות: אין נידיאַרק איז געשטאָרבן, נאָך אַ טראַגישן פאַרפאַל, דער רעדאַקטאָר פון „פאַרווערטס״, מרדכי שטריגלער. אין פון ישראל איז אָנגעקומען די ידיעה, אַז דער דיכטער בינם העלער איז אויך פון דער וועלט.

אין „פאַרווערטס״ פון 22־טן מאי זיינען דערשינען הספד־אַר־טיקלען פון דר. העשיל קלעפפיש, שמואל נאַריק און פראָפעסאָר דוד־הירש ראָסקעס. אָלע דריי געלערנטע האָבן אָנגעוויזן, אַז מיטן אויסקומען פון דער וועלט פון מרדכי שטריגלער איז אויסגעלאָשן געוואָרן א גרויס ליכט, וואָס האָט איז משך פון מער ווי א האַלבן יאָרהונדערט העל געלויכטן אין דער ידישער ליטעראָטור און צו־טונגס־וועזן. שטריגלער איז געווען אַלוויטיק אין זיין שאַפן: א פּאָעט, א מחבר פון בעלעטריסטישע און דאָקומענטאָרע ווערק וועגן לעבן און גורל פון ייִדן בעת און נאָכן חורבן; אַן עסייאיסט, וואָס האָט באַהאַנדלט די סאַמע ערנסטע טעמעס וועגן ייִדישקייט און ייִדישן גורל אויף א קלאָרן אופן; און ועל כלם — אַן אויסגע־צייכנטער רעדאַקטאָר פון פאָרווערט „אונדזער וואָרט״, „ייִדישער קעמפער״ און „פאַרווערטס״, איך וועלכן ער האָט געשריבן מאמרים אין ליט־ערטיקלען אונטער פארשיידענע פסעודאָנימען.

מרדכי שטריגלער איז געבוירן געוואָרן אין 1921 אין זאַ־מאַשטש, פוילן. ער איז אָלט געווען קוים אכצן יאָר, ווען די דייטשן האָבן אָקופּירט פוילן. ער האָט דורכגעמאַכט אָלע שבעה מדורי גיהנום פון דעמָאלט פון די טויט־לאָגערן פון סקאַרזשיסקא, בוכנע־וואַלד און מאַידאַנעק, וואו עס זיינען אומגעברענגט געוואָרן הונ־דערטער טויזנטער ייִדן אין ניט־ייִדן. דער יונגער על־פּי־גס לעבן־געבליבענער שטריגלער האָט אָלץ צוגעזען און פאַרציכנט אין זיין זכרון, און ער האָט שפעטער עס געשילדערט אין א גאַנצער ריי ווערק: „מאַידאַנעק״, „אין די פאַבריקן פון טויט״, „ווערק צע״ און אַנדערע. אַנגעזעענע קריטיקער האָבן אָנגעוויזן אויף שטריגלער׳ס פילויטיקער שאַפונג אין פארשיידענע ליטעראַרישע זשאַנערן און פארמען, אויף זיין טיף־ייִדישן וויסן און דער פסיכאָלאָגישער פאַר־טיפונג פון די געשילדערטע מענטשן. שטריגלער׳ס אָוועקגיין פון דער וועלט האָט געלאָזן א בלויז אין ייִדישן צייטונגס־וועזן.

* * *

אין זעלבן נומער „פאַרווערטס״, אין וועלכן מען האָט מספּיד געווען מרדכי שטריגלערן, איז געווען אָפּגעדרוקט א נאָטיץ מיט דער טרויעריקער ידיעה וועגן טויט פון באַריימטן ייִדישן דיכטער בינם העלער, וועמענס פאָעמע „אין וואַרשעווער געטא״ איז איצט חודש ניסן״ ווערט אָפט פאַרגעלייענט אויף יסכור־פאַרזאַמלונגען.

בינם העלער איז געבוירן געוואָרן אין 1908 אין וואַרשע, אין א טראַדיציאָנעל־ייִדישער משפּחה. אין פריען עלטער פון 14 יאָר איז ער געוואָרן אַן אַרבעטער, א הענטשקע־נייער. יונגערהייט איז ער געוואָרן אָקטיוו אין דער אומלעגאַלער קאָמוניסטישער באָעוועגונג און באַקאַנט געווען ווי א רעוואָלוציאָנערער דיכטער. צוליב דעם טאַקע האָט ער געמוסט פארלאָזן פוילן. ער האָט א צייט געלעבט אין בעלגיע אין אין פראַנקרייך. ערב דעם אויסברוך פון דער צווי־טער וועלט־מלחמה האָט ער זיך אומגעקערט אַהיים קיין וואַרשע.

די מלחמה־יאָרן האָט בינם העלער איבערגעלעבט אין סאָוועט־רוסלאַנד, אין ביאַליסטאָק, אלמא־אטא און מאָסקווע, וואו ער האָט פארגעזעצט צו שרייבן אין אַרויסגעבן לידער־זאַמלונגען.

צוריקקומענדיק נאָך דער מלחמה קיין פוילן, האָט העלער פאַר־נומען וויכטיקע געזעלשאַפטלעכע פאָזיציעס, געווען דער ליטער פון דער ליטעראָטור און קונסט־אָפּטיילונג בייַם צענטראַלן קולטור־פאַרבאַנד פון די ייִדן אין פוילן און אַן אַקטיוור מיטגליד פון ייִדישן שרייבער־פאַראיין.

אין 1956 האָט בינם העלער פארלאָזט פוילן אין איז אָנגעקומען אין מדינת־ישראל. אָן אָנטוישטער איז סאָוועטישן קאָמוניזם אין רוסלאַנד און אין פוילן, איז העלער אָפן אין מוטיק אַרויסגעקומען מיט חרטה־לידער, אָבער גישט אויפגעהערט צו שרייבן אין שאָפן.

בינם העלער׳ס פרוי איז געווען די באַקאַנטע רעציטאַטאָרין אין אויסטיטשערין פון ייִדישע ליטעראַרישע שאָפונגען, הדסה קעסטין, וואָס איז אייניקע מאָל אַרויסגעטראָטן אין שטאַרק אויסגעצוימטן דאָהי איז פאַראַנטע. אויך בינם האָט באַזוכט אייניקע מאָל טאַראַ־טא, צוזאַמען מיט הדסה.

מיט הדסה׳ס אָוועקגיין פון דער וועלט מיט עטלעכע יאָר פריער, איז בינם העלער פאַראיינזאַמט געוואָרן. ער האָט אָבער ווי־טער געשריבן אין געשאָפן ביזן טיפן עלטער פון נייַנציק יאָר. ער איז געווען אָנגעזעהן אין געשאַצט ווי אייַנער פון די באַדייטנדיקסטע אין פראָדוקטיוויסטע ייִדישע פאָעטן. כבוד זיין אָנדענק!

It's happening!

Seven story Atrium
sunshine and greenery all year long
in the new

Apotex Centre,
Jewish Home for the Aged,
and the
Centre for Cognitive Disorders

Donated by the Women's Auxiliary of Baycrest the Winter Garden Atrium is one of the many ways the design of this new facility gives honour to the Jewish tradition of not forsaking old age.

Complete with gardens, trees, sculpture and walkways, the Winter Garden Atrium enriches and opens the spirit of all who live here and heal here to the wonder and beauty of nature.

The Winter Garden Atrium is part of what's happening -- including a new Jewish Home for the Aged. But, your support is still needed to complete this new residence.

For more information on how you can "make it happen" at Baycrest please contact Shirley Worth in the Baycrest Centre Foundation at (416) 785-2500 ext. 2013.

Community Matters

A BOLD BEGINNING TO A NEW CAMPAIGN

Over 100 community leaders were treated to a preview of UJA Federation's upcoming Campaign for Fifty last week. And they loved what they saw, at UJA Federation's largest Leadership Launch in years.

The Campaign for Fifty's annual fundraising goal is $50 million by the year 2001 - $13.5 million more than the amount raised last year. UJA Federation is pledging to allocate the additional dollars raised to innovative projects in three areas: strengthening Jewish identity, protecting the vulnerable and rescuing Jews in danger.

Leadership Launch hosts Judy and Larry Tanenbaum.

"The time has come to move our plans off the shelf and take a quantum leap forward," said Brent Belzberg, who is chairing the campaign with Larry Tanenbaum. "We need to push our campaign to new heights so we can respond to the new realities of our community and to meet the needs that have been waiting far too long."

"People are very optimistic about the economic climate and they are very enthusiastic about UJA Federation's plans for the new money raised," said Tanenbaum. "Brent and I have been extremely encouraged by our donors' understanding that UJA Federation is the primary campaign in this community."

Leadership Launch participants viewed the new Campaign for Fifty video about the need for increased giving over three years. The upcoming campaign is being billed as a "bold beginning for a new Jewish century."

The launch, at the home of Judy and Larry Tanenbaum, attracted several past UJA Federation campaign chairs including Laurie Fein, Bernie Ghert, Marty Goldberg, Gerry Goldenberg, Leo Goldhar, David Goldstein, Jack Gwartz, Gerry Halbert, Harold Lederman, Neil Nisker, Paul Morton, Rabbi Gunther Plaut, Don Rafelman, Jack Rose, Sam Sable, Judy Scheininger, Lionel Schipper, Gerry Shear and Gerry Sheff.

Past Chairmen Laurie Fein (left), Harold Lederman and Neil Nisker (right).

Our future leaders: Young Leadership Cabinet co-chair Lynn Kirshin (left) and Hands on Toronto (HOT) co-chair Cory Gurevitz.

Vice-Chairs for The Campaign for Fifty, which kicks off August 31 at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre, are Abe Glowinsky, Glennie Lindenberg and Dr. Howard Price.

BLUEPRINT FOR THE FUTURE

In order to meet the needs of a new century, UJA Federation has set an ambitious annual fundraising goal of $50 million by the year 2001. The *Campaign for Fifty* is anchored by a blueprint which will direct additional funds raised for:

- Strengthening Jewish Identity -$6.5 million
- Assisting the Vulnerable - $4.3 million
- Rescuing Jews in Danger - $1.5 million

Among the *Campaign for Fifty* commitments are:

- Initiating new family education programs
- Increasing support for supplementary school education
- Ensuring access to Jewish education for severely challenged children
- Expanding homecare and outreach services for the frail elderly
- Increasing assistance for Toronto's Jewish poor
- Providing more services for abused women and their children
- Funding rescue efforts so that hundreds of thousands of Jews waiting to leave the former Soviet Union can make aliyah
- Providing additional support for teenagers who are making aliyah without their parents

The entire Campaign for Fifty team (from left to right) Vice-Chair Dr. Howard Price, Women's Campaign Chair Judy Engel, Vice-Chair Glennie Lindenberg, Campaign Chairs Larry Tanenbaum and Brent Belzberg and Vice-Chair Abe Glowinsky.

***Community Matters**, a supplement of the Canadian Jewish News, is sponsored and produced by UJA Federation. Website: www.feduja.org*

Community Matters

YOUNG LEADERS LOOK AHEAD

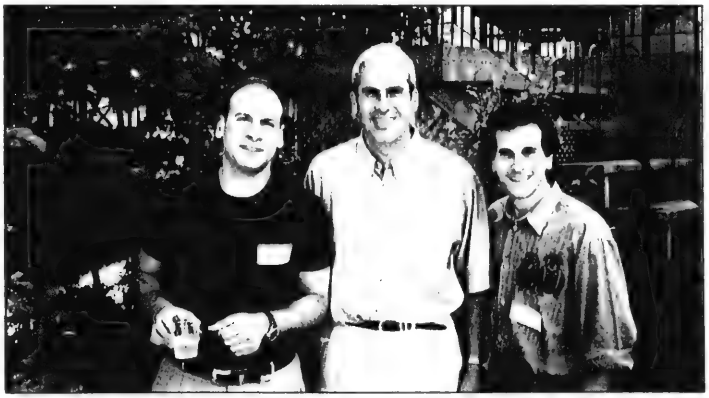
It was a taste of Jewish Toronto tomorrow.

Last week's UJA Federation's Young Leadership Retreat brought together a select group of young men and women who spent their Sunday preparing themselves for leadership roles in the century ahead. More than 40 people participated in the one day program hosted by Judy and David Engel.

This year's retreat was about "dealing with the growing needs in our community," says Les Aaron who co-chairs the Young Leadership Cabinet with Lynn Kirshin. "It was a day for those already significantly involved with the Campaign, as well as many new leaders, to gain a more in-depth understanding of the issues affecting the community."

Government budget cuts, enhancing Jewish identity and immigration to Israel were just some of the hot topics covered. "These young people really have a stake in our community," says Judy Engel, UJA Federation's Women's Campaign Chair. "These are our future leaders and it's great to know they are so passionate about Jewish Toronto."

The program included several break-out sessions highlighting different areas of community concern. Dov Altman, a member of UJA Federation's Community Planning and Allocations Committee, who was on hand to lead one of the group discussions, was extremely impressed with the caliber of participants and their understanding of community issues. "We can be proud that these upcoming community leaders have such a deep commitment. It is our job now to educate them and arm them with the necessary tools."



From left to right: David Engel, King David's Circle co-chair, Dov Altman, UJA Federation Board member, and Les Aaron, Young Leadership Cabinet co-chair.

Hands on Toronto (HOT) members Lori Winch (left) and Elyza Litwin.

A contingent of Toronto's young Jewish leaders is in Kiev and Israel this week on the Yachdav Young Leadership Mission. The conference, held every two years, brings hundreds from around the world face to face with pressing Jewish issues. "Yachdav is a great opportunity to meet young adults who share similar convictions," says David Beron, chair of Toronto's Yachdav '98. "It really is a once in a lifetime opportunity." The mission, which begins in Kiev, is visiting Jewish summer camps, participating in home visits with the elderly and paying tribute to victims of the Holocaust at Babi Yar. From there, it's off to Israel for touring, adventure and 50th anniversary celebrations.

UJA Federation's Young Leadership Cabinet, which sponsored the retreat, is an energetic network of 23-40 year old men and women who are distinguished by their commitment to Jewish life. The cabinet's four components are Young Business Network (YBN), Young Professionals Network (YPN), Leadership Development Program (LDP) and Hands on Toronto (HOT). For more information, please contact Avi Benlolo at 631-5688.

UPDATE '98

UJA Federation recently offered financial professionals the most up to date data on current issues at the annual *Update* conference sponsored by the Professional Advisory Council of the Endowment Fund. Nearly 250 participants were briefed by 24 speakers on topics such as *Philanthropy and the UJA Federation Challenge* and *Charitable Giving into the Millennium.* It was the best-attended *Update* conference in years. Pictured here are David Goldstein (in photo at right), incoming Chair of the Endowment Board of Trustees and Marshall Eglenick (far left) discussing conference fine points with David Ogus.

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Community Matters

BJE PROGRAMS REACH RECORD NUMBERS

UJA Federation's Board of Jewish Education drew unprecedented student and professional participation this year for programs surrounding Israel's 50th anniversary.

"One of the most important values for our Jewish children is love of Israel," says Rabbi Dr. Jeremiah Unterman, the BJE's Executive Director. "We are greatly gratified at the deep involvement of our schools in these unique activities."

Nearly 1200 Jewish school children participated in a Musical Salute to Israel at Ontario Place during the Israel at 50 Festival earlier this year. The BJE and Bathurst Jewish Centre coordinated the presentation which included 18 choirs, 18 dance groups, a drama troupe and a flag presentation.

When Toronto celebrated Israel's 50th anniversary on Yom Ha'atzmaut at the National Trade Centre, over 200 Jewish day school students in the Israel at 50 Children's Ensemble made the event "A Night of a Lifetime."

In its inaugural year, the Jewish Identity Contest, a unique BJE initiative to enhance knowledge of Zionism and Judaism, attracted over 500 students across Canada. The contest, which has both a written and oral component, covers among other subjects, the Jewish Life Cycle and Jewish holidays.

This year's annual Bible Contest, testing the biblical expertise of Jewish students from grade 5 to OAC in day and supplementary schools included a special emphasis on Israel. Three hundred Toronto students took part in the first round and 100 of them moved on to the national finals in Ottawa. The national winners will proceed to the world finals in Israel next Yom Ha'atzmaut.

Over 1,200 Jewish school children performed at the Israel at 50 Festival on May 24th.

Sing a song for Israel: The Israel at 50 Chidlren's Ensemble celebrate the country's anniversary at "Night Of A Lifetime."

SPECIAL NEEDS GET SPECIAL ATTENTION

The Board of Jewish Education of UJA Federation has hired an expert on teaching children with special needs. Dori Levine, who is acting as a consultant to the BJE, is developing materials for teachers to work with children who have special needs – both in general and Jewish studies. In addition, specialized training for teachers at the pre-school and early grade level is underway to identify children with special needs.

Toronto's Jewish education system, according to BJE Executive Director, Rabbi Dr. Jeremiah Unterman, continues to be a preeminent model in North America. Established in 1949, the Board of Jewish Education is the central community agency for Jewish education, providing services to over 50 different schools and more than 16,000 day and supplementary students.

UJA Federation, through the BJE, supports subsidies for families who cannot afford the full cost of day school tuition. UJA Federation dollars also funds continuity grants for supplementary education and programs for specific educational needs.

A group of teachers from BJE-affiliated schools at the BJE's teacher resource centre.

FOCUS ON FAMILY EDUCATION

Creating a network of family education services is a priority for the Board of Jewish Education. Through family education, family members participate in Jewish learning and celebrate Jewish holidays together. "The only way to ensure Jewish continuity is to involve the entire family in the experience of Jewish learning," says Yael Seliger, Director of Educational Services at the BJE. "Gone are the days when parents drop off their children for a few hours of Jewish education a week – this new approach is the way of the future."

Two years ago, the BJE launched an intensive training program for day and supplementary school educators in Jewish family education. Last year, in the program's second phase, a partnership was created for educators, rabbis, and other community members working to implement Jewish family initiatives, often begun by supplementary schools.

Plans to further develop the partnership will be implemented in the new school year.

The BJE strives to provide educators with cutting edge teaching strategies and materials, through professional development, consultation services to affiliated schools, workshops and curriculum development.

This year, the BJE organized the largest gathering of educators in its history. Over 1300 teachers and administrators participated in day long professional development sessions centered on Israel's 50th anniversary.

The BJE houses three resource areas for Toronto educators: a teacher centre for the development of classroom creative materials; a media centre, with over 2000 Hebrew and English video tapes and a library housing over 10,000 titles, which is expanding its collection of books and CD ROMS.

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On Campus

Kol Hastudentim unites Jewish student leaders

By ALEXANDRA PRASOW
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Jewish college and university students from 10 campuses recently gathered from all over Ontario for Kol Hastudentim's second annual Mega-Leadership Conference.

Kol Hastudentim is a non-denominational, pluralistic, student-run Jewish organization. The four-day conference was held amid the tall trees, rocking waves and biting mosquitoes of Maple Lake Resort near Parry Sound.

It marked a turning point for the student organization, whose name in Hebrew means both inclusiveness and voice, as Kol Hastudentim's current executive stepped down and this year's leaders were welcomed.

Approximately 60 students and recent graduates from diverse Jewish backgrounds participated in workshops that focused on leadership, Jewish culture and religion.

"The weekend was an opportunity for Jews of all backgrounds to come together and celebrate their Jewishness," said Heath Applebaum, the newly installed president and chair of Kol Hastudentim.

Seminars and workshops at the conference were led by both students and other speakers from the Jewish community.

On Saturday night, participants celebrated Lag b'Omer by dancing around, with twirling sparklers lighting the darkened lodge. Then Stacia Benovitch, director of Hillel in Ottawa, shared stories about her recent trip abroad with the March of the Living.

Other sessions included a speech by Jehudi Kinar, Israeli consul general for Toronto and Western Canada; a discussion of pluralism with Zac Kaye of Jewish Campus Services; and a talk on liberal Judaism with Rabbi Jeremy Schwartz of Kolel. Michael Soberman and Leanne Rosen of the Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) ran sessions on programming and student and staff relations respectively.

Robbie Diamond, also from CJC, led a session on the Ne'eman Commission. Rabbi Benjie Jacoby of the Jewish Education Program, continuing on a theme he started at the Kol Hastudentim ski trip in December, led a workshop on the role of chesed in Jewish life.

One of the highlights was a talk by documentary film producer Simcha Jacobovici. Once a student activist, Jacobovici shared those experiences. He also spoke about the Menmasseh, a group of people near Burma who have a Jewish identity and want to move to Israel. Some believe that the name Menmasseh is a derivative of Menashe, one ot the lost tribes of Israel, he said. The group was inspired by Jacobovici, who stressed the power of each individual to make a difference.

In an impromptu speech, Jessica Faith, a conference participant, talked about the diversity of Jewish life and urged others to be more accepting of all Jews, regardless of denomination.

"I realized I wasn't alone," she commented. "People said to me, 'I'm glad you mentioned that, because I feel that way too.'" Faith's words sum up one of the goals of Kol Hastudentim – to provide students with an avenue to explore their Judaism within the context of community.

Canadian Jewish Congress, UJA Federation, Jewish Education Program, Hillel/Jewish Campus Services and private donors helped support this conference.

UBC student publishes first book of poetry

By SIDURA LUDWIG
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Like many other students, first year University of British Columbia student Abby Werner is travelling to Europe this summer; however, the newly published 18-year-old poet not only plans to sightsee, she plans to seek creative inspiration.

"I think that seeing new people and places will help shape my future and my writing," Werner said in a recent telephone interview from Vancouver.

Werner, who plans to focus on English and women's studies at school, has just published her first book of poetry, *Diluting the Rain* (Pink Flamingo Works). She recently launched it at a cafe in Vancouver where she invited her friends to read and perform their poetry. She ended the evening by performing her own.

Werner began seriously writing poetry after attending a performance poetry reading when she was 15. "I asked the organizer if I could try reading some of my poetry, and he said sure. He didn't even ask to see my work," she said.

Werner found the performance poetry community to be supportive and encouraging. "A lot of my friends are writers and I'm lucky to be able to share my poetry with them and to get feedback."

At the same time, she describes performing her poetry as sometimes scary. "When you're reading your poetry, you're sharing all your feelings. [When I perform], I try to find poems that aren't as personal." she said.

Werner's poetry is filled with both lyricism and imagery. *Diluting the Rain* explores the themes of love, women's identity, women's strength and the writing practice. It also incorporates food images, making the poetry multi-sensual.

Werner describes her creative process as a journey. "If an image or a phrase doesn't come to me right away, then I try to write a few words or images and submerge myself in the image and feeling. I go through the path of words. If it's working, then I go back and pare down the language."

Werner put together *Diluting the Rain* when she saw many performance poets were putting out chap-books of poetry. She had done poetry readings at various cafes and bookstores through Vancouver.

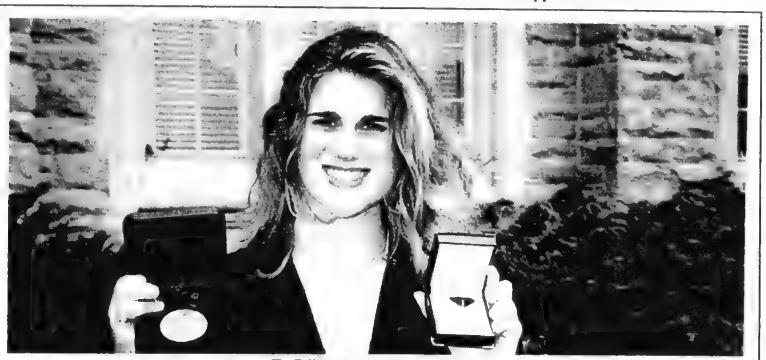
"It was time for me to get my voice out there," she said.

While her poetry does not explore Judaism, she hopes that her summer trip will inspire her to delve into her Jewish roots.

"I'll be travelling to Israel, France and London," Werner said. "I need to find something in my religion that inspires me. My poems come from emotions and what affects me. Nothing has affected me yet in my religion."

Werner encourages aspiring poets to actively seek their inspiration. "Watch things around you with both eyes open and closed. Try to find every angle and then look in the bizarre, small, easily missed spots. Try to taste every aspect of what you feel, of what you experience, what you see, and write down a slice of that and the path that got you there."

Diluting the Rain is only available in Vancouver at Magpie Book, Black Sheep Books and soon at Women in Print. Those outside of Vancouver interested in receiving a copy of the book can contact Werner via e-mail at [monteray@axionet.com.



DOUBLE HONOR

Stacey Grossman recently received a double honor at the University of Western Ontario. The Toronto native was awarded the University of Western Ontario Gold Medal for a three-year degree in the Faculty of Science and the Governor General's Silver Medal.

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What's New

By Miriam Herman

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DEADLINE REMINDER

What's New and About People deadlines: Monday, June 29 is deadline for July 9 issue, and Monday, July 6, is deadline for July 16. Please note: As *The CJN* will be closed for vacation July 13-17, there will be no issue on July 23. Therefore all items that would ordinarily appear July 23 will be included in the July 16 column.

I receive phone calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 391-1836, fax 391-0829.

Sunday, June 28

JERUSALEM BOYS CHOIR

The internationally acclaimed boys choir from Jerusalem, Pirchei Yerushalayim, will be in concert in Toronto for the first time, 8 p.m., at Anshe Minsk Synagogue, 10 St. Andrews St., Kensington Market. For tickets, 595-5723 or 789-7242.

YIDDISHLAND CAFE

The Workmen's Circle Yiddishland Cafe evening is dedicated to Canadian Yiddish poets **M. Ravitch, Rokhl Korn, Y.Y. Segal, P. Miransky, Chava Rosenfarb** and **S. Simchovitch**. Performers are mezzo-soprano **Stella Walker** and **Chaya Thalenberg**. Readings in Yiddish and English. At the piano **Sageev Oore,** 7:30 p.m., 471 Lawrence Ave. W. $12 in advance, $15 at door. 787-2081.

SINGLES 25 TO 35

Complimentary breakfast and planning of events meeting, 10 a.m. Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue. RSVP **Rhonda** 905-731-9441.

WIERZBNIKER SOCIETY

Wierzbniker Society dinner dance celebration in honor of Israel's 50th anniversary, 7:30 p.m., Shaarei Tefillah Congregation. 781-1384.

WINGATE BRANCH

The General Wingate Branch, Royal Canadian Legion, general meeting, 9 :15 a.m. Check Branch Bulletin for location or any last minute changes.

GARAGE SALE

Discovery Gymnastics hosts a huge community garage sale. Vendors wanted, $25 per table (bring your own table). All proceeds go toward purchasing children's gym equipment. Finch/Dufferin area. 638-3033.

Monday, June 29

RIVERDALE CENTRE

Riverdale Jewish Community Centre presents **Rena Schochet**, director of Torah Life and living, speaking on Revanquishing the Vanishing Jew, 8 p.m., 179A Danforth Ave. Suggested donation $4. 465-2395.

And What Else Is New

ORILLIA COUNTRY SHUL

This is the eighth summer that services are being conducted at the Orillia Country Shul in Atherley (east of Orillia).

To date, **Irv Mudrick, Lionel Sharpe, Cantor Tom Schwartz, Rabbi Chaim Levine, Rabbi Elyse Goldstein, Rabbi Arthur Bielfeld, Stewart Hytman, Elliot Malamet** and **Rabbi Jeremy Schwartz** have indicated their participation. For details 705-327-7069.

SHALOM TORONTO!

Are you new to the Toronto Jewish community? Jewish Women's Federation and UJA Federation Women's Campaign invite those new to Toronto in the past two years to a welcoming party on Tuesday, July 7 at 7 p.m. at the Lipa Green Building (park area), 4600 Bathurst St. Pre-register by July 3. To RSVP or for more details, **Brenda** 635-2883, ext. 135.

A SPECIAL SONG

The Israel 50th benefit concert June 9 at Beth Radom Synagogue featured a special song, *The Land the Lord Has Kissed*, performed by **Cantor David Bagley**, lyrics by **Martin H. Kramer** and music by Cantor Bagley and **Nathan Rosen**. Further performances are anticipated this year.

[Cont'd on page 23]

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399

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What's New

[Cont'd from page 22]

JIS IS ON CALL

Jewish Information Service (JIS) is available to help you find the information, program or service you require. Need daycare or nursery? Want a directory of the entire community? Want to learn Yiddish or Hebrew? Want to study? Call 635-5600 or drop in. Location is the Bathurst Jewish Centre, 4588 Bathurst St., Suite 214.

JIS can also help with accommodation needs, recreation; it can register your organization's event in the UJA Federation community calendar, can answer basic questions about holidays, and will help to orient tourists and newcomers.

MALE VOLUNTEERS

Male volunteers are needed to visit homebound male seniors once a week, while their caregivers get a much needed break. No physical care required. **Paula Mintzberg**, respite services coordinator, at Bernard Betel Centre. 225-2112, ext. 311.

SUMMER ART CLASSES

Summer art classes start June 30 for adults at the Koffler Centre School of Visual Art. Daytime and evening Pottery, Sculpture, and Watercolor Painting for all levels. Register. 636-1880, ext. 270. Discounts for multiple registrations.

BOOK DISCUSSION

The Feminist Book Discussion Group of North York chapter, Older Women's Network, discuss *The Book of Ruth* by **Jane Hamilton** Sunday, July 5, 2 p.m., North York Community Centre, 505 Lawrence Ave. W. (basement). **Mildred Selznick** 488-2287.

CALL A NEWCOMER!

The Telephone Language Companion (TLC) Program, a service of the Jewish Immigrant Aid Services of Toronto, is seeking volunteers to phone recently arrived immigrants from the former Soviet Union. Phoners are asked to make a commitment to telephone an assigned companion twice weekly for six months to help the immigrant develop telephone skills. **Luda Felik** 636-2316 or the Community Integration Program 636-1880, ext. 261.

ART SCHOOL VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers are needed at Bathurst Jewish Centre to work one-on-one with special needs adult art students at the Koffler Centre School of Visual Art. You must be patient and reliable with a good sense of humor. Commitment is minimum three hours/week for minimum three weeks. Positions currently available include Wednesdays 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. July 8-22; Wednesdays 1-4 p.m. and Wednesdays 7-10 p.m. July 8-Aug. 26. **Raylene** 636-1880, ext. 270.

LIVING WITH STROKE

North York General Hospital offers a Living with Stroke Program, developed by the Heart and Stroke Foundation, to provide information and support for stroke survivors and their families. Each week, for six weeks, a trained facilitator will show films and lead informal group discussions. 756-6000, ext. 3425.

SINGLES

Singles 25-50: *Rent* show tickets $25, July date.Reserve. **Rhonda** 905-731-9441.

Singles interested in a Beginner Running Clinic starting Sundays in July for six weeks, one-hour classes. Call Rhonda.

FOR SENIORS

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: June 28, Sunday dance 7:30-10:30 p.m.; June 29, Cullen Gardens, Whitby; July 6, Thornhill Town Square; July 13-19, Catskills; July 23, Casino Niagara; Aug. 10, shuffle off to Buffalo; Aug. 16, annual barbecue party and entertainment; Aug. 24-27, Leelanau Casino, Michigan. 395-7881.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). June 25, comedy film *Fishke Bmilium* ; June 30, picnic, Earl Bales Park, 11 a.m.; July 2, lecture, **Shula Ofir**, regional director, Israel Aliyah Centre; July 9, bingo and other games; July 16, Israeli film; July 23, one-day trip to Muskoka. Bus is filling up, so register now with **Rivka Kreuzer** 223-0904; July 30, members meeting. **Jerry Bengall** 633-6360 or **Malka Colla** 630-5771.

George Brown College Seniors' Association trips: Berkshires and the Tanglewood Theatre hosted by **Dave Miller,** principal cellist, North York Symphony Aug. 14-16; 30,000 Islands day tour, Parry Sound, Sept. 10; *Much Ado About Nothing* at Stratford Oct. 16. 415-2418.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club: June 29, 1 p.m., **Stanley Witkin** travelogue on Morocco, $1 including refreshments; July 14, Kingston cruise with entertainment; Aug. 19, cruise and musical *Little Shop of Horrors*; Oct. 27 *Man of La Mancha* at Stratford. **Lena** 785-5773. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel, **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

LZA Seniors Club: Register for *Man of La Mancha* at Stratford Sept. 10, **Libby** 782-2059 or Borochov Centre 630-9444. Ladies Folk-dancing Thursdays 1:30 p.m. Cultural Discussion Group Tuesdays 10 a.m. at the Borochov Centre, 272 Codsell Ave. Centre is open for socializing Monday to Friday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Young at Heart Seniors Catskill trip at Raleigh Hotel (kosher) Aug. 14-23. $1299 (Cdn), double occupancy. Singles price is higher. Hotel subsidizes half of increase in exchange rate. **Helen** 635-6343.

SINGLES EVENTS CAN BE FOUND ON PAGE 29

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. 225-2112.

Israeli Club Etrog meets 7 p.m. Tuesdays for movies, sing-alongs, lectures, bingo, dances. June 30 is a picnic in Earl Bales Park during the day. **Anna**.

Movie *Out to Sea* Sunday, June 28, 2:30 p.m.

BATHURST JC

Bathurst Jewish Centre, 4588 Bathurst St. 636-1880.

Summer session Line Dancing starts Friday, July 3, 1-2:30 p.m. for nine weeks. Bridge, intermediate level starts Wednesday, July 8, 1-3 p.m., for eight weeks. Pre-register or for more more information, call Senior Adult Services, **Yvonne** ext. 259.

ABOUT PEOPLE

USDS EXECUTIVE

United Synagogue Day School 1998-99 executive: **Michael Flatt**, executive vice-president; **Elie Newman**, president; **Brian Goldberg, David Malach** and **Wendy Viner**, vice-presidents; **Jeffrey Glatt**, secretary; **Shelley Levine**, treasurer; **Eileen Silver**, immediate past president; **Lucy Cohen**, director of education.

SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

The Max Zeifman Scholarship Fund awarded scholarships for study in Israel to **Rafael Cashman, Diana Khalimsky, Benjamin Margolese, Dafna Strauss** and **Dov Weisman**. The fund, in memory of a tireless worker for many Jewish causes, seeks to perpetuate advanced Torah study in Israel.

YESHIVA UNIVERSITY PHD

Marnie Filer, daughter of Judge Sam Filer and Betty Filer, received her doctor of psychology degree from the Ferkauf Graduate School of Psychology, Yeshiva University, this May. Pictured above, from left, are her brother Robert Filer, his wife April, Marnie Filer, Marnie's fiancé Robert Fegan, and her brother Michael Filer.

ADATH ISRAEL EXECUTIVE

Adath Israel Congregation executive 1998 to 2000: From left, Marsha Cohen, past president; Eric Gossin, secretary; Avrom Brown, treasurer; Sheldon Parker, president; Howard Goldstein, first vice-president; Mark Alter, second vice-president.

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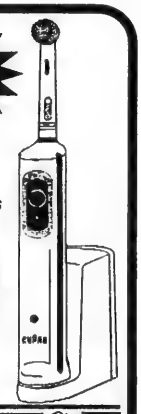

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Time of Your Life

Growing number of retired men are volunteering

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

Every Monday, Tuesday and Thursday, Bernard Freedman, 73, gets on the subway and heads down to Mount Sinai Hospital's (MSH) dental department, where he spends the morning working.

A denturist for 50 years, Freedman retired eight years ago, but for the past five years, he's been volunteering in MSH's dental department doing what he knows best.

Freedman is one of a growing number of retired men who are offering their services as volunteers. He said he became a Mount Sinai volunteer because he thought he could provide a service to the dental clinic.

"I decided I'm still pretty good with my hands. I made many a denture in my day. I thought I could be of help in my chosen profession."

He helps the five new clinic dentists by doing repair jobs, and he can fill in temporarily for the dentists with denture patients, he said.

Freedman finds the work and professional collaboration extremely rewarding. "You're forever learning new things. I thought I knew everything after being in the business for 50 years."

Most Friday mornings, you'll find Peter, who prefers to be known by his first name only, on a bicycle, pedaling from his home to MSH, where he, too, is a volunteer.

A retired public health engineer, Peter, 74, decided to volunteer "to give something to the community" because he had time, he said. "I'm Jewish. It [MHS] seemed a natural place to go."

Peter works in the surgical unit as well as in the podiatry clinic, where he has helped out Friday afternoons for the past five years. His clinic responsibilities include drawing charts, preparing treatment rooms, booking appointments, registering patients and "keeping them happy while they're waiting," he said.

"I find that I get a good deal more out of volunteer work than I expected," Peter said. "You form a bond with other volunteers. You get to know professional staff. I get a lot of appreciation from hospital staff. There is a lot of personal reward in volunteering that I didn't count on."

He and Freedman make up a group of about 15 to 20 male volunteers over the age of 50 who were recently identified as a unique group by MHS director of volunteer services, Joanne Fine-Schwebel.

This group of men who are retired from high level business and professional backgrounds are now providing a valuable service to the hospital, Fine-Schwebel said. "They brought with them a whole group of skills that many of our traditional volunteers didn't have."

She said that while a few female volunteers in the retirement age bracket fit this profile, the majority are homemakers and younger female volunteers, "young mothers or women working part time who want to make a contribution to the hospital."

She said that among the 500 MSH volunteers, there are few males in the 30 to 50 age range, because they are not able to give the minimum of one day a week requirement. She noted that historically men have not been very involved in direct service volunteer work, which was traditionally a woman's domain.

However, the group of retired men is dedicated and take their volunteer responsibilities very seriously, Fine-Schwebel said.

"They were looking for ways to involve themselves, to use their skills and make a contribution. They treat their volunteer work like a job. I'm impressed by their dedication."

They work in a lot of clinical areas in the hospital, such as the day clinics, eye and podiatry clinics, as well as in intense environments like the surgical and emergency units or departments that draw on their professional skills.

For example, David Cappe, a retired pharmacist helps in the pharmacy clinic twice a week.

Ross Irvine, a retired floor trader at the stock exchange, volunteers twice a week in the information booth. Joe Picovsky works in admitting, while businessperson Arthur Rubinoff developed a training program for co-op students in the emergency department and now works in the surgical waiting room as a lay liaison between the medical staff and the family and friends of the patients in surgery.

Syrelle Bernstein, director of volunteer services at Baycrest Geriatric Centre said there are some 200 retired men among the 2,500-member volunteer core who are involved in direct service programs. She said Baycrest requires a six-month commitment from volunteers, but the amount of weekly volunteer time varies from daily work to as little as one hour a week.

Pictured at rear [from left]: Joseph Picovsky, Bernard Freedman, George Arsenault and Peter. Front row [from left] : Norman Lee, Dr. Arthur Cohen. [Beverley Abramson photo]

She noted that retired males are involved in a whole gamut of activities that include friendly visiting, palliative care, feeding assistance, escorting clients to and from programs, running programs and religious services, helping on outings and administrative work.

"Male volunteers of retirement age can be found everywhere throughout the centre,"she said. Many of them belong to the Men's Service Club and assist in service programs sponsored by the Men's service Club such as the Sunday brunch program, she added.

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Social group for the grieving

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

Jack Kirsch had no thoughts of joining a group after his wife Evelyn, who was 62, died of leukemia.

"I grieve privately," says Kirsch. "It took me over a year to think about a move outside of my grief."

Not wanting to become involved with a grieving group, Kirsch was invited by his friend Beverley Bobbin to a social gathering of Widows or Widowers (WOW). This group provides a support system for those who wish to get on with their lives, but find that they are no longer comfortable or fit in with their married friends.

Bobbin spearheaded WOW after her husband died. Eleven people came out to the first meeting. Today, there are more than 60 members.

Co-presidents of WOW are Myra Nelson and Pearl Brodie.

"Support from friends and relatives is very strong during the first year after a spouse's death, but then they expect you to get on with your life," says Kirsch. "WOW was a step in the right direction – a social group where people can meet, make friends and be with others who have experienced the loss of a loved one."

Once a month, three or four members of WOW volunteer to plan an outing, such as visits to the Royal Ontario Museum, the Art Gallery of Ontario, a night at the races, a trip to St. Jacobs, dinner, theatre, brunches, a Chanukah party and an annual party in honor of the forming of the group.

Pictured [from left]: Pearl Brodie, Jack Kirsch and Myra Nelson.

"Some of our members enjoy walking but don't want to walk alone, so they got together and formed a regular walkers' group. They meet at various locations around the city every second Sunday morning."

Kirsch, who says he is a "doer, not a position person," emphasizes that WOW is not a singles group.

"Attending an event is pressure-free and an enjoyable time – something one normally wouldn't have done because there wasn't anyone to do it with."

There are more widows than widowers in the group, says Kirsch, noting that Canadian statistics indicate that there are considerably more widows in Canada than widowers.

WOW's members are between 45 and their late 60s and meet strictly for friendship.

"The group has given me something to look forward to with some meaning and purpose. We get together as people – not necessarily male or female."

WOW is a non-affiliated and a non-profit group. Kirsch says that they are anxious to make synagogues and organizations aware of their programs, which take place mid-week and weekends.

"I believe that this is the only group of its kind here in Toronto," he says. "Most members work, but weekends can be lonely. It's nice to have people to do things with."

For more information, call Kirsch at 636-6101 or Nelson at 905-889-1419.

Guide helps people to choose a retirement home

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

Social workers are frequently asked which retirement home or long-term care facility would be most appropriate for a parent or loved one.

"It is one of the most difficult questions to answer," says Esther Goldstein, who has worked as a hospital social worker for eight years, primarily with the geriatric population. She is currently employed at Sunnybrook Health Science Centre.

Goldstein, who has a degree in social work from Ryerson Polytechnic University, says that much of her work has involved counseling people about relocating their loved ones to facilities, and assisting with the placement process.

"With the often long wait for nursing homes, people in ever-increasing numbers, [have begun] to turn to the private sector to provide care for the elderly who are too sick or dependent to return home."

Recognizing the difficulties in selecting the most appropriate facility, Goldstein sent detailed questionnaires to numerous residences and compiled a publication titled *A Comprehensive Guide to Retirement*

[Cont'd. on page 27]

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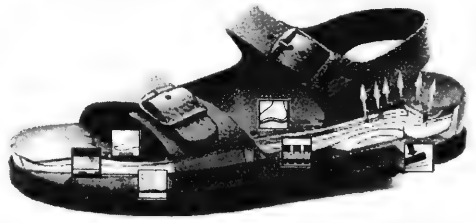

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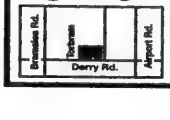

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Seniors hit hardest by health care changes: Ziemba

BY ADAM BELLO
Special to The CJN

Seniors could be hit hardest by current changes to Ontario's health care system, according to a former New Democratic Party cabinet minister.

In a recent talk to the Cranbrooke Friendship Club of the United Jewish People's Order, Elaine Ziemba said federal and provincial efforts to cut budgets could lead to poorer quality in health services available.

She said measures taken by the current government of Ontario, including the possibility of privatization for some health services next year, are contributing to the creation of a two-tier system.

"There are definite changes happening, and there will be a price to pay," said Ziemba, who was minister of citizenship in charge of senior issues during the 1990-95 government of Bob Rae. "We are at a turning point in health care, and something has to be done."

Ziemba said that while 1998 will be a transitional year, effective April 1, 1999, private sector agencies will be allowed to compete for health care contracts with not-for-profit counterparts.

"It worries me because we are making public health needs something that can be bidded on," said Ziemba.

"This is creating two-tiers of class, based on affordability to the individual.

"All these efforts are uncoordinated. During the NDP years, there were buildings being built (for senior housing) and a long-term care plan. Today, health care suffers from poor planning.

"Hospital staffing is becoming unstable. Qualified nurses are leaving the province, while casual, part time, and unregistered staff are taking on these roles. Waiting time in emergency rooms is becoming longer, and there is not enough beds for these and for long term care needs."

Ziemba said the apparent strategy of the Harris government – an early discharge of seniors from hospital to continue recovery with a care-giver from home – may be a more beneficial and cost effective process.

However, she said, unless seniors have their own medical/drug plan, they will have to pay for all the related costs that would have been covered under the Canada Health Act if they had remained in hospital. She said under Ontario's Home Help program, the recipient will have to pay a portion of the care-giver's salary.

"There are no facts to prove care in the home will be better for the individual. In fact, there are many cases where it may do more harm than good by bringing them out of the hospital.

"The assumption is that a family member or friend will help the person recover faster if they are in a familiar setting, but the indirect costs are there," she said. "The person acting as a care-giver loses time to earn taxable income, and possibly gets runs down, becoming ill and requiring someone to take care of them. Ultimately, it becomes a societal drain."

Ziemba said seniors should regularly communicate with their MPPs and municipal councillors regarding the dissatisfaction they may have with present health care.

Guidebook a handy reference for seniors choosing a retirement home

[Cont'd. from page 26]

Homes in the Greater Toronto Area, a resource directory to assist seniors and their families in choosing a retirement living facility.

"Even those of us who work in the field and know something about many of the facilities cannot say which is the best place to send someone. It would be too presumptuous to make such a decision for a person we do not know," she says.

"Instead, we suggest that you become an informed consumer, so that you, who know the person, can help them to make such a significant choice."

The guide, she says, is to help make a difficult decision easier by giving individuals as much information as possible.

"It is to be used in conjunction with your own subjective perspective, taking into consideration location, cost, ethnic inclination, languages spoken and other details."

She notes that the information was provided by each centre, "and I assume that each place responded accurately."

She emphasizes that no decision should be made without visiting the facility, or preferably a few facilities. "Meet the staff, sample a meal, speak with residents and their families."

Along with a comprehensive listing of the centres, which includes special features, residence information, staffing, health services, accommodation, dining services, amenities and activities, services included in the fee, and rental information, the guide also provides information on numerous topics such as wills and powers of attorney, tips on choosing a facility, how to make the transition easier, special needs facilities, as well as resources and support agencies.

The guide has been distributed free of charge to numerous social agencies in the geographic areas covered in the book. "The response has been incredible," she says.

Goldstein will be updating the guide annually. Advertising and private funds paid for the production and early distribution of the guide.

The guide is available at several hospital gift shops. For more information or to order a guide, call 457-6554, or fax 905-761-6264.

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Time of Your Life

The Internet: 'A library full of people'

By JOYCE SINGER
Special to The CJN

Seniors (55 plus), are among the fastest growing communities on the Internet, according to John Nemanic, president of Internet Direct. "At our free HTML seminars...out of 30 people, at least 20 are over the age of 50!"

The CJN asked a few Jewish seniors about their personal adventures in cyberland:

***

Torontonian David Ibbetson, 64, produces the weekly newsletter for his housing co-op. A trained statistical mathematician, he was forced to retire in the early '80s for health reasons.

"If you live on a fixed income, everything's expensive. But the best things about the Internet are the friends I've made. (While the worst is 'SPAM' – unsolicited e-mail advertisements). "I was at a dinner recently with 14 Net pals...about five of us were Jewish.

"The Internet is like a reference library full of people and information who know about any conceivable subject and are ready and willing to help inquirers. With rare exceptions, I've found it a friendly place. The Internet suits me perfectly, since I can read and write e-mail and browse at my own speed."

He recommends these Web sites: "The *Jerusalem Post*, which I remember when it was the *Palestine Post*. And the Maven Web site, the 'Ultimate' Jewish/Israel index", [www.maven.co.il]

***

Alisa Aiken Abbey, 60, a retired nurse who lives in Hornby Island, B.C., immediately signed up for Internet access, when her younger son moved to England four years ago.

"The best part is the ability to maintain contact with my Jewishness in an area with few Jews.

"If you have a good Internet Service Provider (ISP), it really is not that hard to learn, especially if you know the computer first. But if not, it's still not that difficult to get wired.

"E-mail is the reason we got it in the first place. E-mail was almost instantaneous, versus two or three weeks via *snail* (regular) mail. It's reasonably priced considering that I have had a lot of trouble with Canada Post losing mail. Now I buy fewer stamps. I just wish I could send packages through the Net!"

***

Phyllis Gelb, 57, an elementary school secretary in South Lake Tahoe, Calif. says, "The initial investment, of course, was expensive, but I find it worth every penny. I use the Internet for paying my bills, tracking my investments, shopping, playing (online) Scrabble, checking weather, news, travel and stock info, and keeping in touch with family and friends.

"I spend about two hours a day on the Net. Addicted? I would definitely be at a loss without my computer. I check my e-mail at work whenever I have a free moment. If I had to go back to writing checks and licking envelopes I'd be very upset.

"I love corresponding by e-mail because I'm on the phone all day long and the last thing I want to do when I get home is talk on the phone.

"Last December, when I couldn't find my Jewish cookbook, I used the Net to look up a recipe for kasha varnishkes to take to a Chanukah party.

***

Barbara Levy Taverna, in her late 50s, runs her own home business (closed circuit TV equipment) in Brockport, N.Y.

"There's an enormous variety of things I am interested in, readily accessible. I use the Net to research Judaica, history and genealogy mainly. The Kulanu e-mail list actively works with scattered groups returning to Judaism. I also enjoy reading international and/or Jewish newspaper and magazine Web sites for news, and I belong to a few e-mail joke lists.

"I spend a minimum of four hours a day on the Net and am definitely addicted. It's a fantastic way to learn, exchange ideas, keep in touch with family and friends. Some are from as far away as Australia!

"As people grow older and have diverse medical problems, the Web is a great way to keep up with new developments, and you can share ideas with people you would not otherwise meet.

***

It's evident that for golden-agers, the Internet is a great equalizer, giving a global voice to their specific interests and concerns. Senior Cybernauts – a force to be reckoned with in the new millennium.

Joyce Singer's articles have appeared throughout North America since 1979. Write her at [joycie @idirect.com], or browse her Web site at [http://web.idirect.com/~joycie/cchat.html].

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From coast to coast

Minyan sought for Kirkland Lake

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A Toronto-area lawyer is looking to round up a minyan for the rededication of the Kirkland Lake Hebrew Cemetery July 2.

Sydney Moscoe, who spent most of his childhood in Kirkland Lake, is planning the ceremony with Eddie Duke, one of the few remaining Jews in the Northern Ontario town, about 380 miles north of Toronto.

"It will be a chance for people who go, to at least say Kaddish with a minyan," said Moscoe.

At its height, the Kirkland Lake Jewish community had about 125 Jewish families. Lawyer Harry Moscoe, Syd's father, had moved his young family from Toronto to the growing mining town in 1936 on the advice of his brother who was then living in Timmins, about 90 miles away.

"These towns were booming in the '30s," said Moscoe.

At 65, he has fond memories of Kirkland Lake, where he lived until his late teens (except for 1941-44, when his father took a job in Montreal with the Canadian Jewish Congress war efforts committee).

"I think Kirkland Lake was the greatest place I could have grown up in," said Moscoe.

On the whole, he felt the Jewish community was well respected in the ethnically mixed town. He recalls seeing a picture of a local parade in the 1930s, with the rabbi leading a contingent from the Jewish community.

There was a synagogue, a Hebrew school, a chevrah kadishah and, at one time, a kosher butcher and a Jewish men's softball team. The synagogue was sold in 1971; its Ark is now in the chapel of Beth Tikvah Synagogue in Toronto.

When kosher meat was not available locally, Moscoe's mother would phone or write to a kosher butcher in Toronto, who would send a shipment by train, packed in dry ice. "Sometimes in the summer the only thing that arrived without being spoiled was the salami."

The Moscoes moved back to Toronto in 1954, three years after Sydney moved here to take his last year of high school at Harbord Collegiate Institute.

Before that, he attended Kirkland Lake Collegiate, which is holding its 75th anniversary reunion this July.

The forthcoming reunion inspired Moscoe and Duke to plan the rededication of the cemetery, located in Krugerdorf, some 20 miles south of Kirkland Lake.

Duke, a widower and the photographer who took Moscoe's bar mitzvah pictures, is one of only a handful of people who make up today's Jewish community in Kirkland Lake. The tiny Jewish populations in nearby Englehart and Cobalt are gone, said Moscoe.

The cemetery, which is tended by a local couple, dates back to 1908, when Hyme Jacobson died at the age of 19. A new immigrant, he was travelling up the Blanche River toward Krugerdorf when his canoe overturned, said Moscoe.

Anyone who would like further information about the rededication can contact Moscoe at 905-831-2333 until June 30. The rededication will take place at 10:30 on July 2. At 9:30, participants will meet outside the Journey's End Motel in Kirkland Lake to leave for the cemetery. Moscoe noted that the cemetery is difficult to find, as it is no longer marked with a highway sign.

JNF marks 50th, Holocaust

By MOURA WOLPERT
CJN Correspondent

HAMILTON — The recent Hamilton Jewish National Fund (JNF), Negev Tribute Dinner, titled From Dreams to Reality, was a celebration of the 50th anniversary of the State of Israel and a tribute to the survivors of the Holocaust.

It was fitting, said JNF co-chair Hilda Rosen in her opening remarks, that the survivors were chosen as honorees on the occasion of Israel's 50th anniversary.

"Tonight we celebrate life and that rare courage our honorees...have displayed every day of their lives. We are ever mindful of those who are no longer with us – through you, their spirits live on – as Israel always has and always will," Rosen told the 400 guests at Adas Israel Synagogue.

David Sultan, Israel's ambassador to Ottawa, said "as we celebrate the establishment of the State of Israel 50 years ago, it is a sad thought that Israel was established a few years too late to save the victims of the Holocaust."

The anniversary was about remembering, he said. "We owe it to those who perished and to those who survived. We owe it to the future and to the future of the world, so that this will never happen again."

In his brief address, Sultan noted with pride that despite its many problems, not least security, Israel is a democracy.

"We have every reason to be proud of our achievements, but they would not have been possible without the support of you and Jews around the world."

Holocaust Remembrance Committee chair Gary Frydman accepted a plaque on behalf of the survivors, and a special presentation was made to JNF co-chair Claire Waxman who is moving to Toronto.

SINGLES EVENTS

Singles Events is an advertising feature of *The Canadian Jewish News*

Please see the Classified section of this issue for EARLY DEADLINES for October

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The CJN encourages readers to direct any queries they may have on an upcoming event to the event's organizers.

Beth David B'nai Israel Jewish Single Parents' Group presents: "Let's Make A Date." Exploring Dating Services. Thursday, June 25th at 8:30 p.m. No charge. Open to Single Jewish parents 30-50 years. **For info call 416-633-5500.**

Chabibi Promotions invites you to celebrate a Canada Day Jewish Bash on Tues., June 30, Babalu'u Night Club, 136 Yorkville Ave. Doors opens at 9pm. Dress code is in full effect. Tickets: $8-advance, $10-door. Ages 19-30. For info & tickets call 416-713-5012.

Check out Jewish Singles Events on the web. www.total.net/~isreg

Darren, Mark & Ari Present "The Canada Day Party" at Remy's, 115 Yorkville, Tues. June 30/98. Tickets $8 - advance thru TicketMaster 870-8000, $10 - door. DM&A Hotline 733-1419. Doors open at 10pm

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From coast to coast

B.C. anti-racism activist loses libel lawsuit

By PETER CAULFIELD
Pacific Correspondent

VICTORIA — A Salmon Arm woman has won a libel suit against an anti-racism activist, despite her description by a B.C. Supreme Court judge as a "missionary for anti-Semitism and pro-white racism."

In a judgment released here May 20, Supreme Court Judge Dermod Owen-Flood ruled in favor of Eileen Pressler and her husband, Claus, in their suit against Salmon Arm anti-racism advocate David Lethbridge and Westcom TV Group Ltd.

Eileen Pressler is founder of the Council on Public Affairs (CPA) and editor of the *CPA Digest*, a newsletter produced and circulated in the early 1990s.

The Presslers sued Lethbridge, a psychology professor at the Salmon Arm campus of Okanagan University College, and Westcom following a broadcast on Westcom's CHBC television station in Kelowna.

The broadcast dealt with rumors of construction on property owned by the Presslers on the Trans-Canada Highway near Salmon Arm.

The broadcast repeated local speculation that the property was to be used not as a retirement home, as the Presslers maintained, but as a paramilitary training ground and venue for meetings of right-wing groups.

The judge found that Lethbridge, founder of the Salmon Arm Coalition Against Racism (SACAR), "repeated defamatory rumors in the broadcast which he knew or ought to have known were untrue."

Owen-Flood awarded Eileen Pressler $1,500 from Lethbridge and $10,000 from Westcom. Claus Pressler was awarded $10,000 from Lethbridge and $50,000 from Westcom.

At the same time, the judge found that some of the views expressed in the *CPA Digest* "go beyond what is acceptable in a free and democratic society. They engender hatred of identifiable groups in violation of the Criminal Code. Thus they are beyond the pale of the law."

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Early Bird II - $500 each: David Diamond, Joe Feldman

War crimes case winds up

By DAVID LAZARUS
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — Final arguments will take place July 2 and July 3 here in Federal Court to determine whether Montrealer Vladimir Katriuk will keep his Canadian citizenship. Katriuk is accused of concealing his membership in a Ukrainian SS battalion in order to come to Canada in 1951.

The arguments will culminate months of sporadic proceedings involving expert testimony from academics, trips to interview witnesses in Russia, Ottawa and Toronto, and friends of Katriuk who served with him in the battalion.

If the Federal Court denaturalizes Katriuk, he will almost certainly be deported back to Ukraine.

Last month, Katriuk, a retired beekeeper who spends most of his time in Ormstown, testified for two days in Federal Court and denied ever being asked what he did during the war years when he was interviewed by Canadian Embassy officials in Paris some 47 years ago.

Katriuk's position was supported by his French-born wife, Maria, and two other men who befriended Katriuk and maintained in court that they were also not questioned about their wartime activities when they applied to come to Canada.

The Crown is arguing that Katriuk was indeed asked about his past since such questions were automatic at that time and on the application forms.

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Watching TV? On the phone? You can still work out...

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — There are parts of our bodies we can exercise even when doing such things as watching TV, talking on the phone or brushing our teeth, according to Anne Cho, a Mount Sinai Hospital physiotherapist.

Cho was a panelist at the last of the three-part health lecture series at the Bathurst Jewish Centre (BJC), which drew nearly a full house recently at the Leah Posluns Theatre.

Making a few extra trips to the car while unloading groceries is another way to exercise, she said.

"These exercises are needed as we grow older."

At medical checkups, which she heartily recommended, people should ask their physicians gender specific and age specific questions, said Dr. Anne Biringer, director of the Family Medicine Centre at Mount Sinai Hospital.

Studies do not bear out that the wealthy have less illness than the poor, Biringer said. There is a difference in the rates of illness that does not conform to class lines, she said, adding that even within the same job classification there are differences.

Asking the audience to eat more fruits and vegetables, Frances Berkoff, a consulting dietitian at the hospital, said the average person has consumed 47,460 meals by age 40, so food has an important impact on health.

Fruits and vegetables, along with vitamin C, are an important source of antioxidants and lower the risk of cataracts. Leafy greens are rich in folic acid, and women who consume enough folic acid before they conceive will lower birth defect risk.

Lycopine, found in tomatoes, red grapefruit and watermelon, lowers the risk of heart disease. Soy milk has less calcium and Vitamin D than regular milk, so she advised buying soy milk that has been fortified with these elements.

People who are socially isolated have a death rate one to four times higher than average, said psychiatrist Dr. Jonathan Hunter, head of the hospital's psycho-social unit.

Women who have a companion when they give birth have half the length of time of delivery.

Those with a high-pressure type of personality do much better when they have group therapy following a heart attack; only 13 percent suffer a recurrence, compared with 30 percent, who do not have group therapy.

There are not as many support groups for men with life threatening diseases as for women, Hunter said, but he spoke of the valuable results when a group of men whose wives had cancer got together and talked freely about their fears.

The series was sponsored by Mount Sinai Hospital, the BJC and the Jewish Women's Federation. Micki Moore was moderator for all three.

Health Briefs

Genetic Disorders

Hadassah researchers have pioneered a new gene therapy technique to introduce healthy genes into bone marrow cells using a harmless virus.

This procedure, if successful in human trials, could eventually be used to cure genetic disorders, including certain inherited cancers and thalassemia. The groundwork for this procedure was developed over the past decade by Hebrew University-Hadassah Medical School's Prof. Ariella Oppenheim, who introduced healthy genes into bone marrow cells using a genetically engineered SV40 virus.

Dr. Deborah Rund of Hadassah-University Hospital's hematology department partnered with her by testing a multi-drug resistant gene. According to Rund, bone marrow is the target cell for the cure of many types of disease, and previous strategies were not penetrating efficiently. In the lab, Oppenheim's SV40 virus penetrates human bone marrow cells quickly and efficiently.

The next step is to take human bone marrow and introduce it into immunologically depressed mice as a lab model.

York Central may face cutbacks

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — York Central Hospital in Richmond Hill faces the prospect of cutting its programs and closing beds unless the Ontario Ministry of Health provides additional funding, Frank Lussing, president and chief executive officer warns.

The hospital's budget committee is meeting in the next two weeks to consider such moves, he said.

His warning comes in the wake of the announcement by Ontario Health Minister Elizabeth Witmer that $186.1 million is being provided to expand and renovate 15 Toronto hospitals.

"In the 905 area outside of Toronto, we are anxiously awaiting an announcement of what will be done for the high growth areas," Lussing said.

"We are expected to double in size in the next five years to cope with a resident population increase of 40 percent," he said.

Among its new burdens will be the transfer of 20 percent of North York General Hospital Branson Division's patients when Branson closes in two or three years.

The major addition to York Central will be a $23- or $24-million dedicated continuing care building including adult day care, a chronic kidney dialysis unit and 100 beds for long-term care.

The $27.4 million allotted for expansion and renovation to North York General on Leslie Street is still under negotiation because more is needed said President Murray Mackenzie.

It is hoped that the emergency department at the Branson Division will be opened at night again as soon as enough nurses are recruited, particularly from the United States, he said.

The $4.1 million allotted to the Branson Division will be used to convert it to an ambulatory care centre.

The plans at North York General are to double the emergency department and have twice as many treatment areas by the end of 2001.

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Netanyahu rejects criticism of Jerusalem moves

By JAY BUSHINSKY
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Rejecting foreign criticism of his government's plan to transform Jerusalem into "a 21st-century metropolis," Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu last Sunday said U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright had jumped to hasty conclusions instead of "checking with me first.

"This is not a change of status from the political standpoint," Netanyahu told a news conference shortly after the administrative expansion had won the cabinet's unanimous approval.

He said he was astounded by the negative foreign reactions, describing them as "empty balloons." As for the American reaction, Netanyahu said he hopes his discussion with Albright succeeded in clarifying Israel's position.

He added that he had conferred last week with U.S. Ambassador Edward Walker about the destruction of illegal housing in Jerusalem, regardless of whether it is built by Jews or Arabs, and that the subject of the metropolitan plan did not come up, despite the fact that it was first broached in the cabinet before he met with Walker.

The plan would annex some land around Jerusalem and create a "Greater Jerusalem" under an umbrella municipality that would coordinate administrative powers with nearby towns.

The towns mentioned in the plan include Givat Ze'ev and Ma'aleh Adumin in the territories, as well as Mevasseret Zion and other towns inside the Green Line.

Yet to be determined are the exact areas to be covered, the responsibilities of the umbrella authority, and who would have the right to vote in Jerusalem municipal elections.

The next step is for the Interior Ministry to prepare a detailed plan for both the annexation and the creation of the umbrella authority. The plan is to be submitted to the cabinet after Aug. 1 and to the Knesset when it reconvenes in September.

Interior Minister Eli Suissa met with Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert for preliminary discussions on the plan's details, according to Israel Radio.

In an interview Sunday on NBC's *Meet the Press*, Albright said she told Netanyahu that his announced expansion plans for Jerusalem were being viewed "as something that was not helpful to the peace process." She said Netanyahu "clarified" his intentions as being municipal in nature.

However, when asked about the cabinet decision, Albright said, "Anything that is done at this point on something that is a final-status issue cannot really be helpful, when we are in a period...of very intensive and constructive dialogue" to restart the peace process.

"Right now, there are talks going on at a variety of levels," Albright said. "I've said many times that unilateral acts of any kind at this point do not help."

Olmert, who shared the podium with Netanyahu, justified the idea of incorporating several of the towns on the city's western periphery into a single super-municipality on the grounds that "there is no justification for so many local councils and their respective bureaucracies and budgets."

On the other hand, he stressed that only those communities with land reserves on which housing can be built will be annexed. He excluded Mevasseret Zion from this category and said he did not intend to annex it.

Netanyahu accused the Palestinian Authority (PA) of whipping up overseas opinion against the scheme and implying that this was done in retaliation for Israel's successful campaign to thwart its attempt to win UN recognition of its purported status as a "virtual state."

"We are not trying to unravel the Oslo accords," he said. But he charged that the PA violated them not only by its abortive UN initiative, but also by trying to infiltrate its security personnel into the city and setting up offices.

Netanyahu insisted that there is no political significance to the plan's timing. Originally, he had intended to present it in conjunction with the annual Jerusalem Day festivities, but it was impossible to prepare it by then, he said.

At the same time, the underlying objective is to expand Jerusalem's industrial base by introducing more high-tech firms and "turning it into Israel's Silicon Valley," he said.

Declaring that the plan's benefits would accrue to the city's Arabs as well as to its Jews, Netanyahu said his government is the first to invest in Jerusalem's eastern [Arab] neighborhoods.

"Go there and take a look," he told the journalists. "You'll see the new streets and sidewalks and all the other improvements."

Another of the plan's goals, he said, is to "develop and protect" the city's sites associated with Jewish history. Asked if its Christian and Muslim sites would be given similar treatment, he replied in the affirmative.

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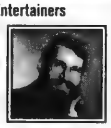
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Open rift developing between Arafat, Husseini

By JAY BUSHINSKY
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — An open rift between Palestinian Authority (PA) Chairman Yasser Arafat and his chief representative in Jerusalem, Faisal Husseini, stems from divergent views about the city's future status, and not only from a dispute over allegedly missing funds, sources said recently.

Arafat's proposal that Husseini become the PA's minister in charge of Wakfs was linked to the Palestinian leader's wish to replace him with "someone who will go along with the formula worked out by Mahmoud Abbas and MK Yossi Beilin (Labor) designating Jerusalem's outlying Abu Dis district as the PA's capital.

Husseini dismissed this account as totally inaccurate. "People are talking about something they know nothing about," he said.

Asked about the proposal that he be in charge of the Wakfs, he said, "I don't believe it is on the agenda."

The tension between Arafat and Husseini was said to have exploded at the last PA cabinet meeting. Husseini was quoted as having said, "If you ask me where are the $5 million that allegedly are missing, why don't you ask your aides where are the millions of dollars they have been stealing every day?"

At that point, Arafat reportedly ordered Husseini to leave, but Husseini refused saying, "This isn't your home. It's a Palestinian house."

Husseini said he would not comment on cabinet proceedings.

This confrontation evidently occurred in an atmosphere of intense internal rivalry and jockeying for position among PA figures.

They were said to have reached the point at which Arafat will be unable to carry out the ministerial

Faisal Husseini

shuffle he is believed to have in mind.

For example, a sharp warning was said to have come from Cairo that if Planning Minister Nabil Shaath is dismissed, Arafat no longer will be welcome in Egypt, a Palestinian political observer said.

Husseini rejected the idea of Abu Dis serving as the PA's capital, contending that this would undermine the very basis of the peace process.

"The whole process is built on UN Security Council Resolution 242, which means Israel's return to the 1967 borders," he said. "Any changes would mean opening the process from the beginning. Anyone in Israel who tells me he or she has rights in 'Judea and Samaria' would simply prompt me to say we lay claim to territory inside Israel."

Asked to comment about the fact that Jordan held part of Jerusalem from 1949 to 1967 and did not designate it as the Palestinian capital, Husseini said the city was held in custodial status pending a solution to the Palestinian problem.

In a parallel development, the PA's American and European benefactors were said to be demanding the dismissal of Mohammed Rashid from his senior economic post for "acting as if he were running a private business," a source said.

"The Europeans warned that if the PA did not clean up its house they won't give it any more money," a source said.

Technion satellite to blast off

By DAVID RUDGE
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — A second Technion satellite was set to blast off for space aboard a Russian Zenith rocket this week, three years after the first effort ended in failure.

Students, scientists and experts from hi-tech companies who have invested seven years of work on the $8-million project will be keeping their fingers crossed that the Gurwin II TechSat micro-satellite will not suffer the same fate as its predecessor.

The launch is to take place from the Baikonur Space Centre in Kazakhstan, and within a few hours it will be known whether it has been successful.

The first Gurwin TechSat was launched aboard a converted Russian SS-25 rocket that had formerly been used as an intercontinental ballistic missile from the cosmodrome at Plesetzk in the Arctic Circle, 900 kilometres north of Moscow.

On that occasion, the fifth stage of the rocket did not ignite, and the module with the Technion satellite inside did not reach its orbit and crashed back to Earth.

The second and improved version of the Technion satellite was to be launched "piggyback style" along with a large Russian one and four other smaller satellites: Australian, German-Belgian, British-Chilean and British-Thai.

The Zenith rocket used in the launch is considered to be far better suited for the job and has proven to be highly successful in previous missions of this nature.

The TechSat II, named after New York businessman Joseph Gurwin, whose contributions made the project possible, is the smallest of all the satellites that will be aboard the Zenith.

The cube-shaped satellite measures just 45 centimetres on each side and weighs only 48 kilograms, but packs a high-tech payload.

It is considered to be the most inexpensive model of its kind with the lowest power consumption for its size – 10 watts compared to an average lightbulb's 60 to 100 watts. The energy is provided by four solar panels on the sides of the cube, which will be used to power the various scientific experiments, including the satellite's specially developed electricity-saving mini computer.

The satellite, which has also been funded by the Science Ministry through the auspices of the Israel Space Agency, will provide communication services and be used for tests using X-ray detectors and a device for measuring ozone concentration in the Earth's atmosphere.

TechStat is scheduled to reach an orbit altitude of 830 km and will circle the Earth every 119 minutes. The data collected will be transmitted to the ground station at the Technion's Asher Space Research Institute, headed by Prof. Moshe Guelman.

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Israel & the Jewish World

Russia-Syria ties starting to improve

BY DOUGLAS DAVIS
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

LONDON — The Moscow-Damascus axis is up and running again.

In a move that has the potential to alter the political landscape of the Middle East, Russia has returned to the region, where it is picking up the pieces that slipped from the grasp of the dissolving Soviet Union.

Ties with Damascus, formerly Moscow's closest ally in the region, will be reinforced in the autumn when Syrian President Hafez al-Assad, who rarely travels outside his country, makes his first visit to Russia since the 1991 collapse of the Soviet empire.

The announcement of Assad's trip was made at a news conference recently by the Russian ambassador to Damascus, Viktor Gogitidze, and coincides with media reports that the two countries have concluded their biggest arms deal in years.

It also comes against the backdrop of growing Syrian perceptions of American weakness in the region, exemplified by Washington's apparent failure to convert declarations of political determination into action – in the crisis earlier this year with Iraq, in getting Europe to agree to U.S. sanctions against Iran and in advancing the Middle East peace process.

During his news conference, Gogitidze said Russian-Syrian ties – which have been cool in recent years – had started to improve in all sectors, including cooperation in military and economic fields.

In a statement rife with significance to all Middle East watchers, the envoy said Russia was "keen to strengthen Syria's defensive military capabilities because this would help maintain stability in the Middle East."

The ambassador confirmed that Russian and Syrian forces had conducted joint military exercises in Russia last year and that many Russian military experts were working in Syria.

But he declined to confirm reports of new arms sales to Syria.

According to the Russian daily newspaper *Segodnya*, an arms plant in the Russian city of Tula has started supplying the Syrian army with more than 1,000 Cornet anti-tank guided missiles.

The sale of the mobile missiles, which have a range of about eight miles, would be the largest deal concluded between Russia and Syria since the collapse of the Soviet Union.

Segodnya also reported that Syria would soon receive long-range surface-to-air missiles from Russia.

The Israeli daily *Ha'aretz*, which also reported last week on the missile deal, cited Israeli security officials who said they were concerned by the latest developments and that the new anti-tank missiles were "a big step forward" for the Syrian army.

At the same time, however, the newspaper said the Israeli security establishment had not changed its basic opinion that while Syria is preparing a military option, it would probably not trigger a war with Israel in the near future.

The growing ties between Russia and Syria come amid a steadily growing rapprochement between Israel and Turkey – an alliance that has provoked angry outbursts from Iran and Syria, who are themselves close allies.

In recent months, Israel and Turkey have implemented major economic agreements and far-reaching military accords that permit each to use the other's air space and air bases.

Among other advantages, the agreements provide Israel with the ability to maintain surveillance of military movements in northern Syria and place its aircraft within potential striking distance of Iran's nascent nuclear facilities.

The Israeli-Turkish relationship is likely to come up during Assad's scheduled visit to Moscow as part of discussions regarding the balance of power in the region.

During the news conference, Gogitidze said several economic co-operation agreements, including deals on oil and gas, would be signed during Assad's visit, his first since April 1990.

Gogitidze said the current volume of trade between Syria and Russia – about $150 million (US) a year – falls far short of its potential.

He added that Assad would also discuss ideas for breaking the deadlock in the Syrian-Israeli peace talks, which were broken off in March 1996.

Canadian gets 'Amit Yerushalayim' award

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

JERUSALEM — An honorary award, Amit Yerushalayim (Guardian of Jerusalem) was recently presented to Dr. Elie Borowski, former Torontonian and founder of the Bible Lands Museum Jerusalem, by Jerusalem's Mayor Ehud Olmert.

The award is given by the Jerusalem City Council to an individual who has made a contribution to the quality of life of the citizens of Jerusalem.

Government ministers, Knesset members, Israeli and Arab students and supporters of the museum from Israel and abroad – Japan, Germany, Switzerland, Canada and the United States – attended the ceremony, held in the garden of the museum. It was followed by a reception and gala dinner in honor of Borowski's 85th birthday and the sixth anniversary of the opening of the Bible Lands Museum.

In a tribute to Borowski, Olmert said, "Your vision, which established the museum as an institute of learning for people of all faiths, has allowed thousands to experience our biblical history in a truly unique way."

Borowski's wife Batya, spoke of her husband's generosity and dedication in creating one of Jerusalem's finest cultural institutions and a world-class museum.

She noted that the newly opened exhibition of 250 objects titled, Sacred Bounty-Sacred Land, The Seven Species of the Land of Israel, is in celebration of the 50th anniversary of the State of Israel.

The new exhibition, she said, will be incorporated into the museum's educational programming, whose aims are to bring young people closer to the values of the past.

In a tribute to Borowski, former Jerusalem Mayor Teddy Kollek, who played a role in the establishment of the museum said, "The wealth of beautiful and important objects that you collected over 50 years have now come to rest in Jerusalem.

"The many significant and impressive exhibitions that have been mounted at the Bible Lands Museum since its establishment, using your objects as the centrepoint of the shows, have greatly contributed to a better understanding of our past and a deeper appreciation of archeology in general."

Meir Rosenne, who chaired the tribute dinner, expressed his deep gratitude to Borowski "for having enriched the legacy of the Jewish people. When the history of this era will be written, the historians will record your love, devotion and dedication to art, to history, to education and above all, your unparalleled determination to make sure that Jews, young and old, know more about their history."

Dr. Elie Borowski and Batya Borowski at a presentation of the Amit Yerushalayim award by Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert.

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The Week in Israel

June 15

• El Al, Israel's national airline for the first time admitted a woman to its pilot course. Orit Katzir begins training on July 12.

June 16

• A poll of Palestinians indicated that some 65 percent of the respondents believe their political institutions are corrupt. Support for the peace process dropped to 62 percent since the last poll was conducted by the Centre for Palestine Research and Studies in March.

• The incoming chief of staff, Shaul Mofaz, travelled to Turkey for meetings with senior Turkish military officials.

June 17

• Two IDF soldiers were hurt in southern Lebanon by a roadside bomb planted by Hezbollah.

• Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu unveiled a plan aimed at boosting the Jewish presence in Jerusalem by enlarging the city's municipal boundaries, building housing and infrastructure in the western section of the city.

June 18

• Nahum Manbar, a businessman, was convicted of supplying Iran with materials for the production of mustard and nerve gas.

• Drivers got a break from the High Court of Justice, which ruled that motorists would not have to pay parking tickets issued before 1995.

June 19

• A dispute between Netanyahu and Chief of Staff Amnon Shahak broke into the open with the leak of a letter sent by Shahak to Netanyahu. In his letter, Shahak accused the prime minister of publicly misquoting him in relation to the previous week's security briefing at the cabinet meeting.

50 Years Ago

LAKE SUCCESS, N.Y., ***June 9*** — Count Folke Bernadotte, the United Nations mediator for Palestine, today confirmed the acceptance by Israel and the Arab league countries of his nine-point truce plan. In a cable to Secretary General Trygve Lie, Bernadotte reported that the ceasefire will go into effect at 2 a.m. Friday, New York time.

With files from JTA

Labor's Barak hasn't lived up to expectations

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

Mideast Analysis

A year ago this month, Israel's most decorated soldier, Ehud Barak, won the Labor party's leadership. But as a politician, he has proven to be less adept than as an army commander.

Shortly after stepping down as chief of staff, Barak was brought into government by Yitzhak Rabin as minister of interior. With Rabin's assassination, Barak served as foreign minister under Shimon Peres. When Peres resigned after the Likud's razor-thin victory in the 1996 election, Barak ran for the chairmanship of the Labor party.

Viewed as Rabin's natural successor because of his rigorous security credentials, Barak was widely portrayed as a leader who could unseat the bumbling prime minister, Benjamin Netanyahu, in the next election.

But as so often happens in politics, Barak has not lived up to expectations. Having first raced ahead of Netanyahu in public opinion polls, he has fallen behind him of late, triggering spasms of doubt regarding his ability to lead the party to victory.

In an attempt to broaden his appeal, he has reached out to right-of-centre voters who normally might not vote for Labor. As a result, he has been accused of fudging the issues by none other than Peres, who claims that the party "does not speak with a clear voice" anymore.

Peres, having been rejected as party president by Barak, certainly has an axe to grind. But to a degree, his accusation rings true.

Barak, who claims that Netanyahu is strangling the Oslo peace process and thereby endangering Israel, wants to achieve what he grandly describes as a "historic compromise" with the Arabs.

Believing that peace with the Palestinians can be reached through formal separation ("High fences make good neighbors," he has said.), Barak recognizes their right to statehood with "somewhat limited" powers. But Barak has not come out clearly for a Palestinian state, and has gone on record as favoring a confederation between the Jordanians and the Palestinians.

When he was recently asked to comment on an American proposal for a 13 percent Israeli redeployment from the West Bank in exchange for sweeping Palestinian concessions, he declined to answer, saying lamely: "It wouldn't be right for me to interfere with [Netanyahu] in his negotiations."

Barak's demurral was odd, given his position that Israel is obliged to relinquish further swaths of territory to the Palestinian Authority.

Even stranger, Barak declared, "We will remain in Beit El forever." To Rabin, Beit El – established by the Likud in a densely populated Palestinian area – was considered a "political" rather than a "security" settlement and thus expendable. But to Barak, who abstained on the 1995 Oslo 2 agreement, Beit El is an unquestioned asset to be defended at all costs.

Like Rabin, Peres and Netanyahu, Barak is of the opinion that Israel cannot return to its pre-1967 borders and must retain a military presence along the Jordan River. With respect to the Golan Heights, he diverges from the Likud, saying that the depth of an Israeli withdrawal will be determined by the quality of a peace accord signed by Israel and Syria.

Barak, however, is absolutely clear on Jerusalem. The city should remain Israel's undivided capital, with Palestinians enjoying autonomous rights in their neighborhoods. He recognizes Har Choma as Israeli territory, but thinks that its development should be deferred until the completion of final status talks, which are two years behind schedule at this juncture.

Barak has also been unambiguous on two other key issues.

He opposes the divisive conversion bill, saying it should not be passed until the needs of the Reform and Conservative movements are met. And in conformity with his belief that haredi men are shirking their national obligations, he has presented a bill requiring virtually all of them to serve in the armed forces.

Since Haredim are anti-Labor anyway, Barak had nothing to lose by championing this legislation.

Milo, Shahak may join forces

By MICHAL YUDELMAN
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

TEL AVIV — Mayor Ronni Milo said last week that if he is elected prime minister, he would appoint outgoing Chief of Staff Lt.-Gen. Amnon Shahak as defence minister, providing the latter joins his list.

Sources from both Likud and Labor said that on his release from the IDF next month, Shahak will receive two offers – from Labor leader Ehud Barak and from Milo – to be their Number 2 and candidate for defence minister.

Milo, who was interviewed on Channel 2's *Meet the Press*, said that Likud MK Dan Meridor would join his list and several senior Labor and Likud MKs have already agreed to join his list.

"I believe Meridor will be on my list," Milo said. "He hasn't yet made the move, but he has announced in public that he has no confidence in Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. We've sat and talked about our plans, and we agreed it was pointless to form yet another centrist party."

Milo stressed he was "not obsessive about being Number 1. If Meridor or Shahak will have better chances of winning, they can take the lead."

Asked if he has already spoken to Shahak about this, Milo said, "He's still in uniform, and I won't involve him in political business as long as he is. But I want people like him. I hope very much he will join me and be my defence minister."

Milo expressed confidence in getting enough votes to reach the second round in elections for prime minister.

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Features

Family Matters

by

John Syrtash, B.A. (Hon.), LL.B.

New Child Support Guidelines still leave room for interpretation

In recent issues I explained that child support in Canada is now governed by Guidelines. These Guidelines are comprised of presumptive tables or a grid, wherein the precise amount of support is determined by the payer's gross income and the number of children.

According to the Ontario Court of Appeal, Judges may award different amounts in only a very few specific situations, such as when custody is shared or when the children are "split" (one child residing with one parent, the other child(ren) residing with the other parent). The payer could also be obliged to contribute to "add-ons" — such as the cost of day care — in proportion to the income of the recipient (i.e. his ex-spouse).

A Court may also oblige the payer to contribute to "extraordinary expenses" for extracurricular activities. While Judges have virtually no discretion to change the basic table amounts, it is within their power to direct the payer to contribute to these particular expenses. On the other hand, they can decline to do so if they feel that the expense in question is unreasonable.

The Court must consider whether the expense is in the child's "best interests" and within the means of the parents. The Court can also review the spending habits of the family prior to the parents' separation. Finally, child support is no longer tax deductible for agreements or Court orders signed after May 1, 1997. However, the amounts ordered or agreed upon prior to that date are often much higher than those occurring after May 1, 1977 because the old support amounts often incorporated a component for tax liability. Amounts payable under earlier agreements or Court orders are still tax deductible. One can usually have old orders or agreements changed by the Court or by agreement so that child support is governed by the new Guidelines. However, before deciding to do so, parents should consult a tax expert, such as an accountant, to ensure that the change benefits them.

One of the purposes of the new system was to make the calculation of child support much easier for lawyers (when negotiating) and Judges. The idea was simple: the presumptive tables would end many costly lawsuits involving endless debate on how the amount of child support should be calculated. The Guidelines have now been in force for over one year.

I write a newsletter for Quicklaw (a national computerized legal research service) called the *Syrtash Family Law Newsletter.* During the past year I have reviewed hundreds of cases and have frequently negotiated and/or litigated child support within my professional practise. I must sadly report that despite the best intentions of the legislators, the objective of simplifying child support has been only partially successful.

There is no question that determining the basic amount payable (the presumptive table amount) has made one part of the exercise very simple. In many (if not most) cases, it resolves the issue of child support entirely, particularly in parts of Canada where local incomes do not permit many expensive extracurricular activities.

However, Judges across Canada cannot seem to agree on when expenses for such activities are "extraordinary". Two recent appellate decisions, one in Nova Scotia (*Raftus vs. Raftus*) and the other in Manitoba (*Andries vs. Andries*), appear to suggest that only in rare circumstances will payers be obliged to contribute to such expenses. The expenditure must be unusually high. For instance, the costs associated with buying ice hockey equipment, team fees or normal travel expenses have to be paid entirely by the custodial parent, without financial assistance from the supporting spouse beyond the basic presumptive amount. However, if the child is required to take extraordinarily costly trips as a team member, then the Court may order a contribution towards these "extraordinary" costs because they are *ancillary to* the normal expenses of such activities.

Many lower Courts across Canada, particularly in Ontario, have ruled contrary to this approach. These Courts have ordered that the supporting spouse share in the direct (as well as indirect) costs of hockey, ballet, swimming, summer camps and other activities in addition to paying the basic presumptive amounts.

Only a Supreme Court of Canada ruling or an amendment to the Guidelines will clarify the incredible lack of consistency on this critical issue for estranged parents and the lawyers advising them. At the moment, the lawyer must know which Judge will be making the decision, which in itself is difficult and often impossible. Meanwhile, in light of the confusion in the Courts, I cannot conclude that the Guidelines have solved the need for simplicity.

In a future issue, I will discuss further problems with the Guidelines, particularly insofar as they relate to spousal support.

John Syrtash is a partner and family law lawyer with the Toronto firm of Basman Smith. Neither B'nai Brith Canada, Basman Smith or John Syrtash is liable for any consequences arising from anyone's reliance on this material, which is presented as general information and not as a legal opinion. John Syrtash can be reached at (416) 365-0300, ext. 22.

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'Jew Hill' cemetery in disrepair

[Cont'd. from pg. 1]

become known as "Jew Hill," was quickly forgotten.

Today the cemetery is in an advanced state of disrepair. From a nearby road, the cemetery appears to be a small, unkempt wooded area. Lying adjacent to Beth Chaim Cemetery are the well-kept Roman Catholic, Anglican and Masons' graveyards. Kushner said that visitors who stand at the edge of the lot can see the remains of an arched gateway, with Beth Chaim painted in Hebrew and a picket fence. There are seven graves in the cemetery, he added, of which only one, that of Solomon (Samuel) Packer, of Odessa, Russia, is clearly visible.

The society hopes to raise $40,000 to finance the cemetery project. "Marilyn Berger, of Canadian Jewish Congress, Pacific region, has been helpful," Kushner said. "The society is optimistic that Congress will help fund the project."

Plans call for clearing the overgrowth in the cemetery; repairing the original picket fence; making a path from the road to the cemetery site; researching the people who are buried in the cemetery and erecting proper markers over each grave; and, finally, rededicating the cemetery on Aug. 22.

The society also hopes to find out what happened to the Jews who aren't buried in the Dawson City cemetery, who moved on as the gold rush wound down.

"The society already knows, for example, that Louis Brier moved to Vancouver and left a legacy which became the foundation of the Louis Brier Home for the Aged and Extended Care Hospital," Kushner said.

When Kushner is not involved in the cemetery project, he is director, Legal Services of the Yukon territorial government. He and his wife, Susan Maccara, a native of the Yukon, and their son, Lars, moved to Whitehorse from Edmonton almost two years ago.

Whitehorse is a small city of 22,000 to 23,000, of whom only 15 to 20 are Jewish. Kushner said most Jews in Whitehorse know, or are at least acquainted with, each other.

Kushner said he hopes Jews from other parts of Canada will come to the Yukon for the August rededication ceremony.

"It's a piece of Canadian Jewish history that few people are aware of," Kushner said.

For more information, contact the Jewish Historical Society of Yukon, c/o Howard Kushner, 35 Hart Crescent, Whitehorse, Yukon, Y1A 4R2, or call Kushner at 867-393-3704 or e-mail him at [lars kush@y knet .ca].

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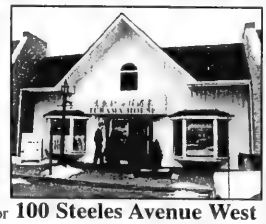

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Travel, Arts & Business

From Russia With Love:

Choreographer Kim Frank wins praise in Moscow

By DOROTHY LICHTBLAU
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — For several months, Montreal-born, Toronto-based choreographer Kim Frank had an impact on Russian theatre.

Her latest work, *In Search of the Miraculous*, which premiered in Moscow's Stanislavsky Theatre in December 1997, won critical praise for its innovative style. Dedicated to the life of Russian mystic philosopher George Gurdjieff, the work is a synthesis of dance, opera and theatre, which Frank co-created with theatre director Vladimir Mirzoyev.

The two met eight years ago during the run of *The Inspector General*, a production of the Russian director's company, Horizontal Eight.

Frank say she was drawn to Mirzoyev's work immediately. "I loved this work. I recognized this work. It's really close to the work I do, except that he's coming from a theatre background and I'm coming from a dance background."

Shortly after their first encounter, Frank became the Horizontal Eight's choreographer and remained with the company until 1996.

In Search of the Miraculous is the third production Frank has been associated with in Russia. With each new piece, she has not only further developed her own work, but has also had an influence on the direction of dance in Russia, where classically trained artists have had little opportunity to learn the language of contemporary movement.

Now back in Canada, Frank prepared the Canadian Dance Festival, held in Ottawa on June 10. Canadian audiences were able to see *Wood*, Frank's revised version of the Gurdjieff piece. She will present a new work created with the dancers of La Groupe Dance Lab this fall, at Danceworks 98 in Toronto.

Frank began training at the age of five with her mother Angie Frank, a Montreal dance teacher, and during her childhood, she was exposed to a variety of dance classes. Whenever her mother travelled to New York to participate in classes at the Alvin Ailey School or the Maggie Black Studio, Kim Frank accompanied her and observed classes.

In 1980, Frank, then 18, decided to commit to becoming a professional dancer. After a couple of years in the Fine Arts program at York University, she was invited to join the Peggy McCann and Dancers company. She taught dance at McGill University in 1984 and studied theatre with Anne Page, who influenced her move into choreography.

Frank first created works inspired by text, such as *With Blue*, a piece that integrated Sylvia Plath's poetry. Later she turned away from a cerebral approach to one inspired by physical action.

In the late 1980s, she found a home with Toronto Independent Dance Enterprise as a choreographer and dancer. After the company dissolved, she collaborated with various artists, and since 1989, she has choreographed 18 works.

Willy, dedicated to Frank's father and based on Arthur Miller's *Death of a Salesman*, began as a solo piece and evolved to a quintet for five male dancers. *The Bride, Dig* and *Doyne Suite* represent Frank's exploration of and response to her Jewish heritage. As Frank's work developed, critics began to recognize her for her dramatic style and tight technical control.

Choreographer Kim Frank. [Katya Mirzoyev photo]

Since 1990, as choreographer for Horizontal Eight, Frank has focused on dance for theatre. When the door to work in Moscow opened, Frank walked through. She encountered an exciting, fast-changing society that endures hardship, yet supports the arts, and she discovered a magnificent, historically rich city.

Have a dialogue with public

She also was astounded at the degree of hospitality extended to her. Though living in a tiny one-bedroom apartment, Mirzoyev, his wife, his two daughters and his mother warmly opened their home to Frank during her entire first visit to Moscow.

Frank says the most significant thing she gained in Russia was the experience of working in a country where art and artists are valued.

"My experience in Moscow really showed me how important it is for artists to have a dialogue with their public, to work in a place where there is a tradition of going to the theatre."

Since the arts are subsidized by the government, they are accessible to a great many people, Frank says. An educated Russian is informed about cultural history and keeps up with contemporary work. It is not unusual for whole families to regularly attend the theatre together.

"As a Canadian artist, it is easy to feel marginalized and to feel that what you do doesn't matter. You know the same 100 people will come out and see your shows all the time and critics don't really pay attention. In Moscow, you can receive 17 or 18 reviews…people are interested in the arts."

After her Canadian projects are completed, Frank plans to return to Moscow to work on a new piece and to train dancers. Ideally she would like to divide her time between Canada and Russia.

CORRECTION

In the story, Shaarei Shomayim celebrates Israel's 50th (June 18), one of the four cantors who performed at the concert was incorrectly identified. He is Cantor Ben Zion Miller.

The CJN regrets the error.

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Travel, Arts & Business

Jewish quarter of Krakow experiencing revitalization

By JOSEPH SERGE
Travel Editor

KRAKOW — It is ironic that poetic licence has served to revitalize one of Poland's oldest Jewish quarters.

Director Stephen Spielberg decided to shoot most of *Schindler's List* in Krakow's Jewish quarter – or Kazimierz as it is formally known – even though the central action of the film is set in Plaszow, across the river from Krakow.

Yet Kazimierz has benefitted greatly from this. Once a centre of Jewish culture in Poland, the Jewish quarter was largely forgotten and neglected after the war during Communist rule. Now with the interest sparked by Spielberg's film, many Jewish tourists are flocking to this 300 metre by 300 metre area of Krakow.

There are even "Schindler" tours organized in the United States and Poland. The fact that Krakow is only about 600 kilometres east of Auschwitz also makes it an obvious stop for anyone touring "Jewish Poland."

Of about 70,000 Jews in Krakow in 1939, there's now only a handful left – anywhere from 100 to 500 depending on whom you ask– but the increase in tourism to the area has brought with it money and a restoration of Krakow's Jewish quarter.

Krakow is fortunate in that it avoided being destroyed in World War II. Although the German occupiers are alleged to have mined the city prior to their retreat, none of the bombs were set off by the time the Red Army "liberated" the city. Therefore many of Krakow's old buildings are still intact.

The first thing you'll see upon walking southeast into the Jewish quarter along Jozifa Street is the splendid Stara (old) Synagogue. This synagogue, now the Museum of History and Culture of Krakow Jewry, is the oldest shul in Poland, dating back to the 15th century. Inside this brightly lit museum are many liturgical objects and an exhibit of photographs depicting Jewish life in Nazi-occupied Krakow.

Reconstructed after a 1557 fire in Renaissance style by the Italian architect Matteo Gucci, this impressive building has a reconstructed bimah and the original Aron Kodesh in the eastern wall. The museum is open Wednesday to Sunday.

The main street of the Jewish quarter is Szeroka Street. This small and crowded street houses the Remu'h Synagogue, one of two functioning synagogues in Krakow. (The other one is the Tempel Synagogue.) This Orthodox synagogue dates back to the mid-16th century and is open to visitors Monday to Friday. There were many other synagogues in pre-war Krakow but these are now either padlocked or turned into secular buildings.

The Remu'h cemetery, located just behind the synagogue, is one of two Jewish cemeteries in Krakow. During the occupation, the Nazis razed all the tombstones of this historic burial place. After the war, workers reconstructing the cemetery found many previously buried tombstones dating back to the 16th century. These tombstones have been restored, and the cemetery is now recognized as one of the best preserved Jewish Renaissance cemeteries in Europe. There are about 5,000 tombstones made of marble, limestone and sandstone.

The New Jewish cemetery was established in 1800 and is the only still-functioning Jewish cemetery in Krakow.

If you're looking for a quick bite to eat or something to drink, there are a few cafes in the Jewish quarter. The most famous one is the Ariel Cafe on Szeroka Street not far from the Jordan, a Jewish bookstore that also offers guided tours of Kazimierz.

The Ariel is so famous there are two of them – side by side. I heard conflicting stories as to why there are two, but the most believable one is that the young Polish couple who ran the original Ariel had a falling out and decided to go separate ways, each laying claim to the name Ariel.

In the spring and summer you can sit on the patio outside either of these cafes and enjoy the sounds of live klezmer music coming from inside.

There is a Centre for Jewish Culture in Kazimierz, a very pretty building in the centre of things. Strangely enough it isn't run by Jews, but it does organize an annual Jewish Cultural Festival that brings in many Jewish films and musicians to Krakow.

Getting to Krakow by LOT, the Polish airline, used to require a brief stopover in Warsaw. But starting last May, LOT introduced the first of nine direct Toronto-Krakow flights for 1998. The airline plans to increase this frequency next year. Keep in mind Canadian citizens are required to obtain a visa from the nearest Polish Consulate.

Montreal-born artist employs mixed media

By MIRIAM CHINSKY
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — The sun streams over an abstract triptych, *Memory*, which illustrates Sylvia Singer's frequent absorption with views through windows.

Singer says the centre panel, reminiscent of an apple orchard, was inspired "by a neighbor's wonderful tree in blossom," visible from a window in her Niagara-on-the-Lake house. The warmth of awakening spring contrasts with the cool blues and greens of the side panels, reaching back to early memory.

Montreal-born Singer, now based in Toronto with her husband, a University of Toronto professor, notes that her interest in window scenes dates back to childhood when she was not well and spent many hours looking longingly from her bedroom window.

The indoor restriction honed a sensitivity to nature evident in all her works.

Deep Summer, with its yellows and lively greens mingled with browns, focuses clearly on the outdoors. *Rosemary's Garden, The Original*, taken from an onsite sketch, is all lush flowers and foliage. Both "feel good" paintings are done in oil stick on paper, a medium which utilizes crayon shaped bars of solid oil paints.

Ominous nature is defined by *Moon Over the Bay*, recalling a stormy night in Newfoundland.

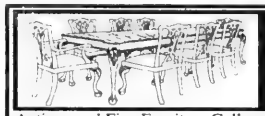
Singer, who holds a fine arts degree from McGill University, also studied printmaking and ceramics. She has become very much a mixed media person, experimenting with a variety of art materials and exploring innovative techniques. She is excited about a new process called repography, which involves layering images on silk over photographs, increasing depth perception and luminance.

A recent solo exhibition at the Illuminary Art Gallery featured some of these pieces. A few are currently on display. She has just completed a commission, *Antique Roses*, which reveals repography's enchantment.

Singer also exhibited at the Galerie Rochon, Aggregation Gallery and the Art Gallery of Ontario. Her works hang in private and corporate collections and she is also represented at the National Gallery in Ottawa, the Art Gallery of Hamilton, the Canadian Exhibition Commission and the Confederation Art Gallery and Museum on Prince Edward Island. As well, some paintings are presently on view at the Ontario Ombudsman's office across from the Royal Ontario Museum.

In addition to her personal work and studies, Singer has practised art psychotherapy with adults and children.

She has had the good fortune to accompany her husband on sabbaticals to countries as far apart as Australia and Israel, expanding her vision. She looks forward to recapturing her Israeli experience in a series using her new body of material.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Travel, Arts & Business

A masterful examination of Jewish 'new Muslims'

By BILL GLADSTONE
Special to the CJN

In 1839 an unfounded rumor spread among the Shi'ite Muslims of the town of Meshhed in north-eastern Iran that a Jewish woman had committed an act of disrespect towards Islam.

According to a contemporaneous account preserved in the Central Zionist Archives in Jerusalem, an angry mob "attacked the Jewish quarter, broke into the Jewish houses, and robbed and looted everything they could lay their hands on. They beat the Jews cruelly, killed 36 Jewish men, and abducted many beautiful Jewish maidens taking them into the houses of Muslims."

Following this traumatic pogrom, the roughly 400 Jewish families in Meshhed were forced to convert to Islam, a process known as the *Allahdad* – a word that means "God's gift" in Arabic but which the Jews interpreted as "God's punishment." Thereafter, they were known as the *Jadid al-Islam* or "new Muslims."

Outwardly, the Jews of Meshhed practised Islam – they prayed in mosques, performed wedding ceremonies and buried their dead in accordance with Muslim rituals, even made the required pilgrimages to Mecca and Medina.

Inwardly, however, they remained Jewish. As Raphael Patai writes in his very well-researched book, *Jadid Al-Islam: The Jewish "New Muslims" of Meshhed* (Wayne State University, 1997) nothing could have prevented them "from reciting the Jewish prayers in the privacy of their homes and maintaining the consciousness of being Jews and not Muslims."

The Jadidim kept a separate cemetery, fasted in secret on Yom Kippur, and kept up many Jewish rituals away from the prying eyes of their Shi'ite neighbors. These crypto-Jews of Meshhed thus maintained a complex dual life filled with a parallel assortment of difficulties and perils that the Conversos must have faced in Inquisitionera Spain.

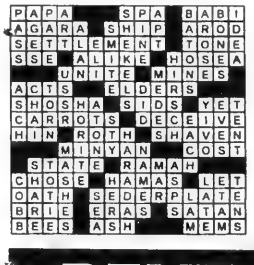
Patai began his research in the 1940s by conducting long interviews with knowledgeable Meshhed Jadidim who had arrived in Jerusalem. He wrote some articles at the time, then let his knowledge grow and mature for half a century.

Through a masterful and logical examination of many sources, he traces the history of Jewish life in Meshhed before, during and after the Allahdad, and offers chapters on the "decade of blood libels" that began in 1892, the lure of early Zionism and aliyah, and many local folk-tales and legends. One section is devoted to birth customs, Jewish names and origins, Hebrew education, marriage and burial customs and like subjects. The book also contains a glossary of Judeo-Persian vocabulary.

Reflecting a deep understanding of the Muslim and Jewish cultures as well as the high level of scholarship for which Patai is renowned, this fascinating account of a little-known branch of the Jewish family tree is must reading for anyone with an interest in Persian Jews, or the subjects of Jewish culture, history and anthropology in general.

Patai died in 1996 at the age of 85, leaving this significant work to be published posthumously.

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD PUZZLE ANSWERS



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Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

ROBERT SILVERMAN TO PLAY BEETHOVEN

Pianist **Robert Silverman** is set to perform Ludwig van Beethoven's complete cycle of 32 piano sonatas, which have been collectively described as "music's steepest pinnacle," in a series of eight concerts over two summers in Toronto.

"Beethoven's music speaks immutable universals about the human spirit," says the accomplished Canadian pianist, who has performed with many orchestras internationally. "Their immense range and richness of expression make the music sound as fresh and revolutionary today as it did the moment the ink on Beethoven's manuscript was dry."

The series begins July 7 and 8, continues on July 15 and 16, and is scheduled for completion with four concerts during the summer of 1999.

During the July 9 concert, Silverman will be presented with The Paul de Hueck and Norman Walford Career Achievement Award for Keyboard Artistry, a $10,000 award administered by the Ontario Arts Council.

Adults, $18 per concert; subscription seats for the 1998 series are $50.

Glenn Gould Studio, 250 Front St. W. 205-5555.

* * *

Book News: Toronto-born **David Rotenberg**, an acclaimed theatrical director and head of the graduate program in theatre at York University, has written *The Shanghai Murders, A Mystery of Love and Ivory*.

A detective novel, *The Shanghai Murders* explores the dark side of China's economic transformation as Inspector Zhong Fong investigates a series of "Dim Sum" killings in modern Shanghai. The book is published by St. Martin's Press of New York and distributed in Canada by McClelland & Stewart.

Rotenburg reads the opening chapter at a book launch July 16, 6:30 p.m. at the Sleuth of Baker Street, 1600 Bayview Ave., Toronto.

* * *

Workshop Performance: *Father & Daughter*, a new one-person play by Marlene Charney, is scheduled for workshop performances this week at the Three Sisters Festival Cafe. Focusing on the relationship between a Holocaust survivor and his daughter, the play examines both the harm and the good that parents transmit to their children, usually with the best of intentions. The work "promises to be compelling, controversial and, at times, comical."

Also being presented in a workshop is *By The Water With Leslie*, by **Kristen Schiener**, a play in memory of her friend **Leslie Mahaffy**. Three Sisters Festival Cafe is located at The Theatre Centre, 1032 Queen St. W. June 25, 26 and 27, 8 p.m., admission $5. June 28, 2:30 p.m., PWYC. 516-4740.

* * *

Dylan Doc Returns: *Don't Look Back*, the classic documentary by **D.A. Pennebaker**, presents an intimate portrait of **Bob Dylan** shot during the folk rocker's tour of England in the spring of 1965. By then the 23-year-old artist was already an international celebrity with several albums to his credit, and on the verge of making the controversial change from a solo acoustical musical style to an electric rock 'n' roll sound.

Folksinger **Joan Baez** and manager **Albert Grossman** were among Dylan's entourage, as were an array of journalists intent on getting the angry young man to explain himself. When Dylan takes on *Time* magazine the results are supposedly hilarious. He performs early trademark hits such as *All I Really Want to Do, Maggie's Farm* and *Don't Think Twice, It's All Right*.

The 96-minute film opens June 26 at the Bloor Cinema for a limited engagement. A national release is planned.

* * *

Arts in Brief:

• The Avenue Road Arts Schools presents *A Journey Through Time*, an exhibition celebrating the art of children. June 25 to 28, 1 to 5 p.m. 460 Avenue Rd. 961-1502.

• The world premiere of *Taking Sides*, a play by writer/performer **John Graham Davies**, presents true stories from the Bosnian war as part of the Fringe Festival. Poor Alex Theatre, 292 Brunswick Ave., Toronto. July 4 to 11 (call for times). $8. 555-4653.

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3	Broadview & Gerrard (Kentucky Fried Chicken)					10:15AM	6:00PM
4	Bathurst & Steeles (Mac's Milk)	9:45AM	Mississauga Golden Square Ctr.	10:15AM	Miss. Chinese Ctr. (Rear Entrance of HK Bank)	10:45AM	6:00PM
5	Commerce Gate (505 Hwy 7 Second Cup)		10:15AM		Kennedy & Steeles N.E. Corner (Tripmate Tours)	10:45AM	6:00PM
	AFTERNOON						
6	Gerrard & Broadview	1:45PM	Spadina Chinatown Ctr.	2:15PM	Miss. Chinese Ctr.	2:45PM	9:00PM
7	Kennedy & Steeles N.E. Corner	2:15PM	Commerce Gate	2:30PM	Jane & Wilson	3:00PM	10:00PM
8	Dragon Centre	4:15PM	Gerrard & Broadview	4:45PM	Spadina Chinatown Ctr	5:15PM	12:00AM
	MIDNIGHT						
9	Kennedy & Steeles N.E. Corner	9:45PM	Spadina Chinatown Ctr.			10:15PM	5:00AM

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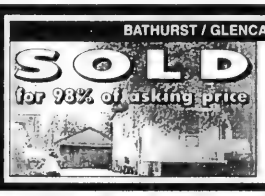

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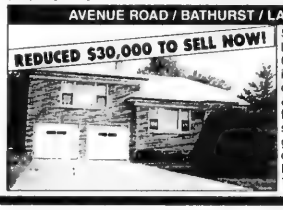

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9 fab. lots priced from $569-659K. C. Sniderman*/M. Paul** 488-2875

1ST AD! BATHURST S/SHEPPARD – $599K!
Custom blt 6 yrs new! 4+1 bdrm., 4 baths, mn. fam. rm., sep. nanny ste. 50'x150' lot! Sandon Schwartzben** 226-1987

1ST AD! AVENUE ROAD & LAWRENCE
2 yrs new! Open concept!. Amazing main flr. features. 4 bdrms. on 2nd., fin. bsmt. Cathy Kwinter* 488-2875

BATHURST & EGLINTON - GEM
3 bdrm., 2 stry., p SOLD Cheryl Sniderman* 488-2875

ALLENBY SCHOOL – EGLINTON W. OF AVENUE ROAD
Det. bright 3 bdrm., 2 baths, fin. bsmt., deep lot, $364,900. P. Altman*/I. Hemmerich* 226-1987

1ST AD! OLD ORCHARD GROVE! – $359,800!
Prime 45'x150' lot! Invest/develop/build new! Won't last! Call Sandon Schwartzben** 226-1987

253 ELLERSLIE AVENUE – $276K
Vendor says sell. Fab. 50'x300' lot! Build your dream home! Call Sandon Schwartzben** 226-1987

1ST AD! BATHURST S/LAWRENCE – $264,900!
Updated 3+1 bdrm., 2 bath bungalow! Sep. nanny ste! Fab. 50'x103' lot! Call Sandon Schwartzben** 226-1987

FABULOUS LOWER VILLAGE RENTAL
4 bdrms., 4 baths! Bright & spacious! Lynne Elkind* 488-2875

BAYVIEW PROPERTIES

YORK MILLS GARDEN – CHILD SAFE STREET
Stunning one of a kind residence, super details, approx. 6100 sq. ft. w/up lower. A must to sell. O. Guvenal* 226-1987

EDWARDS GARDENS! PARK SETTING! – $538,888!
Spectacular 90'x146' irreg. lot! Updated 4+2 bdrm! In-law ste./office! Sandon Schwartzben** 226-1987

1ST AD! BAYVIEW/SHEPPARD! $518,800
Stunning custom 4+1 bdrm., 4 baths, mn. fam.+lib.+lau.+2 pce.! Gorgeous 40'x150'! Call Sandon Schwartzben** 226-1987

YONGE & SHEPPARD – PRIME COMMERCIAL
Zoning steps to subway. Reno or build. Professionals! Opportunity not to be missed. Olga Guvenal* 226-1987

NORTH PROPERTIES

REDUCED TO $455K – BAYVIEW N/. OF 16TH!
Vendor says sell!!! 4400 sq. ft., 4 bdrms., 5 baths! Marley roof. Underground sprink. Nanny's quarters. Ruth Trachter* 226-1987

130 LISA CRESCENT
Great fam. home. 3+1 bdrms., 2 kit., prof. fin. bsmt. Julie Gofman* 488-2875

ATKINSON & CENTRE – DETACHED JUST LISTED
3 bdrm., fam. rm., 4 pc, master ensuite + 2 car garage near park, bus & day schools! Hedda Zaionz* 226-1987

BATHURST/STEELES – $199,900
3 bdrms., fam. rm., move-in condition. Bibi Stark* 488-2875

CONDOMINIUM PROPERTIES

SHANE BAGHAI CONDO REDUCED!
Finch/Bayview, 2 bdrm./bath. 2 pkg. Rosalie Roebuck* 488-2875

1ST AD! 260 HEATH ST. WEST – $345K
Prime Forest Hill, 2+1 bdrm., 3 baths, garden townhome! U/G parking! Hurry! Call Sandon Schwartzben** 226-1987

18 CLARK AVE. TOWNHOUSE #146
3 storey, 3 bdrm., immaculate $$upgrades. J. Gofman* 488-2875

55 CASCADDEN DRIVE! $199,900!
Seldom available SOLD rey garden condo! 2 bdrm., 3 baths, den+sol! Won't last! Sandon Schwartzben** 226-1987

95 PRINCE ARTHUR
1+1 bdrm. condo in annex, parking & locker, $184,500 great value! Ingrid Hemmerich*/Patricia Altman* 226-1987

FOREST HILL CO-OWN
1 bdrm. + den, south balcony + pool. Russell Pearsall* 488-2875

OUT OF TOWN PROPERTIES

ORILLIA LOT! CLOSE TO RAMA!
Exquisite lot on west side of Lake Couchiching quiet st! Vendor says sell! Offers invited. R. Trachter* 226-1987

IN THE HEART OF BELLEWART – $177,500
5 bdrms., great cottage winterized, steps to lake, gorgeous grounds. Close to shul. Rose Simon* 226-1987

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Sheldon Laiwint
Broker
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REAL ESTATE LIMITED REALTOR
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1st time offered, lge. split lvl., 3+ bdrms., bath ensuite, up-dated kit., fam. rm., fin. bsmnt., dble. garage, A-1 Buy!

• • •

FINCH WILMINGTON
Cust. built, 4 bdrm., den, fam. rm., kit., w/out to balc., fin/lower level, ravine lot.

• • •

WILSON BATHURST TRI-PLEX
2-3 bdrm. + 1-1 bdrm. apts., garages, balcs., good income.

• • •

BATHURST MANOR
Lge 3 bdrm. bung., 2 baths, 2 kits., fin. bsmnt., garage.

• • •

SHEPPARD ALLEN RD.
2 storey, 4 bdrm., 2 baths, mod. kit., fin. bsmnt., 50'x150' lot.

• • •

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BATHURST / WILSON
$449,000
Stunning family room & kitchen. 4 bdrms., 4 baths, gorgeous priv. garden!
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DENISE ABRAHAM
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Cedarvale - $229,900
2 bdrm. bung., fin. bsmt. with sep. entrance, gleaming hdwd flrs. Call D. Abraham

Bathurst-Steeles - $289,000
3 bdrm., 2 bsmt. apts., double garage, main flr. fam. rm., shows to perfection. Call D. Abraham

Glencairn W. Subway
$159,900 - 3 bdrm., 3 ensuite
$128,000 - 2 bdrm. pc. ensuite
$134,000 - 3 bdrm.
$128,000 - 3 bdrm., laundry ensuite
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WILMINGTON/GARTHDALE
Want to be a landlord. Make money & live in your own home. Buy this nice triplex 2-3 bedroom, 1-1 bedroom, 2 car garage & parking.

SHEPPARD/WILMINGTON
Lovely side split 3 bedroom, 3 baths, huge fam. room w/out to garden, rec. rm. & wet bar, appliances, 2 car garage, steps to shopping & synagogue.

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5 HOUSES FOR SALE

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REAL ESTATE LIMITED REALTOR

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ST. REGIS-SHANE BAGHAI - 800 SPADINA RD.
New condo in Forest Hill. Walk to synagogue & stores. $249K - $432K. Roanne Kerzner/Cheryl Joseph*

BATHURST/EGLINTON $98,500
Lovely 1 bdrm. apt. in small co-op building. Hrdwd. floors, fireplace, pkg. Don't wait! Jack Solomon*

A CHARMER THROUGHOUT! $244,900
A great 3+ bdrm. home with fully fin. lower level. Large lot close to shule at Bathurst & Clark. Won't last B. Abramson*

2,600 SQ. FT. OF BEAUTY! TRIDEL CONDO!
A gorgeous panoramic view, west exposure. $$$ in extras. 3 baths, 2 balconies, Bathurst/Finch. Great amenities & security. B. Abramson*

"CHISWELL" TOWNHOUSE - A TOUCH OF CLASS
Gracious living where best addressed people live. 3 bdrm. freehold on 170' deep gorgeous landscaped lot. Fully fin.& upgraded. Mn. flr. Family rm. & fireplace. B. Abramson*

GLENGROVE - REDUCED TO $449,000 - BEST VALUE!
4+1 bdrm., oversized kit. & dining rm. W/out to landscaped yard. Walk to synagogue & schools. Carole Lazer*

DENLOW ESTATES $579,000
4+1 bdrm., hrdwd. floors, white kitchen, renovated baths, fin. rec. rm. w/wet bar. Neutral decor. Cheryl Graff*

NEW LISTING! UPPER VILLAGE!
$599K Perfectly beautiful classic Georgian. Reno'd 5 bdrm. Move-in!! Toby Farb* & Sherry Mandell*

$599,000 WINDFIELD ESTATES
Upgraded 5 bdrm., hrdwd. floors, gas heat, marble foyer, custom mouldings, walk-up basement. Cheryl Graff*

OWEN SCHOOL - GREAT VALUE! $599K
Large 5 bdrm., bright open concept, 4 baths, fin. bsmt., mn. flr. fam. rm. & laundry. 2 FP's, impeccable. Marilyn Feldman*

REDUCED - ORIGINAL HAZELTON LANES
$995,000 - 2 storey, 3 bdrm. & den, 9 foot ceilings, built-ins, w/o to deck from all rooms. Cheryl Graff*

OLD YONGE/YORK MILLS $998,000
4 year new stucco home. Approx. 4,000 sq. ft., 4 car garage, 5+1 bdrm., library & fam. rm. Exquiste detail. Cheryl Graff*

1ST AD - YORK MILLS RAVINE
$925,000. Gracious renovated 4 bdrm., 2 storey Georgian, w/o lower level. Incomparable setting. Elaine Chelin*

* Sales Representative ** Associate Broker

A percentage of all our sales will be donated to supporting the homeless through "PROJECT WARMTH"

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5 HOUSES FOR SALE

BATHURST VILLAGE
Bathurst/Steeles fabulous 4 bdrm., 3 baths, custom side split w/fam. room! Central-air, 2 car garage. Immaculate cond. Won't last!
$379,000.
ELEANORA SEGAL,
Sales Rep.
Royal LePage R.E.S. Ltd./J&D Div.
416-489-2121

10 HOUSES FOR SALE PRIVATE

Bath./Finch - compl. reno'd, 2 storey, 4 bdrm., 2 bth., fenced yard, kids safe, close to malls Asking $235K. 416-636-7551.

Hamilton - 4 bdrm., 2 1/2 bth, 2 fam. rms., fin. bsmnt., 5 min. walk to McMaster Hospital, Orthodox shul, day school, Yeshiva, golf. $315K. 905-526-8257

Bath./Wilson - bung., 3 bdrm., 2 x 4 pce. bths., appl., large lot. $239K. Call Alison at 630-8818.

15 HOUSES FOR RENT

Bath./Wilson - lge. 5 bdr., lge. yard, 4 bth., fin. bsmnt., walking dist. to Bathurst & TTC. Avail. Sept 1. $3,000. 416-636-6099.

30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE

80 ANTIBES RD. #604
Rare opportunity, immediately available-vacant. 2 Bedrooms and solarium, large living room and dining room, ensuite laundry, 1 underground parking. Appliances included. Asking price $158,900. Don't delay! Call now.
Silvia Di Monte, Associate Broker
Spectrum Six Realty Services Inc.
(416) 736-6500

YONGE & STEELES PALLADIUM
Unique open concept, 1 bdrm. + sol. (den), white kitchen w/windows, bright garden view. Priced well.
SANTEE LEUNG
(416) 441-2003
Santee Realty Inc.

35 CONDOMINIUM FOR RENT

3000 Bathurst
Lge. 1 bdrm. + den, wood flrs., Shabbat elevator, pkg. July 1. $1200 incl. utilities. Marshall Cohen, 520-0079

Bath./Glen Cairn - Lge. 1 bdr, den, 5 appl., 2 bths., sec., $1,225 + util. Aug. 1. 491-1094

55 ACCOMMODATION WANTED

Cdn couple from Isr. need furn, kosher home to rent Aug/Sept. Flex., 2 wks-mo. 905-764-8703.

65 ACCOMMODATION/ SWAP/EXCHANGE

WANTED: August rental - 1 bdrm. apt for couple & 8 year old. Possible exchange for apt. in Jerusalem. Call/fax: 011-972-2-566-1882 or 416-787-4116.

130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT

Boynton Beach - 55+, 2 bdrm., 2 bth., furn, newly reno'd, active clubhouse, avail 7/1 - 12/31/98. $1,000 US/mo. 914-425-8156.

135 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT

The Paradise of South Florida International Village
Condo apts. 1 to 4 bdrms.
$40,000 U.S. & up
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"BEST KEPT SECRET IN FLORIDA"

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

BATHURST WILSON
CONVENIENT NORTH YORK LOCATION
NEWLY DECORATED SPACIOUS 1, 2 & 3 BDRMS.
- Large balconies
- Central air conditioning and heating
- Hardwood Floors
- Sunken living rooms
- Surveillance cameras and card access system
- Outdoor swimming pool
- Close to conveniences and TTC
- Underground parking available

125 Neptune Dr.
(416) 787-7171

BATHURST-SHEPPARD
Very lg. 1, 2, 3 Bedrms., ample closets, some 1½ baths & 2 balc., roof, laundry, ravine setting, pool, ind. pkg., 6 apts. per flr. From $850.
960-3238 - Bus.
631-9377 or 631-0388 - Super

Bath./Lawrence - 3 bdrm. in 6 plex, 2 bths., eat-in kit., prkg., $950/mo. 416-783-8700.

Bath./Wilson - new bach. bsmt. apt, priv. entr., full kit., bth. No Shabbat calls. 416-636-3936.

110 COTTAGE FOR RENT

Belle Ewart, 2 cottages on lge lot, nr. water. 416-636-0733.

Lake Simcoe, lakefront estate, Beaverton area,lux. 4 bed. Sandy beach. Sunsets. Tennis. Seas./mo, 226-0009, 749-6600.

112 FURNISHED COTTAGE FOR RENT

Lake Simcoe, rustic 4 bdrm, lkfront, scrnd porch, privacy, 90 min from TO, August $3000. 416-487-6050.

115 COTTAGE FOR SALE/ RENT

Monthly or seasonal, Big Cedar Pt., Lake Simcoe. Clean, cute 3 bdrm. cottage, steps from camp Arrowhead, across from priv. beach. 905-764-7504.

135 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT

ANBER MOVERS
(LOCAL MOVING)
SPECIALIST IN:
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160 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR RENT

Jerusalem - near Mt. Scopus, 3 room lux. flat, patio garden, marvelous view. Oct./98 for 1 year. Call 416-221-3540 or Jerusalem 972-2-581-4475. Email: aryeh.shimron@mail.gsi.gov.il

190 VACATION PROPERTIES

BIG POINT BAY - LAKE SIMCOE
1 hr. from Toronto, south of Barrie. 1460 sf year-rd. 3 bdrm., 2 bath, viceroy style, 11 yrs. old. Lot 75'x220', dock & breakwall. $385,000.
Patti Harper
Prudential Andrews Realty Group
416-213-7224/800-254-3695

230 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

This is a small ad with a **BIG OPPORTUNITY.** Call Susan 416-410-1715/905-826-9949

232 BUSINESS FOR SALE

EGLINTON-BATHURST
HEALTH FOOD
A successful business in prime location, sparkling, spotless store.
For Quick Sale
HAMZE PAZANI
Coldwell Banker Exceptional
- Real Estate Services -
416-497-9794

240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

P/T Chemistry teacher required for Orthodox Secondary School, September. Please fax résumé to 416-787-0453.

Synagogue with mechitzah seeks Modern Orthodox RABBI. Send résumé: Herzlia Search Comm., c/o 600-294 Portage Ave., Winnipeg, Man. R3C 0B9

247 DAY CARE

Bathurst & Centre - Thornhill. Loving & safe environment for your baby. Lots of personal attention with E.C.E. teacher. Over 15 years experience. 3 openings beginning July. Refs. & receipts. Call 905-764-6936.

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

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Frustrated by trying to find a suitable nanny? Let us help you. We have dependable, caring nannies who are thoroughly qualified, personally interviewed & pre-screened. All refs. are checked. Some are CPR trained. Low finders fee.
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High quality house cleaning. Call Dora, 736-1179.

Nannies, housekeepers, companions for elderly, cleaning ladies, live-in or out. Sponsorship from overseas. No fee for the Sponsor. **Excellent Placement Agency. 222-4912.**

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

Cleaning lady w/12 yrs. exp. avail. References 416-284-7874

Exp. caregiver for elderly avail. Eurva at 905-831-9415.

Cleaning lady avail. Good refs. Serious calls only. 496-7725.

Nannies, live-in/out, full/part-time, in-home elderly care, FT, PT, RN's, nurses aides, cleaning. Bonded,refs. **416-630-0674** or **416-224-9907. #1 Domestic.**

Organize your closets starting at only $40. Call 416-223-4290.

Reliable cleaning lady w/refs. avail. Mon - Fri. 416-782-8240.

255 DOMESTIC HELP WANTED

Caregiver req'd for senior lady for weekends only. Call Fran at 905-882-1356 or Cathy, collect at 514-287-1256.

Homecare for elderly couple req'd. Req'd for elderly Jewish couple in the Niagara Region who live independently in their own home. Live-in or F/T days (morning until after dinner). Cooking meals (must be a good cook), maintaining the house incl. laundry, some personal care (eg: giving eye drops), ability to give support yet allow seniors to maintain independence and privacy (seniors are not looking for a new companion). Reply to CJN Box # 7060.

P/T live-in caregiver for elderly lady req'd. Must be caring & gentle. Friday 7:30pm to Sunday 8:00pm. Call 416-481-1920

257 HEALTHCARE AVAILABLE

Caregiver will take care of elderly or kids, will live in, has HCA, RPN, CPR. certificates. Call 905-686-7821.

259 SENIORS

Room/Board/Care for seniors. 24 hour supervision. Heimisch atmosphere. **905-731-7585.**

260 BUSINESS PERSONALS

Engagements-R-Us, a special way to meet your mate, call **BPT INC.** 905-731-5204.

Jewish Singles Registry, over 1610 members. Website: www.total.net/~jsreg. 483-4151

Senior in excellent health avail. for driving you to, appt's., shopping, etc. Reasonable & references. 416-223-8205.

264 SOCIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Haik/Friedman-Haik - Tracy & Yaron are blessed with the arrival of their two beautiful daughters **Alexandra Nicole** and **Emmanuelle Celeste,** born on Sat., June 6, 1998 at 2:27pm & 2:31pm. Thank you to all the wonderful doctors and nurses who have assisted in their care. Proud grandparents are Jack & Cheryl Friedman, Ivonne & David Haik and great grandparents Helen Berger and Sabicha Cohen. Also welcomed by their many aunts, uncles and cousins. These very special little girls are named after Nicole Friedman, Abe Berger, Minnie Friedman and Sabicha Cohen. We welcome them with love and happiness.

RUTH LEVANT would like to thank all her family and friends for all their kindness and good wishes during her recent illness.

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

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This call is absolutely FREE!

The Meeting Place

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Women seeking Men

LOYAL & CUDDLY
Attractive, caring female, blonde, fit, loyal, cuddly, like movies, animals, children, dining out & walking, seeking someone between 45-60 who is nice, honest, down to earth & a non-smoker Ad# 1259

LIKE TO WORK & PLAY
Single female, 30, brunette, like nature, exercising & travel, seeking someone who is fun & adventurous & also stable & serious Ad# 1292

LASTING RELATIONSHIP
Single Jewish female, 50, employed, caring, sincere, super personality, seeking male, 45-50 Ad# 1266

ROMANTIC AT HEART
Single lady, attractive, kind, passionate, poetic, intense, creative, enjoy reading, theatre, poetry, seeking gentleman who is a good conversationalist, intellectually stimulating, to share romantic moments Ad# 1267

RADIANT SMILE
Attractive, slim, fit, petite Jewish lady, soft brown hair & brown eyes, I've been told that I'm cute, sexy & young looking for my 47 years, I have a radiant smile & enjoy dancing, hiking & swimming, seeking a man who is young or young at heart Ad# 1279

LIKE TO CUDDLE
Very smart female, 40's, like to exercise, movies, concerts, cuddling, looking for an educated, nonsmoker who is kind, has high integrity & traditional values to share my life with Ad# 1213

WARM & FIT
Attractive, warm & fit Jewish woman, who likes long walks & good conversation, looking for a nonsmoker, who is over 50 & has a zest for life, should be in good physical shape & have a good sense of humour Ad# 1214

KIND HEARTED
Single female, 5'5", red hair & hazel eyes, kind hearted, attractive & like many things including, dancing, picnics, movies & golf Ad# 1215

LONG TERM RELATIONSHIP
Single professional lady, nonsmoker, Jewish, very sincere, honest, down to earth, seeking gentleman, 37-45, with good sense of humour, kind & non-smoker Ad# 1263

SUMMER ROMANCE
Single Jewish lady, brown hair, green eyes, very down to earth, enjoy travelling, long walks, theatre, reading, movies, seeking gentleman, 48-58, Jewish, compassionate, strong sense of humour Ad# 1282

YOUNG AT HEART
Single lady, 51, young, separated, professional, honest, sincere, very kind, seeking dark skinned gentleman, 35-50 for the sweet romance of the summer Ad# 1283

LONG TERM RELATIONSHIP
Classy, charming, affectionate, Jewish lady, professional, very down to earth, enjoy movies, theatre, long walks, seeking gentleman, 48-58, Jewish, kind, honest Ad# 1239

FRIENDSHIP
Petite lady,5'2", 118 lbs., independent, neat, honest, sincere, have many interests, seeking gentleman 60-70 who welcomes life to enjoy learning & sharing experience Ad# 1225

A LOT TO OFFER
Tall female, 50, Jewish, business professional with good communication skills, trustworthy, romantic with a good sense of humour, a lot to offer the right gentleman, seeking a male, 6', 49-60 Ad# 1226

AMBITIOUS
28 year old Jewish female, pretty, ambitious, sexy, striking & down to earth, enjoy sports, working out, dining out, dancing, travelling & having a good time with friends, seeking tall, professional, classy male, 20-30 preferably Jewish for friendship Ad# 1275

THEATRE & TRAVEL
Petite, youthful, Jewish high school teacher, like sports, theatre, travel, movies & outdoor activities, seeking a thoughtful nonsmoking Jewish man, 50-60 for good times Ad# 1276

LIKE MUSICALS
Divorced Jewish female, 49, dark hair & eyes, friendly, caring, attractive & sensitive, like cooking, movies, theatre, musicals & exploring the city, seeking someone who is a good communicator Ad# 1229

LONG TERM RELATIONSHIP
Single female, widow, 49, attractive, fun to be with, seeking male who likes long walks, good conversations, theatre, who is down to earth & stable Ad# 1231

GREEN EYED BEAUTY
Female widow, in late 40's, 5'3", brown hair, green eyes, cute, look like Connie Francis, like reading, dancing, walking, sports & good conversation, seeking male with same interests Ad# 1208

NEW TO SYSTEM
Single female, new to system, would like to hear from any interested males, leave a message in my box Ad# 1329

WELL ESTABLISHED
Single Jewish female, 54, blonde hair, fit, zesty, loving, warm, caring, enjoy travelling, music, outdoors, seeking well established male, 60-69, nonsmoker, sincere, fun loving Ad# 1031

FRIENDSHIP
Single female, homemaker, like books, music, travelling, swimming, financially independent, seeking a male who is healthy, sincere, intelligent, 65-80 for friendship Ad# 1016

Men seeking Women

TRADITIONAL & KIND
Traditional, down to earth Jewish man, good sense of humour, fun to be with, healthy, good looking, kind & easy to get along with I seek someone for a relationship, maybe marriage Ad# 1265

LIKE AUCTIONS IN THE COUNTRY
Single male, 45, still have all of my black hair, I like art auctions, car drives & antique auctions in the country I'm not choosy & children are OK Ad# 1264

MOVIES & DINING OUT
Single Jewish male, 40, short brown hair & brown eyes, work out with weights, like movies, dining out, sports & walks, seeking a Jewish lady, 34-45 with similar interests Ad# 1272

PROFESSIONAL & FIT
Divorced, sincere, handsome & fit professional man, originally from Eastern Europe, enjoy movies, dancing, biking & computers, seeking someone under 40 who is kind, caring, slim, attractive for lasting relationship Ad# 1273

HARD WORKING
Jewish gentleman, late 40's, hard working & successful, like quiet times, movies, music, travelling Ad# 1278

SEEK OUTGOING GIRL
Single male, 18, looking for a single girl who is outgoing, likes shopping & is not afraid to accept presents Ad# 1330

ECLECTIC INTERESTS
Easy going professional man, brown hair & eyes, 6'2", 170 lbs., have a good sense of humour, seeking someone romantic & unattached Ad# 1323

BE MY SUNSHINE
Tall, handsome male, 40, originally from Montreal, enjoy outdoor activities, good sense of humour, very warm hearted, seeking slim, kind, sincere, honest lady for long term relationship Ad# 1244

SUMMER ROMANCE
Gentleman, kind, sincere, very quiet & a bit shy, seeking lady to make my summer special Ad# 1249

LET'S TALK
Gentleman, early 40's, handsome, fit, creative, enjoy sports & other outdoor activities, seeking lady, early 30's, attractive, sincere, intelligent Ad# 1250

HAND IN HAND
Gentleman, outgoing, fun loving, enjoy movies, dining & dancing, good conversation, long walks & the romance of life, seeking lady who is trustworthy, honest, sincere, kind Ad# 1011

MARRIAGE MINDED
Gentleman, tall thin, 70, American Jewish, warm, cultured, well travelled, handsome, sincere, trustworthy, seeking marriage minded lady under 65, affectionate, soft, slim, very feminine, sincere & kind Ad# 1240

COFFEE & SMILES
Single male, 18, brown hair, green eyes, enjoy dining, dancing, shopping, working out, seeking young lady with very outgoing personality, terrific sense of humour, attractive with a zest for life Ad# 1241

LONG TERM RELATIONSHIP
Single Jewish gentleman, 37, 5'8", 200, many interests, seeking lady to share the sunshine of love & life Ad# 1243

CONSERVATIVE MALE
Single male, 5'8", conservative looking, buy, sell & analyze stocks, despite my accomplishments I don't take myself too seriously as you will see when you hear my ad.Ad# 1255

SEMI RETIRED
Single male, 69, well established, very athletic, looking for sincere, honest, caring female for friendship, possible relationship Ad# 1034

HAVE NO BAGGAGE
Jewish male, 41, attractive, honest, kind, affectionate, brown hair & eyes, nonsmoker, enjoy movies, dancing, seeking Jewish female, 32-42,petite, attractive Ad# 1277

Gay Jewish Male seeks same. Are you discreet, good looking, caring, compassionate? Do you enjoy a walk by the water, tennis, movies, art & music? Why are you not here to awaken by passionate words some fire within me? CJN Box # 7038.

Active, attractive WJF, 60, enjoys travel, theatre, movies, good conversation & laughter seeks SJM 55-70 with strong fam. values, good sense of humour,similar interests for friendship or more. 905-763-2368.

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330 OBITUARIES

FOSTER, Barry - on June 5, 1998, late of 24 Sherwood Rise.
PITKIN, Samuel - on June 5, 1998, late of 6200 Bathurst St., #808.
GROMAN, Pola - on June 6, 1998, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
KERTESZ, Erno - on June 6, 1998, late of 400 Walmer Rd., #2030.
HOWARD, Paul - on June 7, 1998, late of 368 Eglinton Ave. E., #1012.
SCHURE, Phil - on June 7, 1998, late of 201 Glenayr Rd.
BASKIN, Gloria - on June 8, 1998, late of 3800 Yonge St., #606.
SCOLNICK, Fanny - on June 8, 1998, late of 10 Shallmar Blvd., #117.
SWARTZMAN, David - on June 8, 1998, late of 24 Swansdown Dr.
KATZ, Deborah- on June 9, 1998, late of 110 Edward St.
RINALDO, Allan - on June 10, 1998, late of 1201 Steeles Ave. W., PH #5.
SNIDERMAN, Florence - on June 10, 1998, late of 33 Harbour Sq., #309.

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

330 OBITUARIES

KIRSH, Ralph Morris - on June 9, 1998, late of 117 Collinson Blvd.
ECKLER, Gale Edith - on June 10, 1998, late of 6200 Bathurst St.
STERNBERG, Herbert - on June 10, 1998, late of 15 Canyon Ave.
YOUNG, Ethyl - on June 10, 1998, late of 55 Ameer Ave.
ERICSSON, Elizabeth - on June 11, 1998, late of 274 Hidden Trail.
KATS, Lubov - on June 11, 1998, late of 133 Torresdale Ave.
KIRSCHNER, Esther - on June 12, 1998.
BRUHAND, Dana - on June 13, 1998, late of 213 Codsell Ave.
FRYERS, Frederick - on June 13, 1998, late of 57 Green Bush Rd.
MANDEL, Anne - on June 13, 1998.
KEMPER, Jerry - on June 14, 1998, late of 52 Neptune Dr.
PLESS, Katherine - on June 14, 1998.
SHAPIRO, Jack - on June 14, 1998, late of 2075 Bayview Ave.
CHAPLAN, Irwin - on June 15, 1998, late of 3705 Bathurst St.
KARWASSER, William Michel - on June 15, 1998, late of 4383 Bathurst St.

Steeles Memorial Chapel

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335 UNVEILINGS

UNVEILINGS for SUNDAY, JUNE 28

yad vashem monuments

CHAYA SURA WAJFUS ע"ח
Dawes Road
Drildzer Young Men's (3)
11:00 a.m.

ADRIAN (ADAŚ) WILSON ז"ל
Bathurst Lawn
Wierzbniker Society (38)
2:00 p.m.

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The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
PROSPER BENARROCH ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, June 28th, 10:30 a.m.
Pardes Shalom Cemetery
(Dufferin St., N. of Major Mackenzie)
Petah Tikva Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
SIDNEY RUBINOFF ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, June 28th, 11:00 a.m.
Pardes Shalom Cemetery
Community Section #3
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
HARRY ZACKS ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, June 28th, 1:00 p.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Chenstochover Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
SIMON BILCHIK ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, July 5th, 10:00 a.m.
Pardes Shalom Cemetery
Dufferin St., N. of Major Mackenzie
Beth Emeth Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
MARCEL SALZBERG ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, June 28th, 10:00 a.m.
Mount Sinai Memorial Park
Farband Labour Zionist Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

---

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The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
GERTRUDE HOFLAZER ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, June 28th, 11:30 a.m.
Dawes Road Cemetery
Drilzer Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
REGINA TREIBICZ ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, June 28th, 10:00 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Beth Emeth Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

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SHIVA CATERING

The unveiling of 2 monuments to the memories of
HELEN COPPEL LAVINE ז"ל
and
ANNA SIMONOFF COPPEL ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, June 28th, at 12:00 noon
Mount Sinai Memorial Park
(986 Wilson Avenue at Keele)
Chevra Mishnias Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

TO PLACE AN UNVEILING NOTICE PLEASE CALL AT LEAST 14 DAYS PRIOR TO THE DATE OF THE UNVEILING

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
SABA MIRANSKY ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, June 28th, at 10:00 a.m.
Mount Sinai Memorial Park
Workmen's Circle Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

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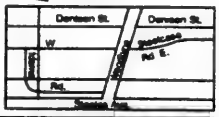

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Bodybuilders pump themselves up naturally

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Mark Landecker's got some news for you. You know those pictures of bodybuilders strutting their stuff on stage, posing in skimpy bikinis with their muscles bulging and bodies glistening with oil?

Well, two weeks after the fact, those same athletes look nothing at all like that.

In fact, that hard-body look is cultivated specifically for competition, sort of like a champion athlete peaking for the playoffs.

Landecker, a competitive bodybuilder himself, speaks with first-hand experience. Last weekend, he participated in the 1st Annual Canadian National Natural Bodybuilding and Fitness Championships, held in Toronto. He finished seventh in his height category.

At five-foot-nine, 155 lbs., Landecker is not much heavier than the average guy who keeps himself in good shape. That's one of the byproducts of keeping your training regimen "natural," he said.

Unlike other competitive bodybuilders, Landecker, 22, refuses to take performance-enhancing drugs of any kind. Instead, he develops his sculpted physique through grueling workouts five days a week and by consuming a high protein, low fat diet. In the weeks leading up to a big event like last weekend's competition, Landecker and other bodybuilders also cut down on their fluid consumption.

That lets their veins bulge out more than usual and adds definition to an already highly sculpted, ultra-lean muscle mass, he said.

Jeffrey Kippel

Two weeks later, athletes return to their normal, though still highly musculatured, look, he added.

Bodybuilders who use steroids develop a very unnatural appearance that he, for one, does not find appealing. "The body's not meant to look that way. I can walk around in a T-shirt and no-one would know I'm a bodybuilder," he said.

For 28-year-old Jeffrey Kippel, "natural" is the way to go. As president of the International Natural Bodybuilders Association (INBA)-Canada, the organization that sponsored the weekend event, he's trying to promote the sport north of the border and give "natural" bodybuilders a forum for competition.

When it comes to open competitions, people who bodybuild but don't take performance-enhancing drugs are at a distinct disadvantage to those who do. "Either they give up on competition or they go to the United States," he said.

At the INBA event, participants went through various routines in which they demonstrated their flexibility, strength and symmetry. They also gave a 30-second description of the significance of bodybuilding to them.

A weightlifter back in high school, Kippel took to the sport more seriously about two years ago when he went through a divorce and a career change.

"I got into bodybuilding as a focus and to get through the life changes," he said. He immediately developed an appreciation for the sport and saw his weight drop from 200 lbs with a 42-inch waist on a five-foot-seven frame to 146 lbs and a 28-inch waist.

Last December, he met with INBA executives in Las Vegas to try and convince them to put him in charge of their Canadian division. He got their approval and began to promote the sport locally.

"There are quite a few people who are natural, but they're frustrated when they have to compete," he said.

Athletes who join the association agree to periodic tests to determine if they've taken performance-enhancing drugs. That keeps the sport clean and allows everyone to perform on a level playing field, Kippel said.

Proper nutrition is stressed in natural bodybuilding, Kippel and Landecker agree. During the last few days before he competes, Landecker consumes protein every two hours or so, making for six to seven meals a day. He'll eat fish three or four times and enjoy an omelet made with 12 eggs whites, with some potatoes on the side. In the morning, he'll have a protein shake along with some shredded wheat.

Whether he's at home preparing for a competition or shaking off fatigue to head to the gym for a workout, "discipline is basically what it comes down to," Landecker said.

He first got interested in the sport when he was about 17, seeing it then as a novelty. Prior to that, he and some buddies were pumping iron on a casual basis and he found his time at the gym a total escape from a hectic life. "It allows you to free your mind," he said.

He also enjoyed the recognition he received for his accomplishments. "It brings out the competitive spirit that's in everybody...I look at bodybuilding like an artist using his body as a canvas," he said.

Last year, Landecker combined his workouts with a heavy academic program at York University, where he studied for a degree in business administration. A former volunteer soccer coach at Beth Tikvah, Landecker is hoping to travel to Greece to compete in the Natural Universe competition.

Kippel, who runs his own personal training business, has ambitious plans for natural bodybuilding. He's planning to stage an event in Israel within the next 18 months and he's hoping to convince the Maccabi Canada to push for bodybuilding as a recognized sport at the Maccabiah Games.

Mark Landecker

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The Inside Back

Choirs take part in Zimriya

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — The sanctuary of Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue recently resonated with the sound of Jewish choral music as seven choirs performed works in Hebrew and Yiddish in celebration of Israel at 50.

The sanctuary, festooned with blue and white balloons and crepe paper in honor of Israel, was the venue of the recent Zimriya 1998, a festival of Jewish music featuring Jewish choirs from across the Greater Toronto Area.

An annual event since its inception in 1981, Zimriya has been sponsored by Jewish Music Toronto for the last four years. This year's event drew more than 600 people.

Participating in a choir requires a lot of dedication, Jewish Music Toronto vice-president and choral music chair Charles Heller told the audience. "It's a big commitment."

He explained that Zimriya 1998 was the fourth part of a four year series, which entailed the performance of songs grouped around specific themes: 1995 was peace; 1996 was Jerusalem 3000; and 1997 was creativity in the Diaspora.

Heller conducted the Zimriya Chorus this year, which is an amalgamation of members of the different choirs who meet specifically to perform final works of the Zimriya.

Participating choirs included Beth Tikvah Synagogue Choir, conducted by Srul Irving Glick; Temple Sinai Choir, conducted by Leslie Schwartz; Zemer Chorale of Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue, conducted by Charles Heller; Toronto Jewish Folk Choir, conducted by Esther Ghan Firestone; The Holy Blossom Temple Singers and Lachan: Toronto Jewish Chamber Choir, both conducted by Benjamin Maissner.

The accompanists were Ruthellen Shapero, Natasha Tyomkina, Lena Zemelman and Nadya Adler.

One of the highlights of this year's concert was Holy Blossom Temple Singer's performance of Zer Shirim, a new medley of songs commissioned in honor of Israel at 50. The work, created by Toronto-based Russian Jewish composer, Yefim Adler, reflected the history of the State of Israel.

A grant from UJA Federation Action Committee on Continuity funded this commissioned work, which premiered at the Zimriya. It will be performed by Lachan at the Hebrew Beach Institute June 14 and at the Studio Theatre of the Ford Centre of the Performing Arts on June 18.

Zimriya program chair was Srul Glick. Jerry Nesker is the president and patron chair of Jewish Music Toronto. Jewish Music Toronto operates under the auspices of the Koffler Centre of the Arts, the Bathurst Jewish Centre and the United Jewish Welfare Fund.

Charles Heller, choir director at Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue, conducts the Zimriya Chrous. [Barbara Silverstein photo]

RICE CUP QUICHES

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3 cups cooked rice
1 1/4 cups shredded Cheddar cheese
4 eggs
1/3 cup milk
1/4 cup diced green chilies (optional)
1/4 cup diced, drained pimentos
1/2 tsp ground cumin
salt and pepper, to taste
paprika, to garnish

In large bowl, combine rice, 3/4 cup cheese and 2 eggs (lightly beaten). Divide rice mixture evenly among 12 greased muffin cups and press into bottom and sides to form cups. Bake in 400°F oven 6-8 mins or until lightly browned.

Combine remaining 2 eggs with milk, remaining 1/2 cup cheese, chillies, pimentos, cumin, salt and pepper; divide among rice cups. Sprinkle with paprika. Return to oven and bake another 18-20 mins. or until set.

Tip: Cups may be frozen.

About Life

Dear Ella,

I had the scare of my life last week when a police officer called my home to tell me my father had been in a car accident. He quickly told me that my father was all right, just a bit shaken up, and it would be a good idea if I could get over there.

As I rushed to the scene, I envisioned seeing my father bloody, on a gurney and incoherent. When I got there he was fine. He was in a little strip plaza on Bathurst Street where he had backed into another car. I've been concerned about him driving for awhile now, as I have noticed how careless his driving sometimes is. When I bring up the subject, he just "poo poos" it away. I don't want to ruin his golden years by insisting he not drive; however, I am afraid for him and the drivers around him on the road. Any suggestions?

Desperate to Drive

Dear Desperate to Drive,

I myself have been in many of those strip plazas along Bathurst and I've sometimes wondered if Mario Andretti could negotiate his way through them.

You have to think long and hard before you make an attempt to stop your father from driving. Remember, driving means independence. It is the ability to come and go as one pleases on a whim without asking or relying on anyone. Without independence, you can open up a whole can of worms. On the other hand, you can't have him on the road if he is dangerous to himself and others.

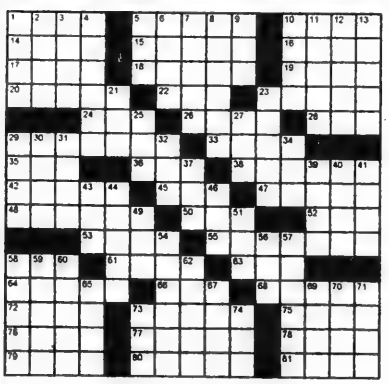
Discuss a driver's refresher course with your father. They do exist for older people and may improve his driving by bringing back some proper habits he may not have anymore.

Compromise by asking him not to drive at dusk and at night. Remind him not to drive when he is tired or when the weather is bad. Make sure he wears his seat belt at all times and that any medication he is taking does not dull his senses and reaction time. If he wear glasses for distance, make sure he uses them and that they are clean. An eyesight and hearing test wouldn't hurt either.

In short, do what you can to set your mind at ease and to keep him as safe as possible on the road. Remember accidents don't just happen to seniors.

Readers may submit their questions to Ella at The CJN. *But Ella is not a professional counsellor. She brings to the questions posed by readers her unique brand of earthy wisdom. Her advice is not a replacement for medical, legal or any other advice. For serious problems, consult a professional.*

The Canadian Jewish news — CROSSWORD PUZZLE — The Canadian Jewish news



Across

1. One's person
5. Amulet
10. Chagall
14. Plague
15. "Never_" Kahane book
16. Eilat, old style
17. Ellis or Emerald
18. Singer Reddy
19. Playwrite Elmer_
21~. Fetlocks
22. Portion (abv)
23. Hebrew month
24. 102
26. Adams son
28. Eat (Yid)
29. Einstein and Sabin
33. Tref shortening
35. Exodus egress
36. Pouch
38. Manranos' Jewishness
42. Parshiot
45. Makes a "fey" a "pey"
47. Trotsky's fate
48. Chopped liver
50. Hank's Hammer'.
52. American Mossad
53. Ens (Heb)
55. Spoon,__ and candle
58. Imitate Hackman
61. Rounds for Spitz
63. __ Oath. by Wiesel
64. Ten __ of Seder wine
66. Arkia stat
68. K'tonton
72. kinneret
73. Nazarite growth
75. Dershowitz bargain ?
76. Ma'ariv times
77. Newman or Hoffman
78. Polaroid's Edward
79. Shiva clothes
80. Sukkot
81. Tsitsit site

Down

1. Ark
2. Seder manner
3. Flower
4. Jacob's disguise
5. Sound of laughter
6. "Rock of__"
7. Orthodox minyan
8. Gangster "Bugsy"
9. Abby's sister
10. Bissel (Eng)
11. Breathing
12. Maccabiah activities
13. Hebrew letters
21. Title of Jacob Epstein
23. Stooges
25. __ a boy!!
27. Torah breastplate
29. Cleo killers
30. Jump
31. Comedian Roseanne
32. Shiva mood
34. 610
37. Male swan
39. Like the Rothschilds
40. "Night" writer
41. Seder salt water
43. Plagues
44. Bellow and Raskin
46. Hebrew letter
49. Synthesized by Kornberg
51. Hebrew letter
54. Abba Eban specialty
56. Expressions of ease
57. Synagogue
58. JPSA foulder. Cyrus
59. Covet
60. Subway fare
62. Israel in 1948
65. Plague
67. Son of Gad
69. Arkin or Funt
70. Rothschild action
71. Yiladim (Eng)
73. Sculptor's style
74. Salk and Sabin

These puzzles are the work of Kathi Handler of Waterbury, Connecticut.
(Last week's answers are on page 40)

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This Week

National

CJC adopts resolution that council of rabbis should be set up in Jewish communities. *Page 5*

Lou Sklar has a street named after him in Israel. *Page 6*

Women should play active roles in Vancouver, appeal campaign chair says. *Page 20*

Health

Chai-Tikvah foundation provides support for those with mental disorders. *Page 25*

Travel

Going, going, gone: A visit to Sotheby's. *Page 30*

Amsterdam museum blends old and new in former Jewish quarter. *Page 31*

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Shabbat: Hukkat
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AT HOME TO REST, FINALLY

IDF soldiers carry the coffin containing the remains of naval commando Itamar Ilya. Ilya, 21, was killed along with 11 other soldiers during a failed raid last September into Lebanon. His body was returned to Israel last week in exchange for 60 terrorists imprisoned in Israel and the bodies of 40 terrorists. Ilya's body was flown to Israel on a French Air Force transport plane from Lebanon. *[Isranet photo]*

Nazis looted billions

By MARILYN HENRY
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

NEW YORK — The Nazis looted between $9 billion (US) and $14 billion in Jewish assets in the 20 countries they occupied during World War II, Reuters reported, citing a study by the World Jewish Congress (WJC) to be released shortly.

The report, prepared by economist Sidney Jay Zabludoff, said the assets would be worth between $90 billion and $140 billion at today's prices.

Personal monetary holdings and investments accounted for about 40 to 50 percent of each country's Jewish assets. Residential real estate accounted for about 25 percent and business assets about 15 percent, according to Reuters.

In testimony in May before the New York state Senate Insurance Committee, the WJC estimated that Jewish losses ranged from $23 billion to $32 billion in 1945 dollars, according to AP.

WJC estimates

Its report, based on an analysis of pre-war per capita estimates of Jewish wealth, was scheduled to be released in connection with a State Department conference this week.

Representatives from dozens of nations and non-governmental organizations, including Jewish groups, were to meet in Washington this week to hammer out an agenda for an international conference on Nazi loot.

The American conference, scheduled for late November, is expected to focus on art, insurance and other plundered assets.

It is the successor to a conference last December in London that was devoted to Nazi gold. At that time, Britain and the United States called for the establishment of an international fund to help victims of Nazi persecution, and suggested that nations donate the remaining gold – only now being returned – that Nazis had looted from the central banks of Europe.

France pledged last week to contribute around 20 million francs ($3.3 million) to the fund, and Norway's cabinet approved a draft law to pay 450 million crowns ($58 million) to Jewish survivors, their descendants and Jewish organizations.

Continued on page 21

The CJN wins awards

More garlands for *The CJN*.

For the second year in a row, the paper has been named best overall specialty publication of 1997 by the Quebec Community Newspapers Association (QCNA).

As well, *The CJN* has won another Simon Rockower Award, the highest honor bestowed by the American Jewish Press Association.

Third consecutive year

The paper won a Rockower for Excellence in Special Sections or Supplements for its pull-out supplement in September on Zionism After 100 Years.

The Rockower awards were presented in Cleveland last week.

It was the third consecutive year *The CJN* has received Rockower recognition.

"We're very proud of the collective efforts of the entire *CJN* staff," said *The CJN* editor Mordechai Ben-Dat.

In conferring the QCNA award, the jury commented *The CJN* was well written, with "great content, lots of photos, clear and concise, interesting columns, lots of nicely produced ads, good advertising content. Overall a great paper."

The jury consisted of editors and journalists from community newspapers in the Atlantic provinces, under a reciprocal arrangement that saw the QCNA send judges to that region last year.

These were the 10th annual awards presented by the QCNA, which has 33 member English-language and bilingual weekly and biweekly newspapers in the province.

EARLY DEADLINE NOTICE

Our offices will be closed July 13-17. Thus, the display advertising deadline for the July 16 issue is July 8 at noon and for classified and organization ads July 7 at 4 p.m. There is no paper on July 23.

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IDF withdrawal to be negotiated by July 29: Bibi **— please see page 21**

The News in Brief

CANADA

Romanian Jewish Concerns

OTTAWA — Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) recently joined a delegation from the Association of Romanian Jewish Survivors of the Holocaust at a meeting here with officials from Foreign Affairs Canada.

The groups repeated priorities presented in a brief last month to Romanian President Emil Constantinescu in Montreal.

They included better education about the Holocaust, restitution for seized property and possessions, and an end to memorializing war-era Iron Guard collaborators.

Ronen Honored

TORONTO — Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) national president Moshe Ronen has been elected to the board of governors of North York General Hospital.

In recognition of his volunteer service to the general community, Isabel Bassett, Ontario's minister of Citizenship, Culture and Recreation, presented Ronen the Volunteer Service Award at a ceremony at Roy Thompson Hall last week.

ISRAEL

Viagra Ban Dropped

JERUSALEM — Israel has dropped its ban on the sexual impotency pill Viagra.

The Health Ministry announced it was again permitting doctors to prescribe the drug after it received clarifications from its manufacturer on the deaths of at least six Americans who had taken it.

Rabin's Assassin Appeals

JERUSALEM — Israel heard an appeal last week from Yigal Amir, Yitzhak Rabin's assassin, who is serving a life sentence. Amir, his brother Hagai and his friend Dror Adani appealed their sentences for conspiring to assassinate Rabin and attack Arabs.

WORLD

Cuba Embargo

NEW YORK — The American Jewish Congress (AJC) is moving toward calling on the United States to end its decades-old economic sanctions against Cuba.

Such a move would break with the general Jewish position to stay on the sidelines of the issue.

AJC executive director Phil Baum said he could not say for certain that his group will formally call for an end to the embargo, but added, "My hunch is yes."

Unity Campaign

NEW YORK — Several Jewish organizations have teamed up to create a special Unity Campaign whose goal will be to raise $30 million over three years.

The United Jewish Appeal/Council of Jewish Federations Partnership; the Jewish Agency for Israel; and the Orthodox, Conservative and Reform streams of North American Judaism say the campaign is a unified response to the issue of religious tolerance in Israel.

Denaturalization Upheld

WASHINGTON — A federal appeals court has upheld a decision to strip a former member of a Lithuanian killing unit of his U.S. citizenship.

The court found that the battalion committed atrocities in Byelorussia (now Belarus), killing thousands of civilians, predominately Jews, and that there was evidence Kazys Ciurinskas personally took part in killing actions.

U.S. authorities said they will seek to have Ciurinskas removed from the United States as soon as possible.

Shanghai Shul

BEIJING — Just prior to U.S. President Bill Clinton's visit to China, the government completed long-sought restoration work on a synagogue located in the heart of Shanghai.

The shul, occupied for nearly 50 years by the state Education Commission, was built by Sephardi Jews in 1929 and used during World War II by about 25,000 Jewish refugees.

Far Right Fails

PRAGUE — A far-right party has failed to capture enough votes to enter the Czech parliament.

The Republican party, known for its anti-Gypsy and anti-Semitic rhetoric, polled only 3.9 percent during parliamentary elections last month. Political parties must claim at least five percent of the popular vote in order to be seated.

Zhirinovsky Appears

MOSCOW — Vladimir Zhirinovsky, the leader of the ultranationalist Liberal Democratic party, made a surprise appearance at a benefit concert for a Lubavitch synagogue here that was bombed last month.

After the concert, Zhirinovsky got up on stage and said he was outraged by the synagogue bombing, adding he would support any anti-vandalism bill brought before Russia's Parliament.

He also spoke positively about the Jewish contribution to Russian culture, economy and politics.

Canadian Selected

NEW YORK — Ari Feldman of Toronto is among 38 college and university students selected for an intensive six-week political internship run by the Orthodox Union's Institute for Public Affairs.

Feldman will intern at the National Jewish Democratic Council, a lobby group.

Bias Allegations Dismissed

TORONTO — A Canadian human rights tribunal has dismissed suggestions that one of its members is biased against Holocaust-denier Ernst Zundel.

In a written judgment released recently, the three-member panel stated that no reasonable person would doubt that panel member Reva Devins would be able to hear the case "in a fair and impartial manner."

The tribunal was responding to a submission by Zundel's lawyer, Doug Christie, that a purported May 13, 1988 news release by the Ontario Human Rights Commission (OHRC) cast doubt on Devins' impartiality. In the release, then OHRC chief commissioner Raj Anand applauds Zundel's jury conviction for distributing false news. That conviction was ultimately set aside when the Supreme Court of Canada struck down the false news law.

Christie had argued the OHRC's views can be imputed to Devins because at the time, she was a member of the organization.

The hearing can now continue. Zundel is contesting a complaint by Holocaust survivor Sabina Citron and the Toronto Mayor's Committee on Community and Race Relations that he operated an Internet Web site in violation of the Canadian Human Rights Act.

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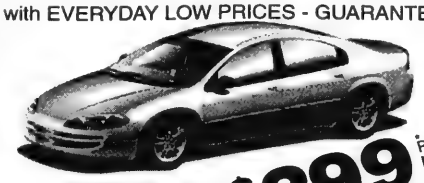

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Canada takes lead to push for International Criminal Court

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — In recent weeks, Canadian diplomats and lawmakers have enjoyed the plaudits of human rights advocates around the world as Canada leads the push to create a permanent International Criminal Court (ICC) to prosecute war criminals.

As delegates from 185 nations gathered in Rome to discuss creation of an ICC, Foreign Minister Lloyd Axworthy addressed them with a plea to remember the civilian victims of conflicts.

"We live in a world where most of the conflict is civil and most of the victims are civilian," Axworthy said. "The acts of war have become even more senseless and too often these acts of atrocity go unpunished. The time has come for us to build new institutions that respond to new needs."

But there's a double irony associated with Canada's efforts on the world stage.

On the one hand, Canada is taking a lead role in addressing the issue of international war criminals while at home its record leaves much to be desired. Canada did virtually nothing for 50 years to prosecute Nazi war criminals while as many as 500 modern day war criminals may have found a haven for themselves in Canada.

Compounding the irony is the fact that the United States, which has done more to bring Nazi war criminals to justice than any other democracy (it has removed 47 since 1979), is being seen as one of the powers placing obstacles in the way of an ICC.

Concerned about having members of its armed forces brought to court for political reasons, the United States has pushed for limitations on the independence of an international court.

In Canada, supporters for an international court include Jewish critics of the government's past efforts.

David Matas, legal coordinator for Amnesty International and a spokesperson on war crimes for B'nai Brith Canada, said the proposed international court "is a legacy the Holocaust has left." Though he agrees it is ironic that Canada is playing a leading role on the ICC, he said the Supreme Court of Canada decision in the Finta case has "hamstrung" domestic prosecutions of war criminals. That case dealt with allegations arising from the Holocaust, but it also impacts prosecutions of modern day war criminals, giving them the defence of following superior orders.

Even if Canada was "to get its act together" and amend the Criminal Code to remove that defence, "it's still only Canada's act." That would "only be a Canadian solution, not a worldwide solution," Matas said.

"In reality, Canada's failure is shared around the world. It's not as if Canada did badly and the rest of the world did well. The whole world is a haven for war criminals," Matas added.

An advisor to the Canadian delegation in Rome, Matas said Canada ought to change its criminal law to permit effective domestic prosecutions, but "changing the law would be easier to do if it was in the context of a global treaty. It sort of gives it momentum."

Irving Abella, a spokesperson for Canadian Jewish Congress on war crimes, agrees there is some irony in the current situation, though in recent years Canada's record on Nazi war criminals has improved.

He too is disappointed that Canada has yet to amend the Criminal Code to address the Finta decision even though Congress was assured four years ago that such steps were being taken."I'm not sure it'll ever come forward," he said.

"Canada sees the ICC as something that will remove the responsibility from Canada of dealing with modern day war criminals," Abella suggested. "Canada will have an outlet for them so they can ship them out to [another] venue" where they would face trial, he added.

Congress has supported domestic prosecutions of alleged war criminals as a first choice, with extradition to an international court as another viable alternative, he said. An international court might have better access to archival material, more witnesses to call upon and "a critical mass of cases" to try.

Furthermore, Abella continued, the two ad hoc international criminal courts in The Hague and in Tanzania, addressing war crimes in Bosnia and Rwanda, have been ineffective. In its four years in existence, the court in The Hague has registered only one conviction, he said.

A more effective legal mechanism with aggressive, professional and proactive staff is required, he said.

While the elements of an ICC are still being negotiated, one aspect of a new court worries York University law professor Anne Bayefsky.

"At this point, one has to be concerned about the proposed substantive rights on which people will be tried," she said.

In defining the wrongdoing covered by the court, suggestions are being forwarded to specifically include references to "settlements and occupied territories," she said.

"Some of the violations of rights that are tentative are being directed specifically towards Israel... At this point, there is some cause for concern... The question is what people will be tried for and would it be applicable to everyone."

Bayefsky, who heads York U's Centre for Refugee Studies, said she nevertheless favors creation of an international court. Such a body could coexist with a domestic approach to war crimes prosecutions, she suggested.

McGill law professor Irwin Cotler said an ICC would end the impunity enjoyed by most perpetrators of gross human abuses and violations of international humanitarian law.

An effective criminal court would also:

- provide relief to victims and end the possible stigma of collective guilt;
- counter the failure of national legal systems to punish offenders;
- ensure even-handedness in prosecutions and address accusations of political bias in choice of cases brought forward;
- provide an effective enforcement mechanism to punish perpetrators;
- deter genocide;
- serve as an international model of an effective justice system.

IN SILENT COMMEMORATION

A participant in the recent March of the Living, draped in the flag of Israel, stops to reflect along the barbed wire fence of one of the concentration camps. Please see the photo montage on page 9. [Rosemary Goldhar photo]

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The excitement and the sense of accomplishment each week at seeing a new edition of *The CJN* take shape from the varied and disparate sources of news, information, features, commentaries, opinions, analyses, press releases and photographs, has not abated.

I doubt it ever will.

Every Thursday afternoon, layout of the editorial content of the newspaper begins in earnest. By Monday the following week, also in the afternoon, it is completed, or, in uncharacteristically gentle journalist parlance, the paper is, at that point, put to bed.

To bring the paper to its "bedtime" every Monday, requires a highly focused, coordinated effort by a relatively small group of individuals in Montreal and Toronto.

It is a privilege to work with them.

They are seasoned, hard-working professionals, dedicated to collegiality and uncompromising standards of excellence, to the broad communal purposes of the paper, and to the journalistic ideals of truth, honesty, fairness and civility.

It is therefore very gratifying on behalf of this fine team, to have our work acknowledged by our peers. As the news item on the front page of the paper advises, *The CJN* recently received two such acknowledgments for 1997.

For the second, consecutive year the paper was named the best overall specialty publication by the Quebec Community Newspapers Association. and for the third consecutive year, *The CJN* won a Simon Rockower award from the American Jewish Press Association.

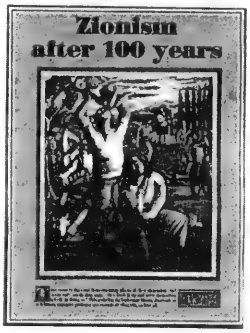
The Rockower award was for achieving excellence in special supplements, specifically for the supplement in the Rosh Hashanah issue called Zionism After 100 Years.

But even with the bestowal of these latest awards, indeed, in a sense because of them, we are implementing certain changes in the paper. July is the time when we have introduced changes in the past. This year is no exception.

Thus, beginning with this issue, readers of *The CJN* can look forward to the following changes.

• Bruce Elman, renowned expert in constitutional law at the Faculty of Law of the University of Alberta in Edmonton, will be replacing Shel Krakofsky.

Krakofsky is one of Canada's best poet/writers – witty, lyrical, insightful, and often achingly poignant. But his busy schedule could no longer bear the monthly *CJN* "intrusion."



Elman's contributions will be a total change of pace – observations from a completely different vantage point and a welcome, additional voice from the west.

• Jennifer Fox and Erica Horn will be replacing our two student voices, Viva Press and Justin Korda. Like Viva before her, Jennifer is also studying journalism at Dalhousie University in Halifax; and like Justin, Erica is a student at McGill University in Montreal.

• Once a month, on the inside back page, we will feature an advice column specifically directed at teenagers. The column will be called About Teenagers and will become part of the monthly rotation along with our other advice columns. The author is Karilani. In fact, Karilani is a composite name for three young authors who are girls, close friends and about to enter Grade 11 in September. They will be writing for teenagers about teenagehood and teenage problems. Letters to Karilani will be welcomed.

• Once a month on our Jewish Life pages, we will publish a feature called Through a Sephardi Window. The aim of this new column will be twofold: to provide a print medium for discussion and debate of issues of more particular concern to members of the Sephardi community and, in so doing, to provide an opportunity to the wider community to become more familiar with and more understanding of those issues and in the process learn about Sephardi lore, traditions, customs and folktales.

• In the near future, we will also be making significant changes to our coverage of news from Israel and the Jewish world.

Our commitment to our readers is to constantly strive to take the paper higher and further; to reach new audiences; to gather the news from newer sources; to discuss new subjects; to bring new insights and to introduce new voices; in short, to try, always, to make the paper even better.

Almost three years ago, I wrote that it was my aspiration for *The CJN* that "our readers... will look upon the paper as a precious lifeline of information about a kinfolk dispersed to the far corners of the vast earth." In an age when there are so many different sources of information, it may be foolish to think of any newspaper as being a lifeline. But it is indeed my fervent hope that our readers will think of *The CJN* as being precious. —*MBD*

Israel's Jubilee 50 — *from the archives*

ALL ISRAEL ARE GUARANTORS ONE FOR THE OTHER

The Air France passengers rescued from Entebbe arrive in Israel, July 4, 1976.

[Keren Hayesod – UIA Communications photo]

* * *

For the latest in *Israel at 50* news, check out the *Israel at 50* Web site: [www.feduja.org] or call the *Israel at 50* hotline 416-635-2883 ext. 706.

Greater Toronto Area

CJC backs new rabbinic group to promote unity

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A council of rabbis representing every denomination should be set up in Canadian Jewish communities in order to strengthen Jewish communal unity.

This resolution was adopted June 24 by the new council of Ontario region, Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC), at its first meeting.

The CJC was asked to set up a council of rabbis, whose members would visit various synagogues in their comunity to denounce the use of faith to create schisms.

The resolution passed with a large majority after delegate Sol Hermolin got little support for his suggestion that the council include secular representation since it would deal with ideological matters.

A parallel resolution that the CJC set up an in-house, yet arm's length mechanism and arbitration process for solving non-rabbinical or secular legal issues was also adopted, without discussion.

The meeting included the first report by the region's new chair, Keith Landy, and a brief talk by Isabel Bassett, Ontario minister of citizenship, culture and recreation.

"I want to continue our long traditional support for the Jewish community," said Bassett, referring to her late husband, John, and his commitment to Israel. This remark brought applause from council members.

When presented with a book on Israel's 50th anniversary by region officer Ellen Coles, Bassett said, "I have visited Israel many times and I want my children to grow up with the same feeling that John and I had."

There is an economic basis for the close relationship between Israel and Ontario, the minister said, with imports of Israeli wine, diamonds and electronic items.

She promised a quicker resolution of complaints to the Ontario Human Rights Commission.

In his presentation, Landy said, "Although we are regarded as a wealthy community, approximately 13 percent of us live below the poverty line. Our community agencies need the funding and government resources to enable them to provide the social services that our community continues to need."

Landy said he has asked the CJC to establish a joint CJC-UJA Federation committee to act as an advocate on issues of social policy.

The council adopted a resolution calling for accessibility to the CJC National Archives if the CJC moves from the Bronfman building in Montreal.

New vice-chairs for the region are Esther Bem, Harold Brief and Esta Pomotov from Toronto, and Paul Walman from Kitchener. Cary Green was acclaimed national vice-president from the Ontario region.

Stan Segal is the treasurer, Ellen Cole, secretary and Benjamin Zarnett, legal counsel.

Officers-at-large are Mark Anshan, Messod Boussidan, Paula Draper, Ossy Goldenberg, Lorri Kushnir, Richard Morris, Larry Nathanson, Simon Rosenblum, Elaine Todres and Larry Zeifman.

Ted Hochberg of Windsor and Ron Wolfe of London are the Federation respresentatives for their communities to the regional officers.

Skinhead gets enhanced sentence for attack

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The sentence-enhancing provisions of the Criminal Code were invoked recently as a Toronto skinhead was sentenced to 18 months in jail for a racist assault on a black man as well as two arresting officers.

Ontario Court Judge Hugh Porter sentenced Quinn McFarlane to 12 months in jail in addition to the six months he had already served from the time of his arrest.

Porter said he was using his discretion to increase the sentence McFarlane would otherwise have received because of the racial motivation of the crime.

Prior to sentencing, Porter heard from Bernie Farber of Canadian Jewish Congress on the deterrent affect of stiff sentences on young people associated with racist movements, and he viewed a videotape of McFarlane and others protesting against Roma (Gypsy) refugees outside a Toronto motel last summer.

Farber afterwards applauded the jail time handed out to McFarlane. "It gives an important message to society generally and more specifically to young people... They are impressed that the courts and police are beginning to take hate crimes seriously."

McFarlane is no stranger to the legal system – nor to Farber. Last April, McFarlane was convicted of assaulting CFTO-TV reporter John Lancaster outside a University Avenue courthouse after Lancaster had gone to help a cameramen that McFarlane had attacked. Lancaster suffered a broken nose and teeth in the assault. McFarlane avoided a jail sentence in that case when Ontario Court judge Mary Hogan ordered McFarlane to receive counselling from Farber – a move that caught Farber completely by surprise.

Farber said he had no prior knowledge he would be asked to be involved in McFarlane's rehabilitation but he said he would cooperate if McFarlane genuinely wanted to turn his life around. Since that sentence in April, he has not heard from McFarlane. "I assume he's not interested," he said.

McFarlane, 19, has been associated with various elements in the white supremacy movement, in particular with the Aryan Blitzkrieg, a skinhead group centred in Scarborough that has ties to a Polish skinhead group, said Sgt. Dino Doria of the Metro Toronto police hate crimes unit.

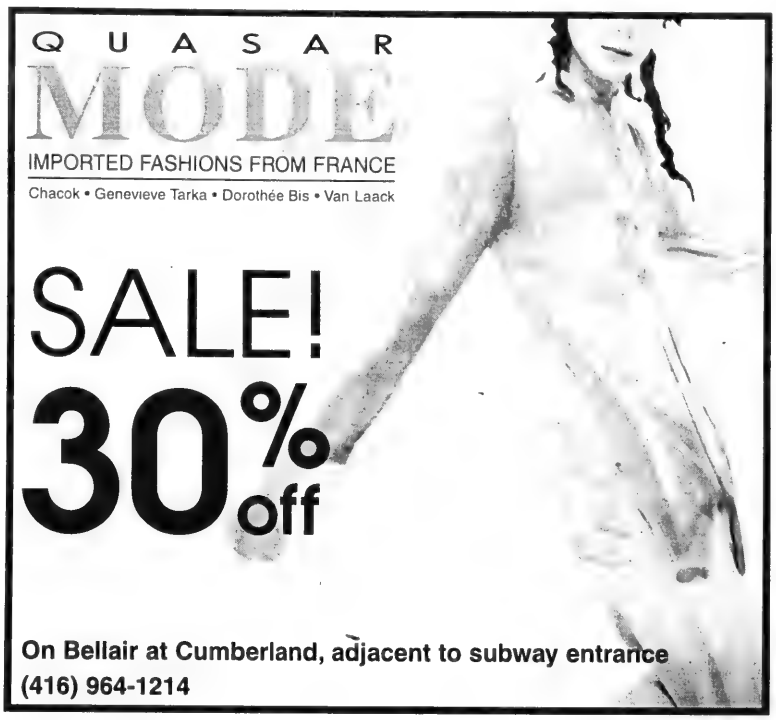
He is also facing hate promotion charges connected to the anti-Roma protest last August. That trial begins in September. Altogether, McFarlane has a history of trouble with the law. He has 18 prior criminal convictions, 10 of which involved violence, Doria said.

In other developments, 44-year-old Mark Harding was found guilty last week of three counts of promoting hatred against Muslims. The charges arose out of a pamphleteering campaign by Harding in which he distributed "degrading" anti-Muslim material outside Weston Collegiate claiming Muslims were terrorists, Doria said.

One of the counts was in connection to a telephone hotline Harding operated, he added.

Harding had been supported by a U.S. group called Truth Seekers, with one member of the group attending the early stages of his case in Toronto. The group is fundamentalist Christian in nature but the group's representative backed off from support of Harding when he learned of Canada's anti-hate laws.

Harding will be sentenced on July 15.



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Greater Toronto Area

Israeli street named for Sklar

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — For Lou Sklar, it may as well be Fifth Avenue, Downing Street and Sunset Boulevard rolled into one.

After all, how many people (living, that is) have a street named for them in Israel, where roadways tend to be named after deceased Zionists or biblical figures?

In mid-May, a beaming Sklar, the retired president of furniture manufacturer Sklar-Peppler, unfurled the banner on Lou Sklar Street, in the Israeli city of Or-Yehuda.

It was a fitting cap to Sklar's decade of involvement in the city, whose near-miraculous recovery from poverty and squalor he helped bring about.

Or-Yehuda was among the beneficiaries of Project Renewal, a grand scheme launched by Israel in the early 1980s. The idea was to get Diaspora communities to help problem municipalities in Israel by "adopting" them.

Or-Yehuda, situated on the outskirts of Lod Airport, was a hard-scrabble town of 20,000 then. It began in 1948 as a tent city of mainly Sephardi families, and became a sad place where poverty, crime and dependence on government hand-outs reigned.

The town was adopted by small Jewish communities in Ontario (except for Toronto and Ottawa) and by Jews in Atlantic Canada. Sklar was then living in Oshawa.

He immediately took a leadership role, and estimates he took 25 trips to the town between 1980 and the early '90s.

Sklar worked closely with local officials, United Israel Appeal (UIA) of Canada, and with the Jewish community of Milwaukee, which also adopted parts of the town. He estimates that over the decade, Or-Yehuda was infused with roughly $10 million in capital.

The money was used to launch new social, educational and recreational programs. And with matching government funds, open sewers were cleaned up, and new homes, parks and schools were built.

Sklar also convinced local officials to make loans available to residents so they could buy their own homes. That led to pride of ownership.

"At first there was a lot of hostility," Sklar, 74, recalls. "They didn't like the idea of this Canadian Ashkenazi interfering. We ruffled a few feathers. But we got the job done."

Indeed, Or-Yehuda became one of the shining successes of Project Renewal. Today, it's a city of 30,000, and crime, welfare, poverty, drop-out and even infant mortality rates have dropped dramatically.

"Now, people want to move there," Sklar notes with pride.

Leo Marcus, who headed the Canadian office of UIA in Jerusalem in the early '80, says Sklar is the first living Canadian to get a street named for him in Israel, and possibly, the only living member of the entire Diaspora to be so honored.

Sklar says he never had a bar mitzvah, and is considering celebrating a belated one in Or-Yehuda, not far from "his" street.

Lou Sklar unveils "his" street in the Israeli city of Or-Yehuda.

Memorial book planned

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A total of $11,500 has been raised by veterans and their family and friends for the *Canadian Jewish Book of Remembrance*.

The Book of Remembrance, which will honor the 522 Jewish Canadians who gave their lives to serve Canada in this century, is being published by the Canadian Jewish War Memorial Association. The association would like to hear from families of these veterans.

A budget for the project is estimated at $70,000. In order to complete and publish the memorial book, all members of the Jewish community are asked to contribute.

"Time is not on our side," said Oscar Adler, association president. "We promised our fallen comrades that we will remember them. This is what the *Jewish Book of Rembrance* is all about. It is also a legacy for generations to come."

Donations are eligible for income tax deduction and may be sent to the Canadian Jewish War Memorial Association, 640 Sheppard Avenue East, Apt. 602, Toronto, M2K 1B8. Call 225-4276.

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Greater Toronto Area

From left, Rabbi Zalman Grossbaum, executive vice-president of Chabad Lubavitch of Southern Ontario; Richard Goldberg, son-in-law of Ernest Manson; Manson's granddaughter Lauren; and daughters Yvonne Goldberg and Margo Manson turn the first sod for the Ernest Manson Lubavitch Centre in Vaughan. [Ron Csillag photo]

Sod turned at Lubavitch Centre

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

VAUGHAN — Stones from the base of the Temple Mount will be placed in the cornerstone of the Ernest Manson Lubavitch Centre, to be built in a new housing development at Bathurst and Flamingo Road in Vaughan.

Sod was turned on a scorching Sunday morning in June, shortly before the fourth yahrzeit of the Lubavitcher Rebbe, Rabbi Menachem Mendel Schneerson. Rabbi Schneerson encouraged the establishment of Lubavitch centres in all developing areas.

Wielding shovels were municipal, provincial and federal government officials; supporters of the new centre; the family of Ernest Manson, who donated the two acres of land; Rabbi Baruch Taub, of nearby Beth Avraham Yoseph Congregation; Rabbi Yitzchok Kerzner of Toronto's Clanton Park Synagogue; and at the end, anyone else who wanted a turn.

Rabbi Mendel Kaplan, spiritual leader of the Manson Centre, said that the new facility will "join Lubavitch centres spanning the globe," as well as more than 10 centres in the Greater Toronto Area.

Rabbi Kaplan said that he hopes that construction will begin this summer on the over 20,000 sq. ft. two-story centre, which will have a large synagogue, a chapel, kitchen, gym/social hall, pre-school, offices, lecture halls and a mikvah.

"While we will be concentrating on programs for youth, we want to serve the entire community, older people too," he said.

Some classes have already begun in peoples' homes he said, and plans are underway to begin a regular minyan. High Holy Day services will be held at Rosedale Heights Elementary School.

The Manson Centre is part of a world-wide campaign to bring Yiddishkeit to every Jew, Rabbi Zalman Grossbaum, executive vice-president of Chabad Lubavitch of Southern Ontario, told the crowd of over 100.

Greetings were brought by Moshe Ronen, president of Canadian Jewish Congress; Elinor Caplan, MP for York North, the riding in which the new centre is located; Lorna Jackson, mayor of Vaughan; and Susan Kadis, local councillor. Also on the dais were Monte Kwinter, MPP from Wilson Hts.; and Senator Jerry Grafstein.

TORAH DONATED TO CHABAD

While the sod was turned for the Chabad centre in Vaughan, Chabad Lubavitch of Markham was dedicating a new sefer Torah. Onlookers watch as Rabbi Shmuel Zirkind, a sofer, inscribed the final letters of the Torah, donated to the congregation by the Demone family. [Ron Csillag photo]

We acknowledge with gratitude the warmth, kindness and generosity of our friends and relatives on the passing of our dearly beloved and sorely missed

JOAN LEAH BLIDNER ז"ל

The Borchiver Blidner Family

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O Canada

Yesterday was Canada Day. The country entered its 132nd year as a free, democratic country. It is not a perfect place, by any means. Nor will it be until all its children have adequate shelter, nourishment, educational opportunity and health care; or until there are no longer any individuals seeking warmth above an airflow grate on the streets during the ice-cold nights of winter; or until the very last, racist smear has passed the lips of the intolerant and the bigoted.

But it's more perfect than most places on earth, although most Canadians do not usually talk about it. We seem to be satisfied merely to "feel" it with personal, but unarticulated satisfaction. Occasionally, when travelling in other parts of the world, we may even allow ourselves to think it, but seldom out loud, and generally not in mixed, that is with non-Canadian, company.

But people outside the country like to talk about this nearly perfect place and frequently do, especially for example, at the United Nations, where year after year, Canada is esteemed to have one of the highest qualities of life anywhere on the globe. Indeed, a walk through any of the large cities in this country offers palpable, visible proof that more and more people are arriving at Canada's shores elated at the chance to join the exhilarating national enterprise we call nation-building even as, in some cases, they must struggle to build new lives for themselves and their families.

Canada pulsates with endless social, educational, cultural, medical, scientific and economic possibilities. But to realize those possibilities, to make them more than far-off, chimeral mirages for Canadians, we must constantly recommit to our ennobling democratic values. We must constantly recommit to the great founding belief, the distinguishing moral conviction of this country that government very definitely has a vital and appropriate role to play in trying to better the lives of its citizens.

We must also constantly recommit to the battle to preserve it.

Canada's 132nd year promises to be very stressful. The unity of the country is not assured. More accurately, it is at a precarious crossroad. There may be an election in Quebec this year. There may also be a referendum. There will certainly be a judgment rendered by the Supreme Court on the question of whether Quebec has the right to unilaterally secede from Canada, whether, that is, Quebec has the right to unilaterally destroy Canada.

When the judges speak on that matter, separatist passions will flow like a raging river after the springtime thaw.

"Canada" is a Huron Iroquois word meaning village or settlement. What is a settlement, if not a place where people choose to live together, a place where people unite for the common good, protecting one another, taking responsibility one for the other, a place of security, of acceptance and of belonging? Those of us who believe in Canada's possibilities and in the possibility of Canada as an ideal settlement, will be called upon to speak out and act on its behalf.

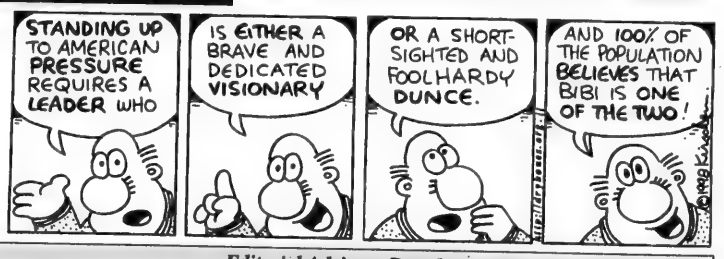
We might all follow the example of Rabbi Reuven Bulka in Ottawa. He has written a prayer for Canada that is regularly recited in his congregation, Machzikei Hadas. It is brief, compact and very much to the point. We believe deeply in the possibility of Canada. We therefore urge other congregations to incorporate Rabbi Bulka's prayer for Canada into their services.

"May God, Who has blessed our patriarchs and matriarchs, bestow blessing upon the governor-general, the prime minister, and the government of Canada; grant them wisdom and courage in these challenging times; bless them with the wisdom to properly guide our beloved country; imbue them with courage in their efforts to strengthen Canada. And may we all together continue to experience Canada resolute in its togetherness and cooperative in its diversity." *Amen.*

There could be no worthier, more meaningful celebration of Canada Day as we head into the 132nd year.

WISDOM OF THE AGES
"It is no simple matter to know how to be happy."
Chetzroni

Dry Bones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Jewish vital records of Poland on internet

Ze'ev Glicenstein (Roots & Remembrances, *CJN*, June 11) refers to the microfilms of the Jewish vital records of Konin, Poland, which are available from the Mormon Family History Centres. The index listings to over 1,100 of these very same Konin records – from 1866 to 1873 – are available to anyone with Internet access. They can be searched at the Jewish Records Indexing (JRI)-Poland site at [http://www. jewishgen.org/jri-p].

The JRI-Poland database now contains index listings to more than 300,000 vital records from over 90 cities and shtetls of Poland. More records are added every month.

The goal of JRI-Poland is to create a searchable database to the indices of all available Jewish vital records from current and former territories of Poland. The indexing is done by volunteers with an interest in individual towns. They join together in "Shtetl Co-ops" under a leader responsible for coordinating their efforts.

JRI-Poland was launched in 1995 and is already the largest database of Jewish vital records accessible through the Internet.

Stanley M. Diamond
Montreal
Director, Jewish Records Indexing-Poland

Need for street protests on education

Mazel tov to the UJA Planners of this year's walkathon. Funds for our denominational schools and other causes were raised through a pleasurable parade along an interesting route, culminating at beautiful Ontario Place. I was also delighted to see so many of my "frum" friends participating.

Perhaps the same skilled UJA planners could also organize a series of similar parades but more like '60s-style, American, grassroots, civil rights protests. If successful, and all things being equal, ultimately we will have more funds for our communities' other needy causes. If only we can draw attention to our governments' unfair discrimination against equal funding for our (and others') denominational schools.

A key lesson of the 50th anniversary celebrations is that at the very least, vigorous civil rights protesting is more effective than foolishly dancing before the King.

A. Bruce Gilboord
Toronto

Sees hypocrisy in Palestinian stand

Until about 50 years ago, there were about 750,000 Jews living in Arab nations. At the present time, these 20-odd nations are virtually "Judenrein!" No western nation condemned these Arab nations for carrying out "ethnic cleansing" or practising "racism."

Currently, the Palestinian Authority (PA) has stated that when Israel turns over additional land to PA control, then all inhabitants of Jewish settlements will have to leave, as Jews cannot live in areas under their control. Again the western nations *remain silent*!

Palestinian leaders are accusing Israel of "racism" because it is planning to maintain the present relationship between the two major population groups presently living in Jerusalem.

What utter hypocrisy! And what is even worse is that the western nations will probably support their victims! Shame on the leaders of these nations!

A. Noodelman
Montreal

Editor's note: Our information is that the status of the Jewish settlements within the territory controlled by the PA remains a subject for negotiations.

Eating disorders have Jewish connection

I would like to thank you very much for your publication of the article concerning Esther Kane and her thesis on the Jewish connection to eating disorders. (*CJN*, June 11).

The constant familial emphasis on appearance and food are just two examples of the elements that intensify the problem within our culture. However, there is very little, if any, public acknowledgement within the community of this devastating state of affairs. Hopefully, with articles such as this, the walls around this subject can be broken and recovery can begin for many.

J. Weinberger
Sheena's Place Volunteer
Toronto

Press coverage of 50th anniversary a mixed blessing

In his column, *CJN* editor Mordechai Ben-Dat has written effusively of the western world's extraordinary coverage of Israel's 50th anniversary. Indeed this has been no different throughout the country's 50 years. Yet there is an opposing view in Judaism that Israel should maintain a low profile among the nations of the world. Jews have known throughout our history that when non-Jews focus too much on ourselves, it only instigates hatred and jealousy, especially today in the Arab and Islamic worlds.

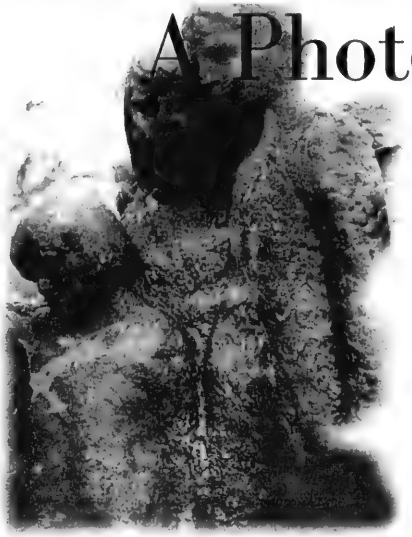
Whatever happened to our historical culture of privacy and secrecy? Consider the very first act of Moses, the greatest prophet among the Jews, in the Book of Exodus. When Moses saw an Egyptian smiting a Jew, as prudent conduct, he looked all around him before killing the Egyptian.

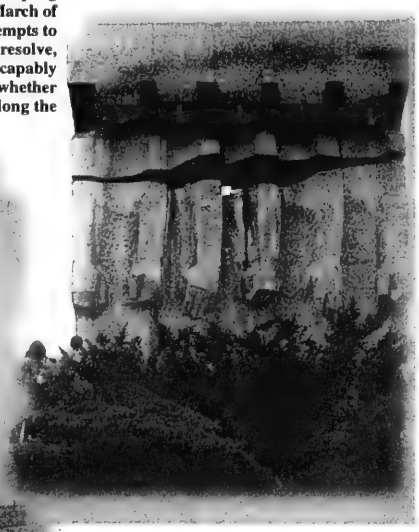
Jacob Mendlovic
Toronto

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures. Letters sent by E-Mail must also include the sender's municipal address.

A Photographer's March

These photographs by Rosemary Goldhar are a mere sampling of the hundreds that she took recently while on the March of the Living in Poland and in Israel. This montage attempts to convey the range of emotions - sadness, disbelief, resolve, determination and celebration - that the March inescapably evokes in the participants. Some of the monuments, whether hewn from rock or inscribed on paper and wood, along the marchers' way, can be seen as well.





To the six million whose
names I do not know and
whose unmarked graves I
silently mourn, this plague
is for you. Your strength
and courage exists in the
face of the abolith nation. Your
deaths strengthen my
heart and resolve in this
quest for freedom.
To the six million un-
known graves I donot know and
whose unmarked graves I
silently mourn I promise.
never to forget your
lives or your deaths.

Opinions

Cast me not away

"Al tashlicheini b'et ziknah," "Cast me not away when I become old." It is a poignant cry, some thousands of years old. Obviously the temptation to discard the elderly has a long and infamous history. It is not confined to the late 20th century in North America.

By Jean M. Gerber in Vancouver

Last weekend, our synagogue celebrated seniors' Shabbat. The audience was a miniature of Jewish life through 80-plus years of Canadian Jewry. We often look with anxiety around the congregation, worried that not enough young couples with small children are joining the shul and bringing the next generation to our family of congregants. How rarely do we think about the strength we have in our senior members.

The speaker was a well-known and respected physician – a pioneer woman doctor who came here from the east when, as she said, her family wept because they would never see her again once she left Montreal. Added to that, they feared that once she crossed the Rockies she risked Indian attacks. Her stories were of early Jewish Victoria and Vancouver.

Two dozen Jewish families kept the Victoria synagogue going in the "dirty '30s" when she arrived, she said. The shul leaked and was freezing. Vancouver, where they found many more Jews and after World War II a community that doubled quickly, seemed like a better bet than Victoria to the young medical couple.

According to the speaker, many servicemen, having tasted West Coast living (and this was before Starbucks and sushi), returned with their families to make Vancouver flourish.

At one point, she reminisced, people broke off from our Vancouver congregation because we were too religious, and they formed their own congregation. Then people broke off to form their own shul because we were not religious enough! But this made us stronger, and it's good to have more than one opinion, she said.

She did not speak at all about the difficulties of being a woman doctor and a Jew, in days when discrimination against both was rife in the Canadian medical community. She spoke about the joys of community and the strong leaders who built it. It was a wonderful celebration of lives well-lived.

Without naming names, let me share some of the other stories contained in that room – and these are only the stories I know. Many more, I am sure, could be told.

One woman was in the Canadian Armed Forces during World War II. She spent many years as a volunteer for the Red Cross.

Survivors of that war in the audience who came to Vancouver added their strength to the community. Some survived Siberia, others the camps. Among them were many who have told their stories to high school students at the Holocaust symposia, and at least one who led in creating sponsorship groups for the Vietnamese boat people.

Absent from the congregation was a man whom many remembered, Rabbi Pastinsky, the first rabbi to live permanently in Vancouver and make it his own special place. Available any time of the day or night for his Jews, he opened his doors to anyone who needed him. He is gone, but one of his bar mitzvah students was there to remember him.

In one of Tony Hillerman's detective stories set among the Navajo in the American southwest, his policeman Jim Chee encounters a retirement home. He is mystified by the white men's practice of putting their elders in homes away from family and community. In his tradition, elders are respected leaders and when frail, they become the responsibility of their children.

For various reasons, we too have built retirement villages, indeed whole cities, where elders live apart from the rest of the community – golden age ghettos, if you will, for both the well and the infirm.

Maybe we can't go back to our parents' generation, when grandparents lived with their children. In my case, it was the widows who came to live with us until their deaths. Many families will no longer assume this duty.

But we should not abandon the stories of strength and courage of our elders. Canada's aboriginal peoples could teach us something here. Where their culture is strong, they know the value of elders' stories and their memory of the tribe. It was a pleasure to sit in shul and hear stories of the tribe and feel them reverberate with all the other stories in that room.

Near the end of the doctor's talk, my neighbor leaned over to me and whispered, "It's too bad there aren't more young people to hear this." How right she was. Rather than think of elders as having nothing to offer, our children could have laughed, and cried, with the speaker. It is for them that we save our stories and hope someday they will be heard.

Love and hate, side by side

Jews love Jews, and at the same time they also hate them.

This is one of the themes that Rabbi Adin Steinsaltz propounds in a memorable address given not long ago in Jerusalem. The rabbi is one of the leading talmudic scholars of our century. His commentaries and translations of the Talmud have won him worldwide recognition. Once a year, many of his supporters gather in Jerusalem to honor him for his achievements and on these occasions, he has given memorable addresses. His most recent one was no exception.

By Rabbi Gunther Plaut in Toronto

Here are some quotations that we might well take into consideration:

"In the past few years, a relatively new phenomenon has arisen: the legitimacy of hatred. Mutual hatred among Jews is no longer a thing that one is ashamed to express publicly. On the contrary, it has almost become a fashionable attitude. This hatred cuts through all sectors."

Rabbi Steinsaltz cites examples of Jews stereotyping other Jews. If you want to insult someone, call him "leftist," "Reform," "haredi," "settler," and you have expressed your fundamental hatred. He then goes on to characterize such feelings that, he fears, will lead to a permanent kind of internal separation, where people do not even live together but are separate from one another and know each other only from a distance.

"From time to time, declarations (both sincere and insincere) are made about the need for unity. Life and emotion, too, create aspects of closeness and togetherness. The wars, and the hostility that surrounds us, create a ring of blood and fire that welds us together and becomes more tangible in times of calamity. And, despite all the differences, people still go through certain things together, speak to each other, do business with each other, and even marry each other.

"But along with all of that, hostility and hatred keep growing, and above all, there is alienation. There is an increasing tendency to move into separate cities or isolated neighborhoods and create ghettos: a haredi ghetto, a national-religious ghetto, a Sephardi ghetto, a Russian ghetto, a secular ghetto, a socialist ghetto. And in each one of these ghettos, people live together, support each other, reinforcing their faith and their lifestyles, and creating reservoirs of ferment and estrangement from, and hatred towards, everybody else."

Are scholars exempt? Rabbi Steinsaltz does not think so: "Those who rely upon books and writers seek and find (and sometimes even invent) proof and evidence on why it is right to believe like this, and why the hostility, the hatred, the split, are justified."

This is a dreary recitation of ills, but the rabbi is not altogether disheartened. He believes that deep down, in addition to Divine love for us as a people, there is also Jewish love for other Jews.

I fear what the rabbi fears, but I also hope with him that each one of us in his or her own community can do something about this, as a member of the community as well as an individual, and do so by deeds and not merely by pious acclamation.

We must recognize courts' role in democracy

Recently, I participated in a conference entitled Litigating the Values of a Nation, organized by the Canada-Israel Legal Cooperation Programme (CILCP) – a consortium of three Canadian law schools, Mc Gill University, University of Alberta and the University of Toronto, working in partnership with Israeli universities. This symposium, held at Tel Aviv University, brought together judges, academics and lawyers from Canada and Israel to exchange ideas on constitutional theory, law and politics.

By Bruce Elman in Edmonton

Justice Aharon Barak, president of the Israel Supreme Court is always an active participant at the CILCP colloquia. This year's meeting was no exception, as Barak delivered two interesting and provocative papers. However, one thing was different this year, and for those of us who love the wonderful informality of the Israeli judiciary, it was most disturbing: Barak is now accompanied by a bodyguard whenever he is in public, and his apartment is guarded by a soldier.

Unlike, perhaps, other Israeli leaders, the concern is not that Barak will be the object of an attack by Arab extremists or foreign agents. The worry is that he may be attacked by other Jewish Israelis who disagree with his judicial decisions. Virtually every week, the Court, or Barak personally, is verbally attacked in the Knesset, in the media and in the public discourse generally. Seemingly, the Court, and particularly Barak, are being vilified for doing exactly what judges are supposed to do: namely interpret the laws of the land in an objective and independent way.

What set off these attacks on the Court and Barak? Their origin lies in the two new Basic Laws on Freedom of Occupation and Human Dignity and Freedom passed by the Knesset in 1992. Israel does not have a constitution, even though the Declaration of Independence indicates that a constitution was to be a high priority for the new nation. Instead, a set of Basic Laws have been produced to cover most of the important institutions of government. The two new Basic Laws were the first to deal with individual rights. These laws have been amended and re-enacted. The model for these Basic Laws was, apparently, the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

The Israel Supreme Court, led by Barak, view it as the role and responsibility of the Court to protect basic human rights and freedoms by breathing life into the skeletal provisions of the Basic Laws. The Court has, admittedly, been very active and forceful about it. This has infuriated some Israelis – particularly politicians – who believe that the appointed members of the Court have no business overturning decisions of the elected members of the Knesset. Does this have a familiar ring?

It sounds very much like the rhetoric which followed the Supreme Court of Canada's decision in the Vriend case. In that decision, authored by Justice Frank Iacobucci, the Supreme Court of Canada ordered the Alberta government to include "sexual orientation" as a prohibited ground of discrimination under the Alberta human rights provisions. The vitriolic nature of the rhetoric that followed the decision was so alarming that even Alberta Premier Ralph Klein expressed some concern about it.

It is, I believe, fair to say that much of the criticism has come from individuals who simply do not like specific decisions of the Court. Instead of openly debating the merits of the case, however, these critics seek to undermine the stature and credibility of the Court by attacking the legitimacy of the Courts' decision-making power.

Nonetheless, the Canadian Charter of Rights and the Israeli Basic Laws were democratically and legally adopted and now represent the supreme law of their respective countries. The Parliament of Canada and the legislatures of the provinces and the Knesset are no longer supreme; the Charter and the Basic Laws limit their authority and power. It should be remembered that this decision to make the "Constitution" the supreme law of the land was the decision of politicians democratically chosen by the people. Furthermore, the legislatures in both Israel and Canada have a "notwithstanding clause" which can immunize government legislation against judicial review.

But this is what it means to have a constitutional democracy. The Constitution is supreme and it is the role of the judiciary to ensure that it remains so. This is exactly what both the Israel Supreme Court and the Supreme Court of Canada are doing. They should not be criticized for fulfilling their proper role in a democratic state.

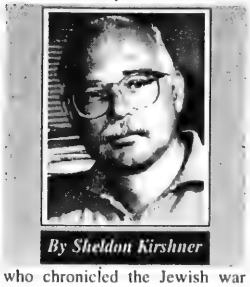
Bruce Elman is Belzberg Professor of Constitutional Law and chair of the Centre for Constitutional Studies at the Faculty of Law, University of Alberta. His column will appear monthly.

The Kirshner File

One of the wonders of the world

The Dead Sea has fascinated human beings since time immemorial.

Flavius Josephus, the historian



By Sheldon Kirshner

who chronicled the Jewish war against the Romans, was amazed by its changing colors. "...thrice daily it alters its appearance and reflects the sun's rays with varying tints," he rhapsodized.

Strabo, the Roman geographer, was intrigued by its buoyancy, and noted: "The water is exceedingly heavy, so that no person can dive into it."

Mark Twain, the American novelist, sighted the lake through the perpetual haze and wrote: "Here we feel the oppressive atmosphere of this desolate region."

Lying east of Jerusalem, in a rift which forms the lowest place on earth, the Dead Sea has become the stuff of legend, its image etched into the consciousness of history by the biblical story of Sodom and Gemorrah.

Much maligned and often misunderstood by early visitors, the Dead Sea has drawn a diverse body of travellers. They have been motivated by religious fervor, simple curiosity and scientific interest.

Known as the Salt Sea (*Yam Ha-Melach)* in Hebrew and the Stinking Lake in Arabic, the Dead Sea is a lifeless expanse of water, one third solid and 10 times more saline than the Mediterranean. In terms of mineral content, it is unique, being composed largely of magnesium chloride, sodium chloride, calcium chloride, potassium chloride and magnesium bromide, all of which give off a peculiar, heady odor.

Not surprisingly, the Dead Sea has been the subject of numerous books and essays, but one of the best of the lot is Barbara's Kreiger's excellently-researched and literate account, *The Dead Sea: Myth, History, and Politics* (University Press of New England). Originally published two decades ago, it has now been reissued in a paperback edition burnished by quaint woodcuts and utilitarian black-and-white photographs.

The book is weighed heavily in favor of the 19th century explorers who, at the risk to their lives, painstakingly surveyed the lake, which was jealously guarded by fierce Bedouin tribes. From there, Kreiger goes on to discuss its economic usefulness, its connection with agriculture, its receding nature and its association with tourism.

As she tells it, the first European explorer to travel completely around the Dead Sea in the last century (1806) was the German naturalist Ulrich Jasper Seetzen. He was soon followed by John Lewis Burckhardt, who rediscovered the ancient Nabatean city of Petra in what is now Jordan.

In 1835, Christopher Costigan was the first modern traveller to sail on the lake, and his tale of hardship came to epitomize its mythological qualities.

By Kreiger's reckoning, the most ambitious and famous expedition was mounted by William Francis Lynch, an American army officer, in 1848. Lynch, in his journal, recounted the arduous journey down the treacherous rapids of the Jordan River. He observed its rich bird life and expressed amazement at the tiger tracks he had stumbled upon. Beholding the lake, he described it as a "huge cauldron, its surface shrouded by a lead colored mist."

Lynch and his party explored the lake for three weeks, dredging up samplings from its floor and compiling details of its topography, winds and currents and atmospheric conditions. His findings were the basis for much of the research done on the Dead Sea well into the 20th century.

Indeed, more than a century would elapse before the Dead Sea was subjected to what would be the most exhaustive and systematic study of its physical, chemical and geological aspects. This survey was conducted by an American/Israeli team in 1959, when the Dead Sea's western shore was still shared by Israel and Jordan.

By the mid-19th century, as information about it reached a wider reading public, there was a corresponding interest in the botany, zoology and geology of the mountainous terrain around the lake. Surprised at how little had been written about the wildlife of Palestine, the Englishman Henry Baker Tristram embarked on a tour that would result in the publication of his landmark work, *The Land of Israel.*

During the course of his travels, he visited Ein Gedi, which was and would remain one of the allures of the Dead Sea, and Masada, the desert redoubt where Jewish zealots held a Roman army at bay.

Potash, of course, has long been one of the valuable minerals extracted from the lake, and Kreiger credits a Russian Jewish mining engineer, Mikhail (Moshe) Novomeysky, with being instrumental in exploiting its potential.

He opened two plants, but lost the first at Qalya to the Arab Legion during the 1948 Arab-Israeli war, and the second at the foot of Mt. Sedom to a nationalization decree issued by Israel in 1952. The latter, renamed the Dead Sea Works, nearly folded. But by the 1980s, the plant was producing about two million tons of potash per year, trailing behind Canada, the Soviet Union, East Germany and the United States in output.

As Kreiger points out, the attraction of the Dead Sea valley transcended mining. In 1938, the first farming settlement, Beit Ha-Aravah, was established on its shores. It was a stunning success. Within two years, the kibbutzniks were growing much-prized winter tomatoes and cultivating fishponds. Beit Ha-Aravah, however, was evacuated during the War of Independence. Nineteen years would pass before the ruins of the kibbutz fell into Israel's hands again.

Tourism is a major factor of the Dead Sea's economy today. The therapeutic qualities of the mineral springs and of the lake itself are well documented. Since Israel's 1994 peace treaty with Jordan, there has been a hotel building boom on both sides of the lake, notably at Ein Bokek, Ein Gedi, Suweimeh and Zarah.

In 1980, the Israeli government announced grandiose plans to build a canal from the Mediterranean to the Dead Sea to harness hydroelectric energy. The project was shelved six years later, a casualty of financial considerations.

Israeli conservation programs have restored the leopard and the ibex to their natural habitat in the craggy landscapes of the Dead Sea. And while I have never spotted an elusive leopard during my ramblings, I have been fortunate enough to have seen the graceful ibex.

Kreiger reports that, in the last half century, the surface of the Dead Sea has receded by one-third, leaving the Dead Sea Works stranded at the far end of a muddy, salt-encrusted plain. But, citing scientific data, she is sanguine about its future, certain it will not disappear. Let us hope that the Dead Sea will never vanish. It truly is one of the wonders of the world.

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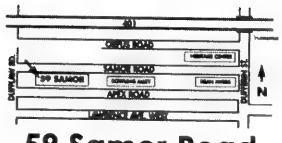

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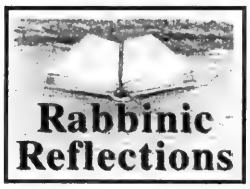

Transmitting our values

By RABBI ELIE KARFUNKEL

I am convinced that Jewish teenagers today have more obstacles to overcome to maintain their Jewish identity than ever before. The social pressures around tobacco, drugs and immoral behavior are too constant and intense for many of our children. What might have been discussed with an 18-year-old not more than 20 years ago, now has to be discussed with 12- and 13-year-olds.

Add to this the fact that many adults have failed to provide guidance and behave as proper role models. A teenager once reasoned with me that he was no worse than the president of the United States. The president has committed the three cardinal sins of the '90s. He smokes a cigar and doesn't deny it. He admits to have smoked pot (but claims he didn't inhale), and he admitted to being unfaithful (at least one time with Gennifer Flowers). "And he's the president of the United States!" argued the teen. "All I want to do is be a lawyer!"

Unfortunately, the problem goes deeper. The value system of the secular world is deteriorating. No one can argue this point. However, we as Jews are expected to insulate ourselves from the moral decay of the world and be a light unto the nations. How many of us fall into the trap of the immoral ways of our society and often forgo the truly meaningful things in life to which we should aspire?

Aside from taking care that we act properly as Jews, we have the added responsibility of transmitting our values to the next generation. This is quite a daunting task, considering the environment in which we are raising our children today. The week's parshah, Chukat, offers a meaningful insight underlining the importance of passing down our beliefs to future generations.

'Innermost garments'

Moses is told by God (20; 19) to take the garments of the high priest, Aaron, and place them on Eliezer, Aaron's son, who would succeed him. The rabbis tell us that Eliezer put the clothing on in the order that Aaron removed them. This poses a problem. If Eliezer placed the garments on himself as his father took them off, he would be putting the outer garments on first and the inner garments on the outside, instead of wearing them in their proper order.

The Ramban (Nachmonides) explains that a miracle took place, and God put the clothing in the right order. This was to ensure that the clothing closest to Aaron's heart, symbolic of the values he held most dear, would also be closest to the heart of Eliezer, thereby transmitting the ideals of father to son.

We must accept the responsibility of transmitting the traditions and laws of Judaism to our children. Beautiful Jewish celebrations, Shabbat meals and attending services in the synagogue are vital to our religion, yet they are just the externals. They must be coupled with Torah and mitzvot, humility and reverence. How much more meaningful a Shabbat meal would be if the conversation shifted from Roger Clements to the weekly parshah. A bar mitzvah would be more significant if both father and son put tfillin on the next morning. Suddenly our teens would have an alternative to the secular culture that surrounds them.

By raising our level of commitment, we will be able to successfully transmit our "innermost garments" to our children, who will hopefully accept them and place them close to their hearts. In this way both generations will fulfil the eternal message of what it means to be b'nai Aharon (sons of Aaron.)

Rabbi Karfunkel is the spiritual leader of Beth Zion Congregation in Oshawa, Ont.

Israeli soccer on the web

By MARK MIETKIEWICZ

It has the power to divide families in Jerusalem. To test the very strictest of allegiances in Tel Aviv. And to stir up deep rivalries in Haifa. What is it? Soccer, of course.

Right now, the planet is focussed on France as 32 teams vie for the World Cup. Unfortunately, none of those teams is from Israel. So in order to give Israeli soccer its place in the sun, here are some links to Israel's national obsession.

Israel's National Soccer Team maintains quite an elaborate home page **[http://www.geocities.com/Colosseum/Field/9719/frame_e.htm]**. The team has a long history. The first international game took place on March 16, 1934, in Cairo, when Palestine lost to Egypt 1-7. The team's best achievement was when it competed in the World Cup in Mexico in 1970. It managed to tie Sweden 1-1, scoring Israel's only goal in a World Cup tournament.

Although it may not be an international powerhouse, the Israeli national team can still pack a few surprises. Just this year, Israel scored a stunning victory against the very strong Argentinian team **[http://www.jpost.com/com/Archive/16.Apr.1998/Sports/Article-0.html]**.

What about the team's future? You can read up on Israel's chances as it prepares to compete at the European Championship in 2000 **[http://www.geocities.com/TelevisionCity/7460/nivheret.htm]**.

Judging from the number of Web sites, there is no shortage of fans for Israel's domestic soccer teams. You can visit the 1997-98 League Champions Beitar Jerusalem **[http://www.beitar-jerusalem.org.il/]**, Maccabi Haifa **[http://www.football.co.il/]** and Maccabi Petach Tikvah **[http://www.geocities.com/Colosseum/Field/1194/mpt.htm]** to find photos, stories and stats about your favorite team. You can even find video clips at the Hapoel Haifa site **[http://www.hapoel-haifa.org.il/]**.

There are dozens more Israeli football sites at Maven **[http://www.maven.co.il/subjects/idx293.htm]**, Israeli Football Links **[http://members.tripod.com/~macfa/links.htm]**, and don't miss the best all-around site: Michael Medved's Soccer Services **[http://www.geocities.com/Colosseum/5948/menu.htm]** which has an overview of the history of the game in Israel and a detailed look at its present.

How has your favorite team done against its old rival? You can check the game history between any two teams at the League Status Page **[http://ss.cc.tut.fi/rec/riku/soccer_html/status/status.isr0.html]**.

And if you really think you know your Israeli soccer, then you can try your hand at the interactive Beitar Jerusalem Soccer Crossword Puzzle **[http://members.aol.com/beitarjm/cross/cross.html]**. Number 5 Across: Beitar's symbol is a six-letter word that begins with an "m" and ends with an "a." (Hint: you can see a huge one of these sitting outside the Knesset.)

Although Israel's national soccer team has had its share of bumps on the road to international success, help may be on the way. For the first time, two women's teams have made their debut in Israel with more teams planned **[http://www.jpost.co.il/com/Archive/23.Jan.1998/Sports/Article-1.html]**.

World Cup 2002, here we come!

* * *

Mark Mietkiewicz is a television producer in Toronto with an interest in the Internet. He can be reached at [mdm@inforamp.net].

Midrashic Moments

Punishment to fit the crime

By RACHEL TURKIENICZ

Included in this month's Torah portions is the chapter on Korach and his challenge of Moses' authority. Korach, a Levite, amasses 250 Israelites and confronts Moses, demanding to know why Moses feels he should lead Israel. Since God has selected the entire tribe of Levi, Korach believes he is a better leader. Moses' response is one of shock, as we are told he 'falls upon his face.'

Certainly for a man of Moses' humility, having to publicly defend himself and speak of his uniqueness would mortify him. The matter is resolved when God publicly selects both Moses and Aaron and punishes Korach and his followers.

The punishment is creatively appropriate to the crime. Korach challenges Moses through the spoken word and likewise speaks sufficiently ill of Moses to attract 250 followers. Korach uses his mouth to rebel against Moses and stands his ground. Therefore, God makes the ground open its mouth and swallow Korach into the depths of the earth. It is a beautiful display of measure for measure, yet the story raises serious questions.

Korach, for his own reasons, believes he is the rightful leader of Israel. Why is he punished for challenging Moses? Are we to believe that ambition is sinful? Is the Torah teaching that one must never question a leader or strive to replace an established authority? If this is the case, how do we reconcile our lengthy history of innovation and change through different leaders?

Some of our greatest Torah commentators, leaders in interpretation, disagree vehemently with each other over substantive Judaic points. Are these commentators wrong for expressing their opinions – have they sinned with their mouths? To understand the defining aspect of the Korach dispute, it is necessary to view a well-documented period recorded in the Talmud.

The Talmud chronicles lengthy disputes between two schools of thought: the House of Hillel and the House of Shammai. Each school of thought had a different approach to Jewish law and consequently different rulings governing behavior. Most often matters were decided according to the House of Hillel, yet the Talmud maintains that this does not negate the teachings of the House of Shammai. If both schools of thought are correct, however, why is the ruling following only the House of Hillel?

According to the Talmud, the House of Hillel merits this credit since they would always teach the interpretations of Shammai along with their own interpretations. Not only were the other interpretations taught, but the opinions of Shammai were presented first before those of their own school of thought. This consideration for the other interpretation signified the House of Hillel as the leader of its time.

The two scenarios of Korach and Hillel are significant. Korach challenged the authority through subversive means and the result could only be destructive. Hillel's followers respected the opposing opinion and used the opportunity of disagreement to enrich learning, and the results were truly rewarding.

Guest Voices

Incident on subway prompts concern, anger

By SIDURA LUDWIG

Today I had a scary subway experience. A man and two young boys came and sat down around me, the man beside me, the boys in front. The boys, probably brothers, were about four and six years old; they had blond hair, blue eyes, small teeth and baseball caps.

They giggled and squirmed in their seats and the man talked tough to them. And the boys imitated him, trying out his words.

"I'm going to kick your butt," the 4-year-old said, rocking in his seat, his feet dangling above the floor.

"You think so?" the man asked. "You think you're tough?"

The 4-year-old liked his new words, liked pretending his voice was deep, gruff, like thick gravel.

"Yeah," he said. "I'm going to kick your butt." His voice deceived him and he giggled again, his brother joining in.

Then the 4-year-old straightened his leg, and pointed his shoe, slowly, towards the man. It was hardly a kick, just a 4-year-old's leg in mid air, out straight, not long enough to touch the floor. The man grabbed his ankle and twisted it in his grip, so hard that the soft skin wrinkled beneath his fingers.

The boy winced, and the man said, "Yeah, that hurts, doesn't it? Don't let me see your foot again. Understand?"

I sat there with my mouth half open, my words at the edge of my teeth ready to march out of my mouth and unpeel his fingers from the ankle. The muscles in his hand tensed, and I thought about how easy it is for bones to crack. I sat there, my mouth half open, afraid that my words might make him grab my ankle instead, and I held back the words.

The man let go, and the boys squirmed some more and giggled some more. Then the 4-year-old reached for his brother's hat. The man leaped up and grabbed the boy's wrist, twisting it the same way, the boy pleading, "It hurts."

"Yeah, it hurts. You're making it hurt. You're twisting away. It's your own fault."

"Let go," I said quietly, but the man didn't turn his head. I have a quiet calm voice when I'm angry. And scared.

"Let go," I said again. "He understands. It's all right."

The man turned to me.

"Lady, you don't know. You don't have kids. You think he understands? He won't listen unless I grab him. That's how I was raised. I have permission from his mother. This is the only way he'll listen.

He still held on to the wrist, his muscles clamped tight enough to leave bruises.

"I'm just telling you to be careful," I said, looking at the boy, not the man. I have a cousin with eyes like that boy's – wide, jumping eyes that dance when he's excited and freeze when he's scared.

"I'm not doing anything," the man continued. "This is the only way they'll listen. You don't know what these kids are like, so don't go telling me what to do, because you don't know."

I think he let go of the wrist. I'm pretty sure that when my stop was next, he had let go. But when I left, he was telling the boys, "When we get you to school we're going to tell the teacher just how bad you were behaving on the subway. And we're going to call your mother. I'm tired of this, I'm tired of dealing with this all the time."

The incident raises a number of issues. It is an issue of child protection; those children are in the care of an abusive man. It is an issue of women's safety; I couldn't tear his hand away because I was afraid he would hurt me. It is an issue of responsibility; we are supposed to be concerned with bettering the world, yet no one else on the subway spoke up against the man.

It isn't right that all I felt I could do was tell him to stop, and even then, I hesitated. It isn't right that I left the subway and those boys are still going to be subjected to that man's abuse, that they remain left in his "care." It isn't right that while we shake our heads, criticizing other people's actions, we can't bring ourselves to do anything more than shake our heads.

I'm writing this article in the hope that my written words are louder than my voice in anger. I'm writing hoping that others will feel not fear, but rage, and that their rage will propel them to do more than shake their heads, maybe reach for that man's grip. I hope that their rage will give them the strength to unfold that man's fingers from the boy's wrist, one hand soothing the boy's bruises, the other holding back the man's hand.

[Cont'd. on page 14]

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On Campus

Student impressed with Brandeis' Jewish focus

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Eliane Shore didn't want to like Brandeis University too much when she visited the Waltham, Mass., campus earlier this year. Considering its high tuition relative to Canadian universities, the Northern Secondary School student was wary of setting her heart on the school.

Intentions notwithstanding, she was very taken with the smaller (3,800-student) campus, where a chance cafeteria meeting led to an invitation to audit biochemistry and Italian classes.

Shore has been accepted at Brandeis, and is receiving the Phyllis and Moses Deitcher scholarship, a fund established there to assist Canadian students who have a strong academic background and an interest in the Jewish community.

Although Shore, 19, hopes to study medicine eventually, the Jewish focus at Brandeis – which has a respected science program but no medical school – was also important to her.

Brandeis is the only Jewish-sponsored, non-sectarian university in this hemisphere.

"My heritage is part of my everyday life," wrote Shore in her scholarship application. An alumna of secular private schools, Shore has been chanting Torah at Holy Blossom Temple on the High Holy Days for six years and teaches Grade 5 religious school on Sunday mornings. Last summer she was on a summer program in Israel, where she visited relatives of her father, Earl Shore.

Eliane credits her love of Judaism to Bracha Zalowicz, a teacher and Holocaust survivor who tutored her privately after she left Hebrew day school in Grade 2. "She was such a good storyteller that when she told me the Bible stories, I soaked it all up."

In Grade 5, Shore won first prize in the National Bible Contest as part of Holy Blossom Temple's Bible Contest team.

But it wasn't until two years later that she experienced her most defining moment as a Jew, as she wrote in her scholarship application.

When Shore asked her Grade 7 religion teacher for an alternate assignment because she felt uncomfortable studying the New Testament while preparing for her bat mitzvah, the teacher told her that if she was Jewish, she should go to a Jewish school.

Confused and shocked, Shore felt a religion teacher, of all people, should be more understanding. "How could she say something as racist as all Jews belong in one place?" she wondered.

Eliane Shore

"I realized how important it was for me to maintain my Jewish identity at all costs. This experience reinforced the message of my bat mitzvah Torah portion, the importance of teaching children the stories, lessons and history of the Jewish people."

The incident taught Shore an important lesson, said her mother Lesley. She stressed that the teacher's attitude did not reflect that of the school, which handled the situation "really well." The following year, Eliane received the school's religious education prize.

This summer, Shore will work in the same University of Toronto biochemistry lab where she spent three mornings a week as a co-op student this year, on U of T's mentorship program.

Her love of science is evident when she talks about cellular respiration and how the human body makes energy. "It's so interesting to think about all the hundreds and thousands of different processes going on even while I'm talking. It's so complicated and so interesting. When I totally 'get' it, I get so excited."

CLARIFICATION

Our June 25 story, "Former U of T paper pulled for anti-Jewish article," described an item in the *New Edition* that linked Jews to the pornography industry. The paper's former editor, Will Steeves, and its former distribution manager, Dan Gold, have no connection to the current management of the newspaper. According to the *New Edition*'s masthead, the paper's editor now is Tom Conen and its distribution managers are "Jamie 'B' and bro."

Organizational changes to allow more diversity in Hillel programming

VANCOUVER — B'nai Brith Hillel Foundation has announced the new Jewish Students' Association/Hillel Student Board at the University of British Columbia for the 1998-1999 academic year.

"It's really an exciting time at Hillel," says new student president Nava Mizrahi. "The number of people who wanted to get involved with elections this year was very high, and that is representative of the direction Hillel has taken."

Mizrahi is taking over the presidency from Neri Moss. Moss remains on the student board as social co-chair.

The creation of new board positions and chairs will allow for much more diversity in Hillel programming. The aim is to enable students to get involved with any programs that are relevant to them.

New positions include a social action chair, a graduate and professional students chair, a cultural chair and a community liaison.

There are already 16 students on the student board.

Some highlights for the upcoming year will be a focus on student leadership development and building a strong Jewish community on the UBC campus.

The Vancouver B'nai Brith Hillel Foundation provides services and programming for Jewish university and college-aged students in the Lower Mainland of British Columbia.

For more information, call Gabe Meranda, executive director, at 224-4748

'Subway car was filled, yet I was alone'

[Cont'd. from page 13]

The subway car was filled with people, and yet I was alone, because no one else thought it was their business to speak up. Responsibility is not about leaving the repair up to some one else. It is about each of us doing all we can to ensure that this world is the safest, most beautiful place for us to raise our children.

The man was right. I don't have children of my own. But one day I will, and one day they might come into contact with him. That man might appear again one day, as a teacher, a neighbor, someone's parent, and I can't let myself accept that.

I walked out of the subway car today, but I cannot walk away. Those kids could have been mine, and I cannot accept a world where my children are left defenceless against that man. Those boys could have been mine, and no one else on that subway car got up to help them. Tomorrow, they will get back onto the subway with him, and he will grab at them at home, in the park, on the sidewalk. It's a cycle.

Responsibility is about breaking that cycle. It's about reaching out our hands and releasing the grip.

MINYANIM IN THE GTA
WEEK OF JULY 3-JULY 10/'98

Synagogue	Address & Tel.	Fri. Night	Shabbat	Sun. A.M.	Daily A.M.	Daily P.M.
Adath Israel (C)	37 Southbourne Ave. (416) 635-5340	9:00 PM	9:00 AM	8:00 AM & 9:00 AM	7:00 AM & 7:45 AM	9:00 PM
Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am (C)	55 Yeomans Rd. (416) 633-5500	7:00 PM	9:00 AM	8:30 AM	7:00 AM & 8:00 AM	6:00 PM
Chevra Shas (O)	3545 Bathurst St. (416) 781-7126	7:00 PM	9:15 AM	7:00 AM & 8:00 AM	6:30 AM & 7:30 AM	10 minutes before sunset
Holy Blossom (R)	1950 Bathurst St. (416) 789-3291	6:00 PM	10:30 AM	9:00 AM	----------	6:00 PM
Kehillat Shaarei Torah (O)	2640 Bayview Ave. (416) 229-2600	7:00 PM	9:15 AM	9:00 AM	6:30 AM	----------
Petah Tikva Anshe Castilla (O)	20 Danby Ave. (416) 636-4719	7:00 PM	8:30 AM	8:30 AM	6:45 AM	10-15 minutes before sunset
Shaar Shalom (C)	2 Simonston Blvd. (905) 889-4975	7:00 PM	9:00 AM	9:00 AM	7:00 AM	7:00 PM
Shaarei Shomayim (O)	470 Glencairn Ave. (416) 789-3213	7:15 PM	9:00 AM	8:30 AM	7:30 AM	8:50 PM
Temple Emanu-El (R)	120 Old Colony Rd. (416) 449-3880	6:30 PM	9:30 AM	8:30 AM	7:30 AM	----------

This is not a comprehensive listing of the synagogues in the Greater Toronto area. The information is provided by the Vaad Harabonim of Toronto and the Toronto Board of Rabbis. The Vaad and the Board will periodically revise the listings.

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From coast to coast

CJC delegation, Axworthy discuss war crimes, looted gold

OTTAWA — Concerns about increased anti-Semitism and racism in eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union, as well as the issue of war criminals, were the principal items on the agenda at a recent Parliament Hill meeting between Federal Minister of Foreign Affairs Lloyd Axworthy and the Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC).

The CJC delegation, led by national president Moshe Ronen, also focused on matters related to international terrorism, the restitution of Jewish property in Europe, the Swiss banks and Nazi gold, Cuban Jewry and the proposed Holocaust Museum in Ottawa. Also at the meeting were CJC public policy and international affairs committee chair Les Scheininger, CJC national executive director and general counsel Jack Silverstone, CJC Ottawa advocacy director Eric Vernon, and Canada-Israel Committee executive director Rob Ritter.

Ronen noted that the Jewish community's sentiments toward Israel are unwavering. He said there is always a lot of interest in Canada's voting record at the United Nations. Axworthy responded that he has asked his department to develop a detailed analysis of Canada's recent voting patterns at the UN.

Ronen also stressed the centrality of Jerusalem to both Israel and the Diaspora. He asked the government of Canada to be more sensitive to this issue and for this to be considered in its pronouncements on the matter.

Axworthy elaborated upon different initiatives he has taken since visiting Israel last fall. As gavelholder for the Multilateral Working Group on Refugees, for example, Canada will be working toward facilitating family reunification and enhancing dialogue between Israelis and Palestinians.

CJC took the opportunity during the meeting to seek Axworthy's support as a member of cabinet for the proposed Holocaust Memorial Museum in Ottawa. "Canadian Jewish Congress intends to hold the Government of Canada to its commitment to establish a standalone Holocaust Museum in Ottawa. We appreciated Mr. Axworthy's sensitivity to this issue and his support for the concept," Ronen said.

From left are Les Scheininger and Jack Silverstone of CJC; Rob Ritter of the Canada-Israel Committee, Lloyd Axworthy; and CJC president Moshe Ronen.

Ronen raised the issue of pensions from Germany for Jews of German ancestry. Germany has struck special agreements with Israel and the United States to enable eligible Jews in those countries to collect pensions beyond the 1991 application deadline, but Canada has no such protocol. Axworthy undertook to investigate this.

CJC praised the cooperation of the Department of Foreign Affairs in the investigation into the possible role of the Bank of Canada in laundering looted Nazi gold. Scheininger then expressed his hope that Canada would join international pressure against Swiss banks to settle billions of dollars of claims stemming from their wartime actions. "The Americans have been proactive," Scheininger said. "We would want to see the same kind of reaction from the Canadian government."

CJC called for an audit of racist activities in eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union through Canadian embassies. Vernon cited the rise of extreme right-wing parties, such as the Truth and Life party in Hungary, which recently won 14 seats in elections. In the case of Romania, President Emil Constantinescu has publicly acknowledged his nation's guilt and responsibility for the massacres and the destruction of more than 300,000 Romanian Jews between 1941 and 1945.

However, a campaign still continues there to memorialize and rehabilitate wartime leader Ion Antonescu and some of his cabinet colleagues. Axworthy took note of these concerns and pledged to charge his ambassadors to report on such activities.

CJC praised Axworthy's leadership in promoting the establishment of an International Criminal Court to bring war criminals to justice. At the same time, Ronen noted the encouraging movement to take steps against suspected Nazi war criminals residing in Canada.

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From coast to coast

Ottawa JCC/Vaad Ha'Ir holds annual meeting

By DIANE KOVEN
Ottawa Correspondent

OTTAWA — A large and supportive crowd attended recently when the Jewish Community Council of Ottawa/Vaad Ha'Ir held its 64th Annual Meeting.

In his annual report, executive director Mitchell Bellman told those assembled: "It is an exciting time to be a member of the Jewish community of Ottawa... We are three short months away from moving onto our new campus and what we hope will become the new centre of Jewish life in Ottawa.

"The Vaad Ha'Ir has a role to play in encouraging people to get involved in volunteer positions. We need to nurture participation, link up enthusiastic people with mentors and reach out to the unaffiliated in our community."

Three volunteers were honored at the meeting.

The recipient of the 1998 Freiman Family Young Leadership Award, presented to a member of the Ottawa Jewish community under the age of 40 who has made a significant contribution to the community, was Ottawa native, Charles Schachnow, 35. Following in the tradition of his parents, Shelley and Morris Schachnow, Charles has been involved in the community since childhood.

In introducing him, Schachnow's lifelong friend, Robert Greenberg, said, "In my opinion, the one trait that separates Charles from others is that he lives up to all his commitments...What you get is effort and results with a little laughter along the way."

The community's highest award, the Gilbert Greenberg Distinguished Service Award, was presented jointly to Thelma Steinman and Gerald Berger.

Octogenarian Steinman was recognized as a tireless worker who has been involved in almost every communal organization over the years.

"I suspect that she has been involved in community affairs longer than most people in this room have been alive, and that is a very humbling thought," said Roger Greenberg, who presented the award.

Lest anyone should think the award would be the culmination of her volunteer career, Steinman said in her acceptance remarks, "I fully intend to continue as always, for I am too young to retire."

Toronto native Gerald Berger, son of the late Salome and Louis Berger, also learned volunteerism at home. His parents were active in synagogue life, Hadassah-WIZO and United Jewish Appeal, and were among the founders of Toronto's Associated Hebrew Day School.

Arriving in Ottawa over 35 years ago to take up a position with the federal government, Gerald Berger became involved in the Jewish community. He is a past president of the Jewish Community Council of Ottawa/ Vaad Ha'Ir, of the Jewish Community Campus and of the Jewish Community Foundation, and has been active in the United Jewish Appeal, the United Way and the Canadian National Institute for the Blind.

"Gerry is a mensch. He is a warm, caring, honest person... I am proud to be a part of this ceremony where Gerry receives the award he deserves," said Norman Zagerman.

As Berger was unable to attend the award ceremony due to ill health, his wife Ruth accepted the award on her husband's behalf.

Since the bestowal of this award, Gerald Berger has passed away.

Elderhostel program in Montreal

By JANICE ARNOLD
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — A group of older tourists from the United States and the rest of Canada holidayed at the Golden Age Association (GAA), spending a week learning about Montreal's Jewish community and its place in an evolving Quebec.

The 35 men and women were taking part in the first Jewish studies Elderhostel program in Canada. Elderhostel, a nonprofit organization founded in 1975, offers people over 50 the chance to travel and study all sorts of subjects at relatively low cost by keeping accommodation simple and forming alliances with educational and cultural institutions.

Last year, more than 300,000 people from North America participated in Elderhostel programs around the world, and 20,000 did so in Canada.

The group taking part in the inaugural program at the GAA had five days of classes at the GAA, putting in 4½ hours each day in the morning and evenings. Afternoons were free. They slept in the nearby dormitory of the University of Montreal, ate their meals in the GAA's kosher cafeteria and were transported by the GAA school bus.

The courses were entitled Quebec History and the Jewish Community, The Diversities of Jewish Life in Montreal, and Yiddish Humor and Folklore. Participants were given an overview of the role of the Catholic Church, the rise of nationalism and the Jewish influence on Quebec society.

"We covered everything from the emancipation of the Jews in 1832, which allowed them to sit in the legislative assembly, the school question, the anti-Semitism in the '20s and '30s, to separatism and the language debate, right up to Matzahgate and the Berson monument sign," said Pearl Grubert, chair of GAA's programming.

A retired schoolteacher, she led the classes, along with Jack Jedwab, Canadian Jewish Congress' Quebec director, lawyer Yoine Goldstein, Rabbi Howard Joseph, Daniel Amar, director of community services at FEDERATION CJA, and social worker Myra Giberovitch. A tour of Jewish heritage sites was included in the curriculum.

The Yiddish program was led by Janie Respitz, a young woman who surprised many with her fluency and knowledge of the language and culture. A performance by the Yiddish Theatre of the musical *On 2nd Avenue* was an optional excursion.

Volunteers also played a large role, from helping to serve meals to being on hand at the dorm.

About two-thirds of the groups were Americans, and at least five were not Jewish among the 35. They ranged in age from mid-50s to about 85.

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From coast to coast

Winnipeg shul to relocate

By MYRON LOVE
Prairie Correspondent

WINNIPEG — The Rosh Pina Congregation, north Winnipeg's largest synagogue, is looking to relocate in the southern part of the city.

The executive and board of the synagogue laid out its plans to sell and move south to the membership at the recent annual general meeting, which was attended by over 150 congregants. A letter had gone out to every synagogue member informing them of the decision.

The plan has been in the works for two years, reports third-generation member Israel Ludwig. He chaired the synagogue's future planning committee that recommended the plan of action.

The synagogue has been losing members and money for some years now. Ludwig reports that the synagogue has been losing about $100,000 a year. A campaign for funds last fall raised about $200,000 but that proved to be just a stopgap measure.

A divisive fight five years ago over egalitarianism cost the synagogue some long standing members, he says. As well, the neighborhood has changed and younger Jewish Winnipeggers are continuing for the most part to settle in south Winnipeg rather than in the more traditional north end. Membership used to be around 1,000. Now it is less than 700.

Chairman of the board Dr. Stephen Feldgaier reports that the board is currently in the process of developing an implementation plan. In the coming months, a number of committees will be appointed with representatives from the synagogue membership and possibly the community at large.

The board decision, which was unanimous except for one abstention, included authorization to put the current building up for sale. Feldgaier indicates that such action will be undertaken at the appropriate time, following recommendations that will be considered and adopted as part of the implementation plan. Realistic forecasts of the time frame between now and when the synagogue hopes to move into a new facility in the south end range from three to five years, he says.

David Bloomfield, president of the Beth Israel Synagogue, another north end shul, sees the problems that have plagued the Rosh Pina as something the remaining north end synagogues have to deal with. (There are currently just three synagogues in south Winnipeg, including the Shaarey Zedek Congregation, the city's largest.)

שישאר בינינו

גידי קורן וחברים

גם אתה, ברוטוס?

בשמיניות למדנו את "יוליוס קיסר" של שקספיר כ"מחזה השנה" באנגלית. לקראת בחינות הבגרות התקיים בכל שנה טוטו האם השאלה המרכזית בבחינה תהיה על יוליוס קיסר, קאסיוס או ברוטוס. מאחר וכבר חמש שנים לא היתה שאלה על קאסיוס, הימרתי על הטיפוס הבוגדני הזה והכנתי מראש חיבור באנגלית מצוחצחת. החיבור שלי עלה יפה וחזרתי הביתה מהבחינה שמח וטוב לב. חברים אחרים שלא כל-כך רצו להתאמץ תלו את תקוותם ב"יחיבור הכללי", ענו נושא כללי שמשתנה כל שנה. והינה בשנה שלנו הנושא היה קל ופשוט: "Best things in life are free". רובם המוחלט של חברי הבינו ש - free פרושו "חופשי", משום "חופש" וכתבו חיבורים נמלצים על חשיבות החופש וכו. וכו. הם רובם נכשלו, ולמדו בדרך הקשה ש "free" באנגלית הוא "בחינם". כל ההקדמה הזו באה להמליץ לכם על הגנת "יוליוס קיסר" בפסטיבל סטראטפורד, כמאה חמישים ק"מ מערבית לטורונטו. פתאום חוזרים ימי כיתה י"ב בביצוע מושלם ומצמרר. סעו לשם ולא תצטערו! במקום קולה של המורה לאנגלית תשמעו את יוליוס קיסר אומר "האמיצים מתים פעם אחת בחיים - והפחדנים מתים כל יום". ההפקה נהדרת, ואין הרגשת נפטלין של נושא ישן שקרה פעם, אלא של דברים שיכולים לקרות תמיד: חברות, בגידה, פחדנות ואומץ.

אפילו מטאטא יורה:

חברת התרופות פייזר תגרוף בשנים הבאות מילארדי דולארים מכדורי הוַיאגרה שמגשימות את השיר של איציק מאנגר: "ברצות אלוהים אפילו מטאטא יורה". חבר שלי אומר שהנשים של היום מתחלקות לשני סוגים: אלה שאומרות לבעל "לך תקנה ויאגרה", ואלה שאומרות לו "לך תקנה מניות של פייזר".

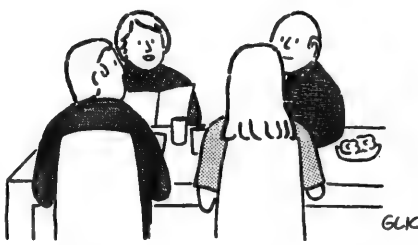
זכויות לחרדים:

החרדים מתנגדים לאופיה הציוני של מדינת ישראל. הם אינם הולכים לצבא וברובם אינם משלמים מסים. חלקם הקטן והקיצוני אפילו מתאבל ב הי באייר על הקמת מדינת ישראל. אבל השבוע הם דרשו בלשון שאיננה משתמעת לשתי פנים השוואה של תנאי השכר של תלמידי ישיבות לאלה של קציני צבא! חוץ מלהקיא על העיר אין לי מילה מספיק חזקה לתאר את מה שאני וכנראה גם אתם מרגישים בעניין. קל להבין מה מרגישים רוב תושבי ישראל, משלמי המסים והמשרתים בצבא, בעניין הזה. הם מרגישים בדיוק מה שמרגיש גוף שהסרטן אוכל אותו, או עץ שפטריה טפילית נוזלת ממנו את המים שדרושים לקיומו. אני מאמין בכנות שהטפילים האלה גורמים לרוב החילוני להתרחק מן הדת במקום להתקרב אליה. כשאני נוסע לישראל ומספר לחברים שאנחנו עורכים קבלת שבת הם מסתכלים עלי כמו על פסיכי מתחסד. יש להם כל כך הרבה אנטי לדת היהודית בגלל החרדים שלקחו שליטה על היומיום הישראלי, שהם מוכנים לעשות כל דבר רק כדי לא להיות מזוהים עם המסורת של עצמם. זה חבל, זה עצוב, זה טראגי.

הרהור על אוהדי כדורגל:

הרעיון שמשחק כדורגל בין שתי מדינות הוא גם מלחמה, זה הפירוש שנותנת החלאה של הנוער למשחקי ספורט. תיראו איזו בושה הם גורמים לאנגליה, שהיא בדרך כלל ארץ תרבותית ורוב תושביה בושים ונכלמים. אם תרצו, ברמה קצת יותר רצינית, זה מראה מה אנשים יכולים לעשות תחת השפעה של אלכוהול. חצי מהנהרגים על הכבישים נפגעים בידי אנשים ששתו, והתינוקות שאימותיהם שתו בהריון- שום נס בעולם לא יעזור למצות את יכולתם. תחשבו על זה.

SHMOOZIN



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What's New

By Miriam Herman

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DEADLINE REMINDER

What's New and About People deadlines: Monday, July 6, is deadline for July 16 issue.

Please note: As *The CJN* will be closed for vacation July 13-17, there will be no issue on July 23. Therefore, all items that would ordinarily appear July 23 will be included in the July 16 column.

The next deadline is Monday, July 20, for the July 30 issue.

I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 391-1836, fax 391-0829.

Saturday, July 4

SUNNYBROOK MINYAN

Ma'yan Or Liberal Minyan Shabbat service 10 a.m. to noon, kiddush following, Sunnybrook Jewish Chapel. **Hilda Harris**, shamus, 480-4421, ext. 3552.

Sunday, July 5

JEWISH STORYTELLING

Jewish Storytelling at Beit Habonim, 5 Glen Park Ave., 7:30 p.m., hosted by **Alec Gelcer**. All welcome to listen or tell. $4 donation. Presented by Jewish Storytelling Arts, 440-1330.

FAMILY RETREAT

Aish HaTorah family retreat at Camp Reena, for parents to learn and kids to play, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. $15 per family. For directions/information 905-764-1818.

INDOOR GARAGE SALE

Beth Sholom Sisterhood indoor garage sale of tenderly used items such as appliances, kitchenware, computers, cosmetics, good used clothing, linens and more, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the synagogue.

Monday, July 6

YIDDISH CONCERT

This year's Yiddish Concert in Earl Bales Park has Ashkenaz joining the Committee for Yiddish. The free open-air concert of Yiddish music and songs begins 7:30 p.m. and features the Flying Bulgar Klezmer Band and singers **Stella Walker** and **David Wall**. *Funfest*, the Shadowland Theatre's animated show for children begins 6:30 p.m. In case of inclement weather, activities will move to Adath Israel Synagogue.

Tuesday, July 7

LODGE LA FRATERNITÉ

B'nai Brith French Lodge La Fraternité meeting, 8 p.m., 15 Hove St. , Room 1. Topic is The Princes and Notables of Morocco During That Country's History. 255-6086.

Thursday, July 9

VARIETY PLAYERS

Forest Hill Place of Lifestyle Retirement Community, presents the Mel Lastman Variety Players, 2 p.m., 645 Castlefield Ave. Reserve. **Marlene** or **Susan** 785-1511.

And What Else Is New

ISRAEL PAVILION

The Israel Pavilion at Brampton's multicultural festival Carabram, celebrates Israel's 50th birthday. Sponsored by Har Tikvah Congregation, pavilion festivities include Israeli entertainment, **Aelita,** Klezmer Bands, ventriloquist **Judy Shier** and her puppets, children's activities, delightful foods, and more. Festival runs July 10, 11 and 12, at Heart Lake Secondary School in Brampton. $8 in advance, $10 at door. **Lawrie Bloom** 905-846-2151 or **Einat Marcos** 905-846-4922.

PREPARING FOR SCHOOL

Jewish Vocational Service of Greater Toronto offers students in Middle School (grades 6-9) an opportunity to develop skills to improve school performance and become more effective, efficient learners. Students will learn listening and organizational skills, and practical strategies for note-taking and test-writing. The four-session workshops of two hours each run Aug. 24-27 or Aug. 31-Sept. 3, morning or afternoon. $100. Preregister. 787-1151, ext. 205.

[Cont'd. on page 19]

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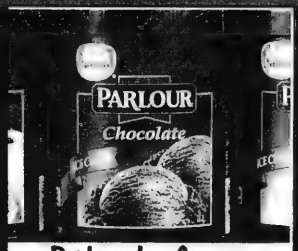

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Regular or Diet
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From The Deli
1.10 /100 g
499 lb.

Cantaloupes
Product of U.S.A.
No. 1 Grade
129 ea.

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Rhubarb Strawberry or Raspberry Pie
From the Bakery
600 g
399

WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO LIMIT QUANTITIES. PRICES IN EFFECT SUNDAY, JUNE 28 UNTIL SATURDAY, JULY 4, 1998.

What's New

[Cont'd. from page 18]

CHILDREN'S MUSEUM

My Jewish Discovery Place children's museum for children ages three to eight and their families opens at Bathurst Jewish Centre (BJC) Oct. 18. It will be filled with interactive exhibits, hands-on activities, games, toys, costumes, puzzles, as well as presenting Jewish customs, values, traditions, history and language. The museum previews at the CNE in the Israel at 50 Pavilion Aug. 20-Sept. 7.

Volunteers are needed for the museum both at the CNE and at BJC. Tasks vary from reading stories to delivering school tours to preparing and presenting arts and crafts activities to developing exhibits. Call 636-1880, ext. 390 for application and/or information.

LEARN YIDDISH

Learn Yiddish this summer. Beginners Yiddish conversation class begins mid-July, Bathurst/Lawrence area, 7-9 p.m. for 10 weeks. $70. Call the Yiddish Hotline 635-2883, ext. 700, Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto.

PASSING THE TORCH

Passing the Torch: Last Eyewitnesses of the Holocaust Pass Legacy to Second Generation. The Federation of Jewish Child Survivors/ Hidden Children of the Holocaust 11th annual conference Oct. 16-19 in the Washington area. In addition to survivors, the second generation and kindertransport will be involved. Reservations accepted until Sept. 1. **J. Fein** 410-730-6537 or locally 635-2883, ext. 153.

JF&CS GROUPS

Jewish Family & Child Service groups. Register. **Pat Lieberman** 638-7800, ext. 215.

Living With Teens: setting limits, keeping lines of communication open, parents rights and responsibilities, begins July 15.

Adolescent Social Skills Group: for adolescents who have difficulty in making friends. Promotes self-esteem and helps adolescents learn new ways to express feelings, Begins July 7 for 8 weeks.

Parenting When Your Child Has an Eating Disorder: education and support for parents, strategies for coping, impact on family life, available resources. Begins July 14.

DOWNTOWN MINYAN

Downtown Reform Minyan summer Shabbat services Saturdays July 11 and Aug. 8 only. Regular services resume Saturday, Sept. 5, 10 a.m. at Bloor JCC, Room 204. **Shelley** 469-4287.

ROLLER-BLADING

Jews for Roller-blading, a group of Jewish 25-40ish meet every Wednesday for a fun night of roller-blading down some of Toronto's finest paths. Helmet and protective gear a must. Call 24-hour hotline 208-3221.

FOR SENIORS

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club: Kingston three-hour cruise with entertainment July 14; cruise and musical *Little Shop of Horrors* Aug. 19; *Man of La Mancha* at Stratford Oct. 27. **Lena** 785-5773. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel. **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). July 2 is a lecture by **Shula Ofir**, regional director, Israel Aliyah Centre; July 9, bingo and other games; July 16, Israeli film, *A Family Tragedy*; July 23, one-day trip to Muskoka $15. Register with **Rivka Kreuzer** 223-0904 (bus is filling up fast); July 30, member meeting. **Jerry Bengall** 633-6360 or **Malka Colla** 630-5771.

LZA Seniors Club has a few seats left for Stratford to see *Man of La Mancha* Sept. 10. **Libby** 782-2059 or Borochov office 630-9444. Ladies Folkdancing Thursdays 1:30 p.m. and Cultural Discussion Group Tuesdays 10 a.m. at Borochov Centre, 272 Codsell Ave. Centre is open for socializing Monday to Friday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Singers wanted for small senior singing group. Call **Fred** 633-2877.

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: July 6, Thornhill Square Mall; July 13-19, Catskills; July 23, Casino Niagara; Aug. 10, Shuffle off to Buffalo; Aug. 16, barbecue party, entertainment; Aug. 24-27, Leelanau Casino, Magic of Michigan, $399 Canadian. 395-7881.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. 225-2112.

Hearing Aid Checkup with **Barry Katz**, Thursday, July 2, 12:15 p.m.

Wellness lecture, Taking Charge-Retirement Living in the Nineties, presented by Forest Hill Place, a Lifestyle Retirement Community, Thursday, July 2, 1:15-2:15 p.m.

Low Vision Support Group meets Tuesday, July 7, 1-3 p.m. Relax and enjoy the descriptive video, *The Apprenticeship of Duddy Kravitz*, sponsored by the National Broadcasting Reading Service.

Arthritis Management Clinic with **Bev Tobe**, registered therapist with the Arthritis Society, Thursday, July 9, 1-4 p.m. Make appointment at Wellness Desk.

Summer classes and programs: crafts, performing groups, dance, games, discussion groups. Session 1, June 29-July 31, Session 2, Aug. 10-Sept. 11. Membership cards accepted from Bernard Betel Centre, Bathurst Jewish Centre, North York Seniors' Centre and Wagman Centre.

Lifelong Learning Institute (LLI): Music for Summer Days, Poetry in Motion, Book Club, The Great Thinkers with **Hugh Innis** of Ryerson University, History and Development of the Yiddish Language with **Richard Bassett**, Violence in Society Today with **Andrew Shaul** of York University, Estate Planning and Your Money with **Reneta Neufeld** of Royal Bank Financial Group, Does Intermarriage Work? with **Max Goody**, Open Discussion, The Jews of Frankfurt and the Jews of Prague with Ben Schlesinger.

Israeli Club Etrog meets 7 p.m. Tuesdays for movies, sing-alongs, lectures, bingo, dances. July 7 is a movie. **Anna**.

Sunday dance July 5, 7:30-10:30 p.m.

BLOOR JCC

Bloor Jewish Community Centre, 750 Spadina Ave. 924-6211.

Bloor JCC presents Crossroads, a two-day celebration of Spadina, past and present:

Saturday, July 4, from 8 p.m.: Celebrate Spadina with composer **Milton Barnes**; filmmaker **Karen Shopsowitz;** musician **Ron Korb** and his ensemble; a one-act play by **Morris Jacobs**; writer **Judy Fong-Bates**; actor/director **Sylvia Lennick**; performance by comedian **Sheila Gostick**. Hosted by writer/raconteur **Michael Wex**. With special guests, local residents **Olivia Chow** and **Jackie Gelman**.

Sunday, July 5, from noon, on the street at Bloor and Spadina: Hosted by **Michael Wex**. With the Festival All Stars, the (reformed) Shuffle Demons, **Sook-Yin Lee** and the Chevrons, **David Wall** and his band, **Ann Lederman** and the Come from Every Way Band. Storytellers **Norman Perrin, Dorothy Lichtblau** and **Michael Wex.**

Summer camps: There are a few spaces available for some of the camps.

ABOUT PEOPLE

Schura Vorona

BB LODGE PRESIDENT

Schura Vorona was installed as the 50th president of Leonard Mayzel Ontario Lodge of B'nai Brith at the lodge's recent 50th anniversary gala reunion at the Inn on the Park, attended by Israeli **Ambassador David Sultan.** Vorona has been involved with B'nai Brith for almost 30 years and is a past president of B'nai Brith Curacao. He has served on the boards of Beth Tikvah Synagogue and CHAT and received the David Ben-Gurion Award from State of Israel Bonds.

BOARD OF RABBIS

Rabbi Philip Scheim of Beth David B'nai Israel Synagogue has been elected to a two-year term as president of the Toronto Board of Rabbis. Prior to assuming this position, Rabbi Scheim served as treasurer and vice-president. The board consists of about 40 rabbis from the Greater Toronto Area.

Additional executive members are: vice-president **Rabbi John Moscowitz** of Holy Blossom; recording secretary **Rabbi Martin Berman** of Shaar Shalom; corresponding secretary, **Rabbi Ronald Weiss**, head of chaplaincy, Jewish Family & Child Service; treasurer, **Rabbi Aaron Flanzraich** of Beth Sholom. **Rabbi Michael Stroh** of Har Zion is immediate past president.

CHAT GRADS

Graduates of Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto class of '94 received top awards in the 1998 graduating class of the University of Toronto Medical School. **Ari Robiscek** was awarded the Graduation Gold Medal and **Ilan Lenga** the Silver Medal.

DENTISTRY AWARD

At the annual meeting of the Academy of Osseointegration (implants), Toronto dentist **Dr. Izchak Barzilay** was awarded the Quintessence Publishing/Osseointegration Foundation Research Award for best paper published in the international *Journal of Oral & Maxillo-Facial Implants* in 1996. Barzilay, a specialist in prosthodontics and implant dentistry, is currently head of the Division of Prosthodontics and Restorative Dentistry at Mount Sinai Hospital and associate in dentistry at the University of Toronto. He is the recipient of several awards in the field of prosthodontics.

Dr. Izchak Barzilay

SINGLES EVENTS CAN BE FOUND ON PAGE 16

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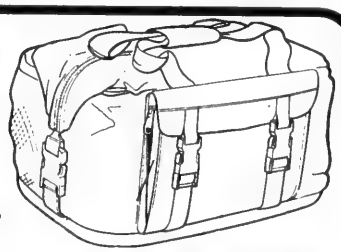

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From coast to coast

CJA chair wants women to become more active

By PETER CAULFIELD
Pacific Correspondent

VANCOUVER — It's time more women played active roles in the general campaign for the Greater Vancouver Combined Jewish Appeal, said Sondra Ritter, the recently named chair of the 1998-99 campaign.

"The women's division has always run smoothly," said Ritter. "There are many talented women with valuable campaign experience who can bring a lot to the table in the general campaign."

Ritter is hopeful she will chair a successful campaign. "We need to do well," she said. "The Lower Mainland Jewish community is now the third largest and the fastest growing Jewish community in Canada. There are Jewish people arriving here almost every day from other parts of Canada and all over the world. The community has many new needs, and we have to be creative if we're going to solve them."

One solution, Ritter suggested, might be to amalgamate some services in order to avoid unnecessary duplication. "I don't think amalgamation of Jewish education, for example, would be successful," she explained, "but it would be worth exploring in the case of services for seniors. The Wheels to Kosher Meals program for senior citizens is a good example of interagency cooperation that works."

Ritter said she hopes to see more Jewish community agencies and outlying communities becoming involved in the next campaign. "The arithmetic is simple," she said. "The more manpower you have, the more money you raise. And the more money you raise, the more everyone receives."

Ritter would also like to see a streamlined organizational structure. "I'd like to recruit a greater number of people in the campaign cabinet than in the past, and give each of them fewer responsibilities," she explained. "In that way we'll get more done, and it will take less time to do it."

Ritter, 52, is the mother of Paul, 28, and Romy, 24. She and her sister Janice own and operate Sonjan Enterprises Ltd., a property management and development company with holdings in Vancouver and in the provinces of Alberta and Saskatchewan.

The daughter of Arthur and Ancie Fouks, Ritter comes from a family of community volunteers. Her father helped put together the Jewish Federation of Greater Vancouver, a project which came to fruition in 1986.

Fouks, who sits on the board of governors of the University of British Columbia, also chaired two CJA campaigns.

Ritter comes to her new position with a wealth of experience as a volunteer in both the Jewish and non-Jewish communities. She served as president of Camp Hatikvah for three years, she is a life member and past chapter president of Hadassah-WIZO, and she served as a board member of the British Columbia Parkinson's Disease Association.

She said she agreed to chair this year's campaign because she felt a responsibility to Israel and to the Lower Mainland Jewish community.

"When I was in Israel last year, I visited some places in the northern part of the country that had received and benefited from monies raised by the campaign here," she said. "When you see your dollars in action and doing good, it really makes an impact on you."

Mazel Tov

מזל טוב

We cannot guarantee the date a picture will appear. Please limit all greetings to 25 typewritten words. We reserve the right to edit all items and condense any that are longer than that.

Label the back of all photos and enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope for return. Send all your photos to *The CJN*, Mazel Tov, 1500 Don Mills Rd., Suite 205, North York, Ont., M3B 3K4.

Happy third birthday to our grandson Joshua Evan Socket on May 8 from Bubbie Rhoda and Zayde Irv Kasner with love.

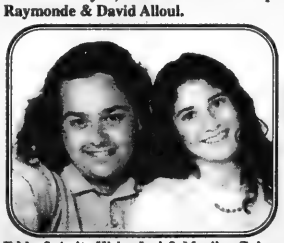
Ryan Brudner, son of Marla & Shael, celebrated his fifth birthday. Loving wishes from Bubbie Bettie & Zayde Sol and family.

Happy birthday to our grandson Jacob Stein and mazel tov on your Yom HaSidur. We love you, Grandma and Grandpa Raymonde & David Alloul.

Brandon Spegel, son of Jody & Marshall and grandson of Anne Spegel and Sookie Wiseman, celebrated his bar mitzvah on March 14.

Mazel tov Bill & Gert Nyman on your 50th wedding anniversary. Love Judy, Harley, Jay, Rebecca, Allan, Joanne, Collin, Patti, Derek and Barbara.

Jenny Libman was called to the Torah as a bat mitzvah on June 6. Congratulations from her family, David, Carolyn, Sarah and Robbie, and all her grandparents.



Eddy & Anita Wein, Joel & Marilyn Zolondek announce the engagement of Kevin & Sharon. Grandmothers are Celia Bullion, Minnie Wein, Edna Bretschneider, Gertie Zolondek.

Anne & Harry Segal of Montreal celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary on June 18. Love, their children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren.

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Talks over by July 29: PM

By HERB KEINON
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Negotiations with the Palestinians over the second withdrawal will be concluded by July 29, when the Knesset recesses for the summer, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said on Sunday.

"I think this issue will be concluded by then," he told Israel Radio, adding, "I can't say for sure, because I can't tell the Palestinians what to do. If they don't give suitable answers, they will determine the fate of the process."

Netanyahu said it is the issue of reciprocity, and not the depth of the next withdrawal, that is holding up the peace process.

"There are still gaps in negotiations over the second withdrawal," Netanyahu said. " But we are not dealing with that. Now we are trying to arrive at a solution on issues of reciprocity. We are not willing to accept an agreement that is not an agreement."

Meanwhile, at a ceremony in Jerusalem marking the arrival of Spanish Prime Minister Jose Maria Aznar, Netanyahu said that once the negotiations with the Palestinians are concluded, he would like to see an international conference convened to deal with wider, regional issues.

In raising this controversial issue in the presence of Aznar, Netanyahu stressed that such a conference would not be a substitute for direct, bilateral talks with the Palestinians.

"After we finish [the negotiations]," Netanyahu said, "I would be happy if an additional international conference for regional issues would convene. This is not a substitute, and does not replace bilateral negotiations that must be held directly between the sides."

Netanyahu added that he would be very happy if such a conference were held in Madrid, as was a 1991 Mideast peace conference.

Aznar was receptive to the idea.

"If, at a certain time, there is a need for Madrid to serve as the venue for a peace conference, rest assured that we will be willing to make this possible," Aznar said.

Netanyahu also urged Spain to help break the deadlock in negotiations with the Palestinians.

"Spain has excellent relations with the Palestinians and the Arab world," Netanyahu said, "and if Spain uses its influence, if you, sir, use your influence, I hope one more push will get the wagon out of the mud in which it is stuck, and lead us toward a peace with security and reciprocity."

Netanyahu's clarification of his proposal for another regional conference came after a day of searing criticism of the idea from everyone from Labor Party leader Ehud Barak to MK Yossi Beilin and Education Minister Yitzhak Levy.

"It's another hot-air balloon intended to divert public opinion from the crucial issues, the failure to advance the peace process and implement the pullout," Barak said.

Beilin told Israel Radio that the proposal for an international conference, like the referendum idea of last week that has currently been put on hold, is just an attempt to stall.

And even Levy said it was not clear to him what the purpose of an international conference would be.

LIVE FIRE EXERCISE

Outgoing IDF Chief of Staff Amnon Shahak is framed by two infantry soldiers in camouflage as he observes a brigade-strength live fire exercise recently. [RNS/Reuters photo]

Barak's draft bill postponed

By LIAT COLLINS and MICHAL YUDELMAN
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Left-wing MKs strongly criticized the decision by Knesset Speaker Dan Tichon last Sunday to postpone by a week the preliminary reading of Labor party leader Ehud Barak's bill on drafting yeshivah students.

"The attempt to postpone my bill is a political manoeuvre and is unworthy of the Knesset," Barak said.

Tichon dismissed Barak's objection as "nonsense," saying, "Barak is a new MK and doesn't know the rules. All I'm doing is postponing the bill by one week."

This is the first private member's bill Barak has submitted.

Labor party leadership said Tichon's decision was made to enable Netanyahu to sabotage the support Barak's bill has with the public and in the Knesset.

Tichon based his decision on Knesset House Rules' clauses that if a bill fails, "basically similar or identical bills" cannot be raised for six months, excluding Knesset recesses. Tichon said Barak's bill is similar to a bill by Meretz MK Ran Cohen, which failed on Dec. 3, 1997. Therefore Barak's bill cannot be heard before July 8, which is six months plus the spring recess period.

Barak said his proposal had been introduced and approved 45 days ago, after the Knesset's legal adviser ruled it was not similar to Cohen's bill.

Knesset legal adviser Zvi Inbar said that if a bill is fundamentally different from previous ones addressing the same issue, it is permissible to present it to the Knesset less than half a year after the rejection of a bill on the issue.

Inbar said the bills by Barak and Cohen are not the same except that both relate to the principle of restricting the number of yeshivah students who receive a draft deferment. Cohen's bill called for a quota of 250 draft deferments a year, whereas Barak's speaks of 700. Barak's bill would, unlike Cohen's, enable those who get a deferment past age 25 to be completely exempt from military service. It also would allow students to work part time in certain fields, such as teaching or research, to support themselves.

Cohen said his bill was also scheduled to be raised again this week, not next week, "and there is no reason it should not. We're talking about a pretext and being unnecessarily strict with the House Rules and it proves the Haredim have taken control of the Knesset, the prime minister and the Likud, and all of them are helping 30,000 yeshivah students to dodge the draft."

Tichon said that "Inbar's recommendations are not binding on me. He is only the legal adviser." This is the second time in a week that Tichon has overruled Inbar's opinion.

Tichon rejected charges he was acting on political motives.

Nazis looted billions

[Cont'd. from page 1]

In New Jersey, a state senate panel was expected this week to approve a measure to divest holdings in Swiss banks. The bill, which has been passed by the state assembly, would require state pension funds to withdraw deposits and investments from Swiss banks and to sell 280,000 shares in Union Bank of Switzerland.

New Jersey's vote is expected only days before state and local finance officials are to meet in New York to consider sanctions against the banks, in an effort to compel the banks to reach a settlement with survivors and Jewish organizations over charges that the banks hoarded war-era Jewish assets.

The three major Swiss commercial banks have offered $600 million to settle Holocaust-era claims, plus the amounts located in the forensic audit being conducted under the leadership of former Federal Reserve head Paul Volcker.

That offer was rejected as "humiliating," and Jewish negotiators reportedly asked for $1.5 billion.

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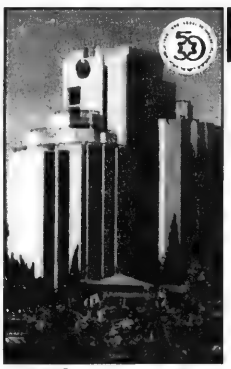

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Reform blasts conversion bill

By TOM TUGEND
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

ANAHEIM — America's Reform rabbis have lashed out at controversial conversion legislation in Israel, warning that its passage "would devastate the Israeli-Diaspora relationship and cause severe and deleterious consequences in the political, philanthropic and religious realms."

The bill, now pending in the Knesset, would codify the Orthodox establishment's control over conversions performed in Israel and "create two classes of Jews," said a resolution adopted unanimously by the Central Conference of American Rabbis (CCAR).

The Reform rabbis also called on all Jewish federations, synagogues, communal organizations, and the Conservative and Reconstructionist movements to join in appeals to the Israeli government and Knesset to kill the legislation.

The appeal for an all-out effort against the bill was echoed by Rabbi Eric Yoffie, president of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, which represents 1.5 million Reform synagogue members in the United States.

Speaking by telephone from Israel, he warned that the Israeli government was working hard to neutralize opposition among American Jewish leaders.

Rabbi Charles Kroloff, vice-president of the CCAR, urged in an interview that a portion of the funds raised in the United States for Israel go directly toward building Reform synagogues and ordaining Reform rabbis in Israel.

But Rabbi Richard Levy, the CCAR president, sought to defuse a potential conflict with Jewish federations. He said in an interview that financial support for the Reform movement should not be at the expense of federation fund-raising campaigns.

However, Rabbi Paul Menitoff, the CCAR's executive vice-president, warned that the anger among Reform Jews ran so deep that they may not accept Levy's exhortation.

The emotional intensity generated by the conversion resolution stood in contrast to the generally low-key tone of the three-day meeting, which drew 500 Reform rabbis, about one-fourth of them women.

A potentially explosive issue – whether rabbis should officiate or sanctify "commitment" ceremonies or other rites for same-sex couples – was skirted by a prearranged decision to avoid floor discussion and a vote for at least two years.

The delay was criticized by some at the conference. A petition circulated among the CCAR's 1,700 members before and during the convention, stating, "We have officiated, or are willing to officiate, at a ceremony affirming the union of a same-gender Jewish couple," was signed by 530 rabbis.

There was a lively discussion on one committee report setting guidelines for handling charges of sexual misconduct against rabbis. In no-nonsense tones, the report set standards of near-puritan severity.

"Unacceptable behavior," the report stated in part, includes "an unwelcome verbal, physical or visual conduct of a sexual nature."

During the floor debate, one delegate asked for a definition of "visual conduct of a sexual nature," and the chair said "leering" might fall into that category.

The committee also urged rabbis, of either gender, to refrain from dating members of their congregations.

Swiss-Jewish talks near collapse

By DANIEL KURTZMAN
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

WASHINGTON — Talks between Jewish and Swiss negotiators all but collapsed last week, leaving only the dimmest prospects of settling Holocaust-era claims anytime soon.

Discussions at the U.S. State Department failed to yield progress, with Swiss banks again saying their best offer was $600 million, and the World Jewish Congress (WJC) and lawyers for Holocaust survivors again rejecting that amount as insulting.

"We are left with little hope for a settlement before July 1," said Elan Steinberg, executive director of the WJC, last week. He was referring to a date set by U.S. public finance officers to review the negotiations and possibly impose sanctions on Swiss banks.

"The negotiations by the banks are a sham," a source familiar with the talks said, adding that no further meetings were scheduled.

The secretive talks, brokered during the last three months by Stuart Eizenstat, U.S. undersecretary of state for economic affairs, soured recently amid detailed public disclosures about the negotiations.

The WJC last week slammed the banks – Union Bank of Switzerland, Swiss Bank Corp. and Credit Suisse – for going public with their $600 million offer despite confidentiality agreements signed by both sides. The package includes about $70 million the banks have already paid into a Swiss fund set up last year to benefit Holocaust survivors.

The banks, for their part, said they would reject "unfounded and excessive" demands and accused Jewish negotiators of jeopardizing the process by disclosing previous details.

With no amicable resolution in sight, the next phase in prodding the banks to return Holocaust victims' assets is likely to involve punitive measures taken by elected officials.

The meeting of state and local finance officers scheduled for July 1, was slated to discuss sanctions against the banks – a move the WJC has said it does not plan to oppose.

The finance officers agreed to a moratorium on sanctions in March, pending the outcome of settlement talks.

The Clinton administration has opposed sanctions against Swiss banks.

At the same time, Sen. Alfonse D'Amato (R-N.Y.) said the Senate Banking Committee that he chairs plans to reopen a 50-year-old accord signed with Switzerland on the return of Nazi-looted gold. Switzerland agreed to return $58 million to the Allies in the 1946 Washington Accord despite records that showed Switzerland accepted about five times that amount in looted gold.

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British Jewry in decline

By DOUGLAS DAVIS
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

LONDON — Britain appears to be facing its own Jewish continuity crisis.

A new demographic study shows that Britain's Jewish population has dropped to less than 300,000 for the first time this century, and if current trends continue, the number of Jews is expected to fall to less than 200,000 within the next 25 years.

The study, conducted by the Board of Deputies of British Jews, the community's umbrella organization, is slated for publication this month.

It shows there are now some 285,000 Jews in Britain, down from 308,000 a decade ago.

The largest erosion is caused by assimilation, with Jewish couples recording lower birth rates and the level of intermarriage now estimated to be running at some 44 percent.

Emigration to Israel accounts for the loss of some 800 a year, while an equal number of British Jews are believed to be emigrating to the United States each year.

The Week in Israel

June 22

• Police said they had collected enough evidence to arrest 10 employees of the pirate radio station, Arutz-7, according to the daily *Ha'aretz*. After the outcry that followed the raid on the station's offices last week, officials began to examine how the station could be legalized.

June 23

• Police launched an investigation into remarks by Arab Knesset member, Salakh Salim, that he was surprised the Palestinians don't kill more land dealers who sell property to Jews. Salim made the remarks during a tour of Jerusalem's Old City by members of the Knesset Interior Committee.

June 24

• The launch of a satellite designed at the Technion in Haifa was delayed by two weeks to further inspect the launcher rocket. The satellite was scheduled to be launched yesterday from a Russian military facility in Kazakhstan.

June 25

• Israeli soldiers, Amit Asoulin, 21, and Or Cohen, 19, were killed in the security zone in southern Lebanon.

June 26

• The final airlift of Jews from Ethiopia, a group of 58 Falash Mura, arrived last night in Israel. Absorption officials said the few dozen remaining Falash Mura in Ethiopia, would "trickle into Israel over the coming weeks."

50 Years Ago

LONDON, ***June 11*** **—** Declaring that this is "a thoroughly bad time" to press for British recognition of Israel, Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs Christopher Mayhew today pleaded with the House of Commons to permit the status quo in Palestine during the truce period.

Replying to a bitter attack on the Palestine Policy of Foreign Secretary Ernest Bevin by Harold Lever, Laborite M.P., Mayhew asserted that recognition of Israel at present would be an act of political intervention which would favor one side and be wholly inconsistent with the spirit of the truce. He said that such a move could prejudice eventual mediation of the Arab-Jewish war.

With files from JTA

Iran, U.S. ties improving

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

Mideast Analysis

When Iran met the United States in the preliminary round of the World Cup in France last month, it was not just another soccer game, but one more milestone in an incremental process that may yet lead to a historic rapprochement between the estranged nations.

Since last December, when Iran's newly elected president, Mohammed Khatami, called for a "thoughtful dialogue" with the American people, the two sides have taken a series of significant steps to ease the tension and pave the way for a possible resumption of diplomatic relations.

Washington severed ties with Iran, a former ally, after militants seized the U.S. embassy in Tehran and held 52 hostages for 444 days. The seizure occurred shortly after the 1979 Islamic revolution, which resulted in the overthrow of the pro-Western Pahlavi monarchy.

As the years passed, the bitterness grew. Washington's tilt toward Bagdad during the 1980-88 Iran-Iraq War, the Iran-contra scandal notwithstanding, caused enormous resentment in Tehran. Similarly, the United States was extremely displeased with Iran's foreign policy: its sponsorship of radical groups in the Middle East, its opposition to Israel's existence, its denunciation of the Oslo peace talks, and its determination to acquire weapons of mass destruction and the long-range missiles to deliver them.

In 1993, the United States formulated a policy of "dual containment" to isolate both Iran and Iraq. Three years later, Congress passed the Iran-Libya Sanctions Act, designed to punish foreign companies trading with either one of those countries.

It seemed as if Washington's rift with Iran was immutable. But with Khatami's accession to power in August 1997, the political logjam was essentially broken. Following his call for a re-establishment of dialogue, he proposed non-governmental exchanges – mainly cultural and academic – with the United States. But in a nod to his more conservative rivals, who oppose better relations with the United States, Khatami listed a long litany of grievances against Washington, attacked the U.S.'s military presence in the Persian Gulf and declared his fealty "to our revolutionary principles."

Despite Khatami's disclaimers, doubtless voiced to pacify Iran's adamantly anti-American spiritual leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, the Clinton administration has responded to his overtures.

President Bill Clinton has said that he "would like nothing better than to have a dialogue with Iran." He has also expressed an interest in a "genuine reconciliation." For her part, Secretary of State Madeleine Albright has urged Tehran to join the United States in drawing a "road map leading to normal relations."

Meanwhile, there have been a number of telling developments suggesting that a thaw is indeed underway. In an echo of the "ping pong" diplomacy that preceded Richard Nixon's visit to China in 1972, American and Iranian wrestling squads have visited each other.

As well, Washington has toned down its official warning against Americans travelling to Iran and waived sanctions against French, Russian and Malaysian companies doing business in Iran.

(Recently, Clinton vetoed a congressional bill imposing sanctions on foreign,particularly Russian, firms that provide missile technology to Iran. Clinton squelched the bill because he is reluctant to antagonize Moscow, not because he has changed his mind about missile proliferation.)

Washington believes that Khatami – who recently told PLO leader Yasser Arafat that he would not oppose a Mideast settlement acceptable to the Palestinians – is a rising force of moderation in Tehran and should be supported.

Full normalization, however, is still far off. The American economic embargo directed at Iran remains in place. Washington is still opposed to the building of a pipeline through Iran to transport Caspian Sea oil to Western markets. The U.S. State Department, in its latest assessment of international terrorism, brands Iran as one of its few remaining "active state" sponsors.

Afula attack thwarted

Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Security forces have arrested members of a Hamas cell who allegedly were planning to bomb Afula, the IDF said Sunday.

Five men from the Samarian village of Mirka were remanded until the end of legal proceedings against them by the Dotan Military Court last week.

The General Security Service, assisted by the IDF and police, detained the men after two bombs were detonated close to IDF patrols on the route linking Jenin and Nablus on May 9 and May 12, the IDF spokesperson said.

During interrogation, the men admitted to using home-made guns to carry out shooting attacks over the past year against Israeli vehicles in the vicinity of the Dotan army base. They also revealed the whereabouts of four home-made weapons and ammunition, as well as components they planned to use to prepare bombs. They also admitted setting fire to a forest near the Dotan army base in September 1996.

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Ulpan helps prepare Minsk Jews for aliyah

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

The buildings all look the same in Minsk. People don't smile. And the birds don't sing.

There is an almost overwhelming sense of greyness, shabbiness, hopelessness. A feeling that the best leave for a brighter future.

I went to Minsk, a place I never expected to find myself, on the United Jewish Appeal Israel 50 Mission of Discovery. While the scant 33 hours we spent there rendered a thorough knowledge of the city unrealistic, it was enough to get its flavor, as well as to meet some of the Jewish community.

As well, Belarus is the only country of the former Soviet Union (FSU) to remain Communist. While this has the positive effect of keeping official anti-Semitism very low, it means that the entire population suffers from a stagnant economy, a political system they feel they can't trust and a general air of suspicion.

It is difficult to not share that suspicion. When you arrive at the very modern airport in Minsk, your passport and visa are checked by stern-faced military personnel.

All money must be declared – exactly. Demanding to go through my wallet and purse, the customs official discovered $20 in Canadian money I had forgotten about, roundly denounced me for my lackadaisical attitude and made me amend my declaration.

At our hotel, the Orbita, the major tourist hotel in Minsk, an expressionless, grim-faced concierge manned a desk on each floor. She didn't seem to do anything much, she never spoke, even to respond. She was just there – watching.

And while the Jewish population of Minsk insist that their life is pretty much the same as anyone else there, when our group was putting flowers on a marker to the 5,000 people murdered by the Nazis in 1942, someone from an apartment overlooking the memorial threw bottles at us.

Minsk was part of the Russian Pale of Settlement, a small town, built with wooden houses, some of which can still be seen along the streets. At the beginning of the 20th century, half the population was Jewish; by the beginning of World War II, one-third were Jewish.

There were 86 shuls in the city, many restricted to those in certain professions. After the October revolution, nearly all religious institutions were closed, and by the eve of World War II, only three synagogues remained. After the war there was one.

Now, there are two synagogues, the Main synagogue, and the Central synagogue, which is Lubavitch. There is very little contact between the two, except for the fact that Rabbi Jonathan Rothman, spiritual leader of the Main synagogue, a transplanted New Yorker/cum/Israeli, is also the community shochet.

We were welcomed enthusiastically by the Jewish community of Minsk, who gave us meals, kept the vodka flowing and looked for opportunities to talk to us.

We went to an ulpan, where people of all ages learned Hebrew in preparation for going to Israel, and to a youth club, where shy teenagers told us about coming together to be with other Jewish kids, learning about Jewish holidays and history, and dreaming about a future.

The Jewish Agency, supported by United Jewish Appeals all over the world, runs a great many programs for the Jews of Minsk and Belarus. There are educational classes, youth clubs, programs for the aged, assistance in aliyah all over the country, with the most activity in the major cities.

Na'ale 16 takes youngsters in the first years of secondary school to Israel to finish their high school education, the idea being that they will decide to remain there and encourage their parents to join them.

Elderly have a hard life

The Jewish Agency helps the families remain in contact by periodic telephone calls and by allowing a yearly visit, either by the parents going to Israel, or by the child returning to Minsk.

Almost all the children do choose to remain in Israel.

There are many elderly leading very difficult lives. Many are alone, either because their families have emigrated or because of the tremendous loss of life during World War II.

The Jewish Agency provides social clubs and drop-in centres, as well as meals on wheels, which functions much as it does here, where the person delivering the food also makes sure that the client is doing well.

Clients can also get medical care and housekeeping help. Special packages are available, either by pickup or delivery, on Jewish holidays. On Pesach, for instance, the package would include matzah, oil, sugar and grape juice.

There is a tug-of-war between two philosophies of help for the Jews of Minsk, as for all the Jews of the FSU. Should they be encouraged to go to Israel? Or should emphasis be placed on bettering their lives there? Organizations such as Lubavitch, Aish HaTorah and Hashomer Hatzair are struggling to foster Jewish identity and Jewish life there. The Jewish Agency is doing that as well, but also assists people to get to Israel.

That assistance may include teaching potential olim Hebrew, helping prepare belongings for transport, even help in settling in Israel.

If all that is wanted is a plane ticket, then that is available as well.

The question of Who is a Jew is a major concern in Minsk, again as in the whole FSU. For most purposes, the Law of Return is the guide; that is, any one who has a Jewish grandparent is entitled to go to Israel and to get all the services provided by the Jewish Agency.

Naturally, this does not address the halachic difficulties, and is one of the reasons everyone gives a different number for the population of Minsk and Belarus. It appears that a large proportion of the Jewish population does not fulfil the halachic requirement of matrilineal descent. Intermarriage is more the norm than the exception, and many Jews don't even know, or particularly care, that they are Jewish.

A Yom Ha'atzmaut program at the State Russian Theatre, once the biggest shul in Minsk, featured a number of children in choirs and dance sequences, who had prepared for the program at Jewish schools and clubs. Estimates of how many really were Jewish ranged from 20 percent to 40 percent.

Alla Levine, a Minsk native who took the mission around the city, noted that for many years, the only thing the Jews had was a memorial to the victims of a Nazi massacre at Yama.

"Twice a year, on March 2 [the anniversary of the massacre] and May 9 [victory day], all the Jews came here, to pay honor. But they also came to see and speak to each other, and discuss their problems.

"This was their synagogue, their school, their club – it was twice sacred, twice holy, twice dear."

For years, she said, there were no Jewish activities, schools, theatres. "Children were ashamed if their parents spoke Yiddish," she said.

"We didn't even realize what was happening. It is not our fault – it is our tragedy."

The most poignant moment of the trip to Minsk was a visit to Rakovskaja Street. Originally a street full of Jewish life, with many shuls, it became the entrance to the ghetto in Nazi times. Now, the street is devoid of Jewishness.

Except for one house. A hollowed out place on the doorpost gives mute testimony that it was once a Jewish home.

An emotional Levine, gently touching the place where the mezuzah had been, recited the first words of a poem:

"The only house/In the only street/The only witness/It's too much for it to bear."

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Chai-Tikvah supports those with mental disorders

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Among the Toronto Jewish community's better kept secrets is the Chai-Tikvah Foundation, which has been providing support for consumers of mental health services for 15 years.

Founded in 1983 under the umbrella of Reena, which works to integrate the developmentally disabled into mainstream society, the Chai-Tikvah Foundation seeks to make life easier for those with mental disorders, running the gamut from schizophrenia, bipolar disorder (manic depression), anorexia and others.

And it's all done in a Jewish environment.

For the first time, the organization is reaching out to the community at large for financial help in order to provide more services needed due to increased demand.

Chai-Tikvah was founded by a group of parents whose adult children had nowhere to turn in the community for support and services. As with Reena, a prime mover behind the group was Rabbi Joseph Kelman, who attempted to remove the stigma of mental illness by noting that even King Saul suffered from depression and a mental breakdown.

Chai-Tikvah broke free from Reena in 1987 to provide housing, programs and ongoing support services to Jewish sufferers of mental disorders. Today, it works closely with Jewish Family & Child Service, from which it often receives referrals.

The organization receives 100 percent of its funding from Ontario's health ministry. Several requests for funds to the Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto have been turned down, notes Chai-Tikvah's longtime executive director, Rochelle Goldman-Brown.

Goldman-Brown points out that over the past few years, there has been a shift in the delivery of mental health services and support, to more community-based programs. Chai-Tikvah's philosophy is in keeping with that, she says.

The foundation operates a fully kosher group home in the Bathurst-Steeles area for eight residents who receive round-the-clock care. Residents, who pay rent, cook their own meals, clean up and run errands – all with a view toward reaching independence. Jewish holidays are observed.

Four years ago, Chai-Tikvah expanded its mandate to include home visits and crisis support to those who live on their own or with their parents. Ten clients receive those services, which include the teaching of basic life skills.

Over the years, the foundation has "graduated" about 50 clients.

Goldman-Brown explains that for many sufferers of mental illness, loneliness is a big problem. To that end, the organization runs Club Simcha, which meets at the group home and provides a chance for clients to socialize.

Because demand for its services is so high, (there's an unofficial waiting list of about 75) a venue is needed for a drop-in centre. The foundation has also applied for a municipal grant to run a new weekly social program, Tea at Two.

Chai-Tikvah also needs additional money to fund programs for older adults with mental health needs. Reena too is planning a home just for older adults to serve an aging population.

Dr. Ira Kirshen, a dentist, chairs the foundation's eight-member board. There are four full-time staff members. For more information, call 905-886-6520.

BAYCREST BIKE-A-THON

About 200 riders turned out recently for the Fifth Annual Baycrest Life Cycle Bike-a-thon at Seneca College, King City campus. Proceeds from the event will go toward the Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care and construction of the new Apotex Centre, Jewish Home for the Aged and The Centre for Cognitive Disorders.

New heart procedure employed in Israel

By JUDY SIEGEL
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — A 76-year-old man whose heart was so obstructed by swollen muscle tissue that he was unable to walk two steps, will now be mobile, thanks to a new procedure involving the injection of alcohol into the heart via a catheter.

He was the first patient in Israel to undergo the one-hour procedure, which was developed by Dr. Antonio Colombo of Milan.

The treatment was performed at Jerusalem's Shaare Zedek Hospital and beamed by cable to the Holiday Inn Crowne Plaza where hundreds of participants at the hospital's Third International Symposium on Cardiology and Cardio-thoracic Surgery were watching. Among them was Dr. Bernard Goldman, head of cardiac surgery at Toronto's Sunnybrook Health Science Centre, who chaired two sessions.

The patient, whose in-hospital recovery will take just four days, has suffered from symptoms of hypertrophic obstructive cardiomyopathy for years.

Caused by a genetic defect, it is often the reason for sudden death in young athletes unaware of the condition.

In this elderly patient's case, said Dr. Yaron Almagor, head of the hospital's catheterization unit, it was kept under control by drugs, but they finally lost their efficacy, and he was confined to a wheelchair.

"The genetic defect caused an obstruction of the part of the left ventricle leading to the aorta, because the muscle tissue swelled," Almagor explained. This condition causes fainting, dizziness, pain and even sudden death due to irregular heartbeat.

The alcohol kills the swollen cells, leaving room for blood in the left ventricle to pass freely into the aorta and the rest of the body.

Other demonstrations performed in front of the cameras at the symposium included the replacement of a defective mitral valve using robotic arms and minimal incisions into the heart; and a by-pass operation that does not require a heart-lung machine.

MR. PRESIDENT

Toronto endodontist Dr. Wayne Pulver was recently elected president of the Ontario Dental Association (ODA). A leader in many dental organizations during his 25-year career, Pulver said the ODA must address the needs of those unable to receive oral health care. The ODA is a voluntary organization that supports its 5,000 members in providing oral health services to the public.

CORRECTION

In the June 18 article about Tel-AIDE, the Jewish Distress Line, titled "Distress Line Hires Staffer," the names of the Stolero Foundation and Esther Lahmany were spelled incorrectly.

The CJN regrets the error.

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Features

ECRUSY alumni to hold reunion

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Does the acronym ECRUSY ring a bell? Alumni of the Eastern Canadian Region of United Synagogue Youth are invited to the organization's first major reunion, to be held this fall.

Alyssa Zobary (née Maskowitz) had a yen to reconnect with the Conservative movement's youth organization when she moved back to Toronto last August after seven years in New York.

"I realized USY was such an important part of my childhood and teens. I can see now, re-meeting people as adults, that it's also shaped their lives in terms of their careers and the types of people they became."

Zobary, 36, an alumna of Beth Tikvah Synagogue's USY, is a former adult education and women's centre director at Brooklyn's Sephardic Community Centre. Her brother Marty Maskowitz, also an ex-USYer, is the centre's executive director.

"A lot [of alumni] became social workers or are working for UJA," said Zobary, whose USY memories include letter writing campaigns on behalf of Soviet Refuseniks and annual phone calls to Anatoly Scharansky.

"It gave people a sense of pride in being Jewish and working in Jewish fields," she said. "It taught us to take care of other people, to see beyond ourselves and to do for [our] community."

Now Zobary, a mother of two, is focusing on plans for the Saturday night reunion, to be held Oct. 10 at Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue. The event, which will begin with a havdalah service, will include "music, munchies and memorabilia," according to a news release.

Zobary and her committee don't know when ECRUSY was established, but she figures it's close to 40 years ago. The international organization dates back to 1951.

Reunion organizers have been in contact with alumni going back to the 1960s, and are looking for memorabilia – things like yearbooks, photos, buttons, T-shirts and convention banners – to display at the reunion.

ECRUSY, with over 300 members in 10 chapters, encompasses a geographical area that includes Montreal, Ottawa, Toronto, Hamilton, St. Catharines, Kitchener-Waterloo and London.

Alumni can be found as far away as Israel and Hong Kong, said Zobary.

For further information or to offer memorabilia, check the Web site at [http://www.interactivepages. com/usyreunion.html] or call the United Synagogue office at 905-738-1717.

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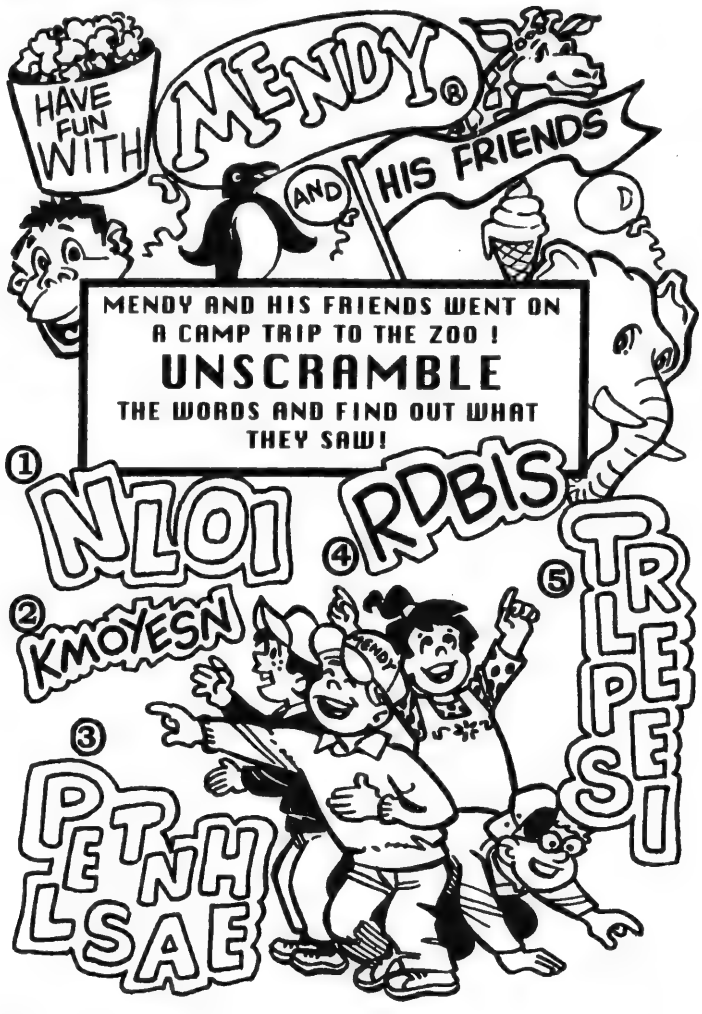

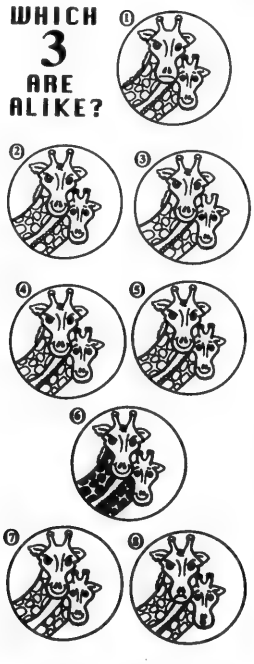

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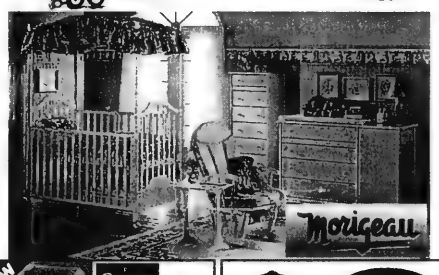

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Reverence for 'Israel's First Lady of Song' still strong

By JANINE MULLER
Special to The CJN

JERUSALEM — "Please God, please preserve all these things for me, the honey and the sting, the sweetness and the bitterness. Do not uproot what has been planted; Do not forget the hope; Bring me back to the good land".

In 1981 when Naomi Shemer composed *Al Kol Eile* (*For All These Things*), I was 11 years old, and the song was introduced to me and to my classmates by our Hebrew teacher, a shaliach from Israel.

I was absolutely convinced at the time that Shemer was talking to me. True, it was not the first time that I had experienced her songs.

An integral part of the Yom Hazikaron service was the singing of *The Two of us Are from the Same Village*; and no Yom Ha'atzmaut was complete without the uplifting *Tomorrow* (*Machar*).

The life-affirming, faithful tone of *Al Kol Eile*, however, seemed to affect me more profoundly than any of her previous songs.

During those years,the Voice of Israel was, for me, not a radio station, but the voice of Naomi Shemer: soothing, hope-inspiring, resonating with love for the land and the people of Israel.

Modern, pop music in Israel? I had never heard of any pop singers. I thought, perhaps naively, that all Israelis were singing *The Eucalyptus Grove* and were dancing in the streets to *Od Lo Ahavti Dai* (*Lots of Love*).

Now that I live in Israel, I have learned that Israel 1998 has grown beyond the Shemer classics, so deeply-rooted in the soil and traditions of Israel. Today, there are new singers and groups who appeal more to the young. Yet reverence for Israel's First Lady of Music has not abated.

To mark Israel's 50th anniversary, the recent annual Israel Festival opened with a tribute to Shemer, winner of the Israel Prize in 1983 for Hebrew Song Writing, whose *Jerusalem of Gold* was recently voted the most popular song of Israel's 50 years.

The concert took place in the Hassenfeld Amphitheater, Sultan's Pool, with a breathtaking view of the Old City walls. It was the night following Yom Yerushalayim and I remember thinking how fitting it was to salute Israel's national songwriter, on this night in particular and in this setting, so close to the City of Gold.

The concert boasted an impressive cast of contemporary Israeli performers, including Mati Caspi, Riky Gal and Boaz Sharabi. Each participating artist was asked to contribute his or her favorite Naomi Shemer tune; many of the songs were newly arranged by music director Adi Rennert, especially for this occasion.

Naomi Shemer

I soon discovered the incredible diversity of Shemer's songs; her vast collection features a wide variety of children's songs, army tunes and love songs, songs expressing not only nationalistic fervor, but also conveying pain and joy of a very personal nature.

Unfortunately, I was not able to catch some of her more popular tunes (such as *Loo Yehi*, *All We Pray For*) due to the overpowering voice of a 50-something man sitting behind me, who seemed to be reliving his past by generously sharing his rendition of these melodies with the crowd.

Shemer appeared for the finale looking lovelier and more graceful than her familiar photo from years past. I was not disappointed. She was witty and vivacious, just as I imagined she should be, and her voice was warm as she expressed her gratitude to all those who organized the evening of tribute.

She played the song that she composed in honor of Israel's anniversary, simply entitled, *Yovel* (*Jubilee*).

"Those who have loved, have loved; Those who have hated, have hated; Thus, 50 years have passed for us. Yet perhaps from day to day, between the light and storm, Springs a new hope."

Forty years after she began writing music for the school children of Kineret near the Jordan Valley where she was born, Shemer has still not lost her unique capacity to capture the unspoken melody of this nation's soul, to give it wings and to let it soar.

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Lost music found again

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The Fringe Festival is noted for its off-the-wall plays, and few will be stranger than Toronto Cantor Ron Graner's performance about the lost music of Russian composer David Nowakowsky (1848-1921).

It will include Graner singing from the "coffin" of one of Nowakowsky's most bitter critics, another cantor who is partly responsible for suppressing Nowakowsky's music until the end of World War I.

The hour-long *Musical Pawns* tells the intriguing story of how the Bolsheviks and the Nazis kept Nowakowsky's works from the public, and how trunks of his manuscripts were spirited out of Russia by his daughter, buried in a French peasant's field during World War II and survived a flood in a dusty United States' archive.

Graner was a cantorial student in New York when he was introduced to Nowakowsy's music, and he has made reviving his work a life project. It draws on letters, pamphlets and poetry from such diverse sources as Catherine the Great, Joseph Kennedy, Jr., Richard Wagner, Chaim Nachman Bialik, Hannah Senesh, revolutionary George Herwegh and poet Norman Corwin.

Right in tune with the Fringe's goals, Graner intends to ask volunteers in the audience to read parts of his script.

Reviews of previous productions of *Musical Pawns* in Minneapolis and Ottawa have praised the music (of Nowakowsky and other composers) and Graner's singing as the centrepiece of the show.

As in the other places, Graner will be accompanied by a pianist, violinist and cellist. For the Fringe, he has recruited three stellar musicians to accompany him, Adolfe De Santis, piano; Lily Szeto, violinist; and Timon Sadukov, cellist.

Musical Pawns will be performed six times from Monday, July 6 to Sunday, July 12, at the Royal Conservatory of Music, 273 Bloor St. W., near the subway. The curtain will go up at different times. Tickets are $8. For information, 534-5919.

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD ANSWERS

S	E	L	F		H	A	M	S	A		M	A	R	C
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Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

CELEBRATE CANADA DAY DOWNTOWN OR UPTOWN

Here are two suggestions if you wish to attend Canada Day celebrations, either downtown or uptown.

The Bloor JCC is planning Crossroads, an exciting line-up of entertainment for the Canada Day weekend that is part of the Spadina and Bloor Street Festival. The events take place on the street.

The performers include composer **Milton Barnes**, who performs his own music and talks about growing up on Spadina; **Norman Perrin**, **Dorothy Lichtblau** and **Michael Wex**, who tell stories about life in old Spadina; playwright **Morris Jacobs**, who performs his one-act play, *Zimmerman's Neighbourhood* about a dry-goods merchant on Spadina; actor **Sylvia Lennick**, who recalls the golden age of Jewish theatre on Spadina; and documentary filmmaker **Karen Shopsowitz**, who screens her film about Shopsy's, her family's famous delicatessen.

Hosted by raconteur-about-town Michael Wex, *Crossroads* features numerous other performers and guest artists. July 4, 8 p.m., and July 5, from 12 noon. 750 Spadina Ave. at Bloor Street. Admission free.

In uptown Toronto, recording artist **Amy Sky** and special guests **Lennie Gallant** and **Bruce Guthro** headline a free family concert as part of Canada Day celebrations on July 1, 7 to 10:30 p.m. at Mel Lastman Square, North York. Fireworks start at 10 p.m.

* * *

Jack Grunsky Concerts: Folk-singer/composer **Jack Grunsky** reportedly has a rare and wonderful gift of captivating both adults and children with his well-crafted and catchy songs. **Jack and the Chigo Chigo Band** are giving two shows on July 5 at 2 and 4 p.m. on the Living Earth Stage at Yonge and Lawrence. Free.

Grunsky is also slated to perform another free concert at the Mill Pond Park, Richmond Hill, July 23.

When he is not busy writing and recording new songs, Grunsky paints. He had two successful art gallery shows last year.

* * *

Composer Honored: Ben Steinberg, composer-in-residence at Temple Sinai, has been awarded the degree of doctor of humane letters (honoris causa) by Hebrew Union College, Jewish Institute of Religion, New York.

The seminary of the Reform movement honored Steinberg for his research on Jewish music and for his own compositions and the body of work. "His gift as composer places him among the truly creative spirits of the American synagogue," the seminary said in conferring the degree.

* * *

Literary Awards: Amos Oz and **Dahlia Ravikovitch**, two central Israeli authors whose writing has spanned the course of decades, have been granted the 1998 Israel Prize.

Oz was awarded the prize based on his novels that since the 1970s have become classics in Israeli literature, including *Elsewhere, Perhaps*, *My Michael*, *Black Box* and *Don't Pronounce It Night*. He has published 22 books, including two collections of political essays and commentaries.

Ravikovitch is one of Israel's most renowned and prolific poets, whose work appeals to many different segments of Israeli society. Despite her dark themes that often deal with pain and suffering, Ravikovitch brings original use of the Hebrew language to bear upon her work, which speaks directly and intimately to Israeli audiences.

* * *

Dorothy Parker Remembered: She was born prematurely on Aug. 22, 1893, and she would later say it was the last time she was early for anything. She was married in 1916 to **Edwin Parker**, and after their divorce a few years later, she quipped that she had married him only because he had a nice clean name. Despite her wishes for rain, she died on a sunny day – June 7, 1967.

Carol Lempert

Dorothy Rothschild Parker, whose father was Jewish, became one of the pre-eminent wits of the Algonquin Round Table, the famed New York literary circle. To celebrate Parker's acerbic humor and legendary life, actor **Carol Lempert** is staging a one-woman show, *That Dorothy Parker...*, as part of the Fringe of Toronto Festival.

Presented by The Me and Mr. Jones Theatre Company, *That Dorothy Parker...* is being performed at the Poor Alex Theatre, 296 Brunswick Ave., from July 3 to 12. $8. Call 534-5919 for times and reservations.

Ensemble depicts joys, sorrows of family life

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — All the joys and sorrows of Jewish family life inhabit a staged reading of *There Comes a Time* by Medina Theatre Ensemble.

The play, by Medina members Fran Elliot and Roselle Stone, features an alcoholic grandmother, who gets shunted aside at her grandson's bar mitzvah, a husband and wife who bicker endlessly, an aging bachelor who nurses a grudge against his brother, and a woman who pursues and captures the bachelor in a retirement home.

And, of course, as is traditional in Jewish theatre, there is a happy ending. The grandmother overcomes her "schnapps therapy."

The emotional peaks and valleys are well handled by director Reva Stern, former artistic director of the Leah Posluns Theatre.

The alcoholic grandmother who knits the play together is played with verve by Gloria Valentine. As the curmudgeon who won't forgive his brother, Morris Nusyna makes the most of his good lines.

The sold-out audience in the B'nai Brith building on Hove Street was on the same wave length as the characters.

Others in the cast were Mark Albert, Trudy Deacon, Beverly Brock, Mira Lyon-Wein, Edie Goldstein, Jeanette Palframan, Ruth Flicht, Oscar Goodman, Jean-Paul Michellepis and Jacqueline Leung.

Up coming

TORONTO — Toronto artist Ron Satok is having an exhibition of his works through to Aug. 31.

Titled, Theme; Content; Style., the exhibition is a mini-retrospective of his work from 1963 to the present, capturing three specific periods: New York, Japan and his "non-sighted period."

The blind artist works in many media including ink drawings, pastels and lithographs.

By appointment only. Groups will be accommodated. Satok School of the Arts, 446 Ontario St. (between Gerrard and Carlton streets). Call 967-0780.

***

The Canadian rock opera *Job and the Snake* is celebrating its CD release with two performances at the Ballet School's Betty Oliphant Theatre (404 Jarvis St.) July 4 and 5, 2 p.m. and 8 p.m.

This retelling of the Book of Job tells the story of the struggle between good and evil. The performances star independent recording artist Kevin Connelly.

Tickets $35; combined ticket and CD is $50. Call the Ticket-Lady (410-JILL).

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TRAVEL TALK

BY BILL GLADSTONE

GOING, GOING, GONE... AT SOTHEBY'S OF LONDON

A young man walks into Sotheby's, the famous auction house on New Bond Street in Central London, and produces a six-inch terracotta figurine from his knapsack.

Dating from the second Assyrian dynasty of roughly 3,000 years ago, the piece may be quite valuable, and the man agrees to leave it overnight so that one of Sotheby's 250 experts may appraise it.

In other areas of the sprawling old building, appraisers are examining antique books, paintings, jewelry, silver and other items that people have brought in from the street. "People come in with absolutely everything," says Sotheby's spokesperson Emma Cunningham, as a man passes by with a rolled-up carpet under his arm to join a queue of two or three others also bearing carpets. "Some people drive up with large pieces of furniture in the car, and the experts go outside and have a look."

The central headquarters of the world's largest auction house is usually a busy place, with throngs of people coming through the doors daily to have their valuable heirlooms appraised, and, if they are worth above the minimum value of £200 ($440 Cdn), to consign them to one of Sotheby's famous auctions. Hundreds of others arrive to inspect rare treasures before an auction, then return to bid on them. Some 250 auctions are held here annually.

Cunningham likens the scenes that unfold daily in Sotheby's vestibules to "a sort of permanent *Antiques Roadshow*," in reference to the popular British television show on which antiques experts travel around Britain and the world, appraising unusual and frequently valuable items brought to them by hopeful members of the public. (Experts from Sotheby's appear often on the show.)

"People bring in old books, toys, teddy bears, photographs, crockery, silver, glass – everything you can think of," she says. "Often, they bring things and they don't know what they are, and we're able to tell them. Most of the items we see we don't end up selling, because they aren't sufficiently valuable or there isn't a market for them.

"People are often just as relieved to know that an old jug is worth only £10 instead of £10,000, because they don't have to have it insured."

Sotheby's has identified more than 70 collecting categories, and most of its experts are knowledgeable in several categories. By seeing such a vast quantity of material, they acquire a proficiency that surpasses that of most museum curators, Cunningham says.

"A curator might be in charge of a very static collection of 500 pieces, whereas our experts might see 500 pieces in a week."

When Sotheby's accepts an item for auction, much consideration is given to where and how to sell it. "We sell things wherever the market is strongest for them. For example, a piece of English silver that comes into our Toronto office would be sold in London, and a wonderful Ming vase would be sold in Hong Kong, the centre of the Chinese art market. We always try to get the best possible price for the buyer."

Sotheby's generally makes its profits by charging the buyer a fee above and beyond the hammer price at which an item is sold. The fee is 15 percent of the first £30,000 and 10 percent on the remainder.

The auction house was founded in 1744 by Samuel Baker, a London bookseller who arranged auctions of whole libraries. In 1955, the company set up a second headquarters in New York City, where another 250 sales are conducted annually. Some 50 sales annually are conducted in more than 100 other offices around the world, including Tel Aviv and Toronto.

London, the focus of a vast empire, became the auction centre of the world after tens of thousands of British subjects travelled to the four corners of the earth, then returned with valuable and exotic artifacts, Cunningham explains.

"Traditionally, there has been a minimum of restrictions on importing art and antiques, making London a trading centre for these items."

Sotheby's front entrance on New Bond Street in London.

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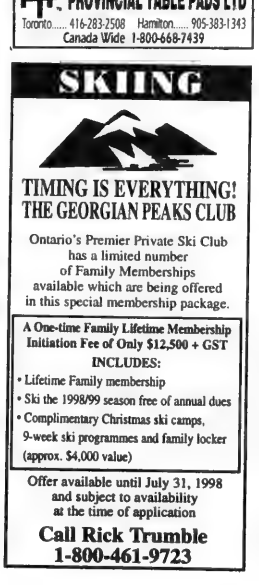
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Yiddish poems featured

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Binem Hiller, a 90-year-old poet, and his wife, Hadassah Kestin, eloquently read their Yiddish poems in the Israeli film *Too Early To Be Quiet, Too Late To Sing* made in 1996.

Both Hiller and his wife have died since then, underlining the precarious state of Yiddish poetry as its practitioners die off.

Yakov Tzvi Shargel, another of the dozen poets who appeared in the film, also died recently, according to Toronto Yiddish poet Simcha Simchovitch, who introduced the film at the Art Gallery of Ontario sponsored by Friends of Yiddish and the Toronto Jewish Film Society.

Another poet, Ziane Telesin, suffering ill health, had his poems read by his wife and doughty fellow poet, Rachel Boimwol. Her own work is gritty but humorous too.

A gem of a scene involves two men attempting to sing the chalutz song, *Zol Zein*, in the storeroom of Peretz Publishers, the major printer in Israel of Yiddish works.

Elderly Yiddish poets in Israel feel they are not appreciated enough even though the Knesset passed a law last year giving full status as languages to Yiddish and Ladino, Simchovitch said.

Two reasons for this, he said, are that Histadrut cut its subsidy to the Yiddish quarterly, the *Golden Chain*, which has since suspended publication; and the $200,000 given this year by the Knesset for Yiddish and Ladino was spent all on Ladino.

Younger Yiddish poets, however, most of them from the former Soviet Union, are coming to prominence in Israel and North America, including Boris Sandler, recently appointed editor-in-chief of the Yiddish newspaper, the *Forward*, in New York.

Amsterdam museum sets Jewish history in Dutch context

By RONA ARATO
Special to The CJN

AMSTERDAM — On a recent visit to Amsterdam, I was delighted to discover the Jewish Historical Museum, a unique gallery located in the heart of the former Jewish quarter.

The museum, which opened at its present location in 1987, is a fascinating time capsule, a blend of old and new where you quite literally walk through the history of Dutch Jewry.

To create the museum, the architects painstakingly restored four 17th and 18th century Ashkenazi synagogues – the Great Synagogue, the Obbene Shul, the Dritt Shul and the New Synagogue – to their original style, then linked them together through a network of modern glass and steel connections. The result is a light, bright gallery with deep roots in the past.

The Shulgas, an alley that cut between the Great Synagogue and the Obbene Shul, has been transformed into a glass enclosed walkway. The atrium-style museum entry, winding staircases and bridges linking the synagogues are modern while the brick facades and interior woodwork have been left intact.

For example, in the New Synagogue, the vault, cupola and columns are original structures while the bridges, balustrades and galleries are modern. The Ark in the centre of the shul dates from 1791 and was brought in from the synagogue in Enkhuizen to replace the original Ark that was lost.

The Jewish Historical Museum is the culmination of a dream that began in 1923 when the city's Department of Arts opened a Jewish gallery in a single room on the top floor of the Amsterdam Historical Museum. At that time, 10 percent of the city's population was Jewish and the municipality wanted to commemorate the community with small exhibitions on Jewish themes.

Founding officials predicted the fledgling gallery would soon outgrow its cramped quarters. Their dreams, however, were shattered by the onset of World War II. Following the German invasion of the Netherlands, the gallery was closed and the collection transferred to the Stedelijk Museum. The Stedelijk's director valiantly tried to protect the Judaic artifacts in his care but was eventually forced to relinquish them to the Nazis who shipped them back to Germany. When the museum reopened in 1955, officials set about replacing the lost treasures through private and public donations.

The purpose of the museum is to set Jewish history, culture and religion within the context of Dutch cultural history. The Sephardi Jews, descended from those who fled Spain for Portugal, were the first to arrive towards the end of the 16th century. Dispossessed by the Inquisition, they thrived in the religious freedom of the Netherlands and slowly regained the religious practices they'd abandoned along the way. They were followed in 1630 by a wave of central and eastern European Jews seeking asylum from the Thirty Years' War.

Dutch Jews were granted full civil rights in 1796 and by the 1930s most were highly assimilated. Ironically, it was the Holocaust that reminded many of them of their religious and cultural heritage.

The Jewish Historical Museum provides an impressive setting for the richly woven tapestry of Dutch Judaism, past and present. The permanent collection offers fine examples of ceremonial objects, including 17th and 18th century megillot Esther, ketubot and Chanukah menorahs.

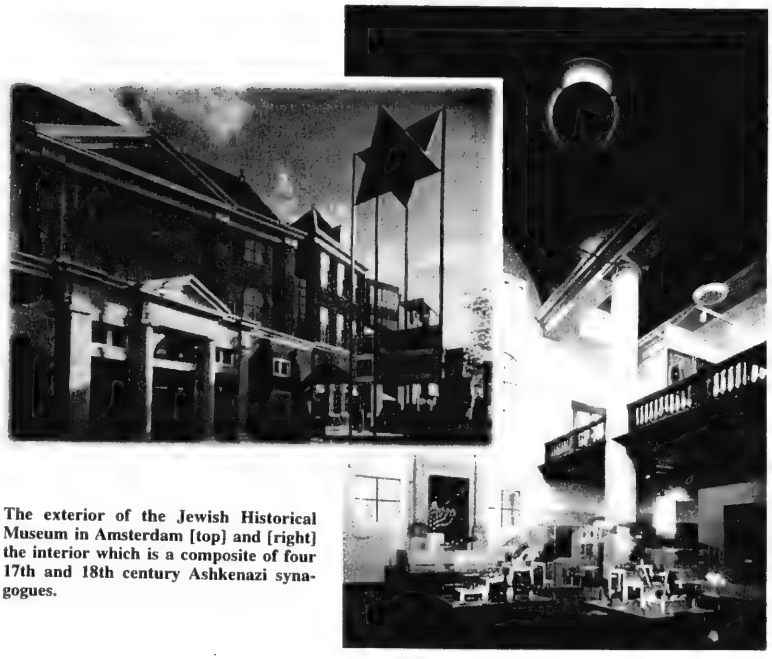
Paintings by Dutch artists include Jan Voerman's *The Days of Mourning* and *Jewish Wedding* by Jozef Israels. The paintings and displays are augmented by photographs depicting all aspects of Jewish life. In addition, the museum regularly mounts special exhibits showcasing the lives of Jews around the world.

After visiting the exhibits, or as a rest stop, check out the adjoining gift shop. It is a treasure trove of Judaic books and art.

The Jewish Historical Museum is located across the road from the Opera House and the Town Hall buildings of the Waterlooplein and opposite the 17th century Portuguese Synagogue. It's an easy walk from Dam Square in the centre of the city. To get there by tram, take the Number 9 or 14 and get off at Waterlooplein or catch the Circle Tram that stops at the museum. Entrance fees for adults are approximately $8; children $2 and seniors and students (with international students card) $4. The facility is open daily, except on Yom Kippur, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Correction

As a result of a typographical error in the article "Jewish quarter of Krakow experiencing revitalization" (*CJN*, June 25, page 39) Auschwitz was placed 600 kilometres west of Krakow instead of 60 km.



The exterior of the Jewish Historical Museum in Amsterdam [top] and [right] the interior which is a composite of four 17th and 18th century Ashkenazi synagogues.

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6	Gerrard & Broadview	1:45PM	Spadina Chinatown Ctr.	2:15PM	Miss. Chinese Ctr.	2:45PM	9:00PM
7	Kennedy & Steeles N.E. Corner	2:15PM	Commerce Gate	2:30PM	Jane & Wilson	3:00PM	10:00PM
8	Kennedy & Steeles N.E. Corner	4:15PM	Gerrard & Broadview	4:45PM	Spadina Chinatown Ctr	5:15PM	12:00AM
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Business Profile

Designer specializes in high-end residences

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — To Brian Gluckstein, owner of Gluckstein Design Planning Inc., happiness is an empty space.

Gluckstein, 37, interior designer of the new One Eleven Avenue Road condominium, says he loves creating environments for his clients.

"I have a great time dealing with home owners, with the craftspeople and with everyone involved in the project. Designing a home is always exciting."

He started his business as a one-man operation about 15 years ago, shortly after graduating from Ryerson Polytechnical University's interior design program. Today, he has 21 employees who help him design high-end residential homes, sales centres and model suites in Canada, the United States, Europe and the Caribbean.

His work has included the renovation and refurbishment of the Harbour Shops Mall in Palm Beach, the Windsor Arms Condominiums and Hotel in Toronto, the refurbishment of the National Golf Club in Woodbridge and the interior design of the new club house for the Glen Abbey Golf Club. He is currently working on over 40 projects.

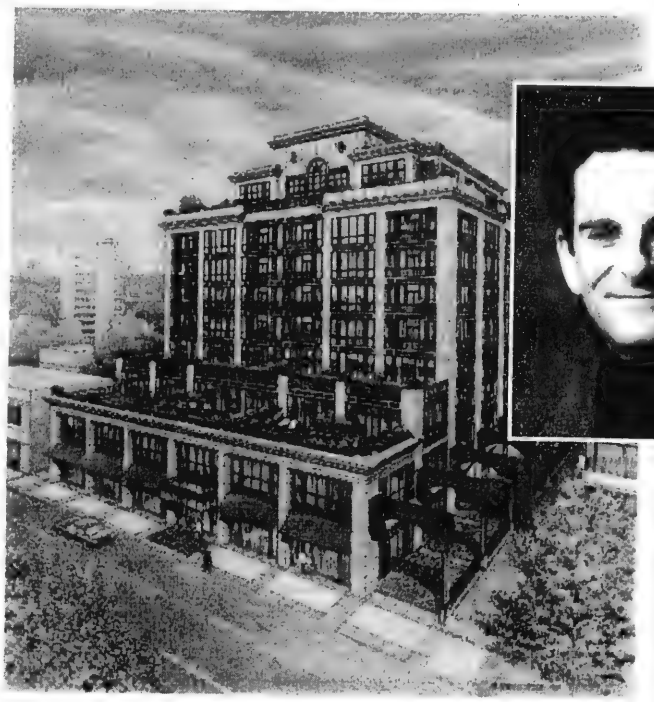
Gluckstein has won several awards from the Association of Interior Designers of Ontario and has been honored by the American National Sales and Marketing Awards and the Greater Toronto Area Home Builders.

"I think our success lies in the fact that we stress high-quality designs and personalized service. We stick with a project from beginning to end – from concept until the owners move in. We're there until the furniture is settled and the pictures are hung."

Interiors designers can deal directly with home owners, says Gluckstein. "Seventy percent of our business is comprised of private residents who are building or renovating a home. A client calls us and we put together a team that includes us, as well as architects, landscape architects and builders.

"We work closely with the architect in designing the home's space. We concentrate on details in rooms such as the bathroom and kitchen, design lighting and help select all the furnishings. If it is a condominium, the end-user selects the suite and we customize it."

Gluckstein, who grew up in the furniture business, says designing a home has always been his passion. "I love working closely with my clients to choose their furnishings. We shop for antique furniture and carpeting.Furniture is often designed in our office, and tendered out to craftspeople here and in the United States. Some projects take years, from the planning stage until we select the furnishings."



Brian Gluckstein [inset]; interior designer of One Eleven Avenue Road.

When furnishing a home, Gluckstein studies his clients lifestyles and tries to design their home to reflect that lifestyle. "I look at their age and their family situation. We have to be practical, so if there are young children, for example, we make sure the furniture can grow with them. I like to furnish a home with pieces that have longevity, pieces that carry through for many years.

"I just finished designing a model home in Belgium. I know that people everywhere have the same sort of needs. They need a home that suits their way of life. When working in different countries, however, I have to take the climate into consideration. I use consultants extensively, who advise me as to what type of materials work best in their climate. We do a lot of work in Florida, and we must be careful to use materials that wear well near the ocean.

"That forms a large part of an interior designer's education – what materials to use in certain places."

His latest project, The One Eleven Avenue Road condominium, is located just north of Bloor Street. The $45-million renovation includes stripping the 10-storey office building and transforming it into 50 residences ranging from 1,100 to 4,500 square feet. They will be priced from about $500,000 to more than $2 million.

"It is an exciting project for me because we are taking an existing building and rebuilding it. The ceilings are 10 to 12 feet high and the interior structure is solid. We've designed a two-storey penthouse, which will be added to the top. We expect that some clients will buy two condominiums, which will be made into one large one."

Until now, he says, people have not focused a lot of attention on luxury condominiums. "A lot of people, however, want luxury but they also want an easier lifestyle. They do not want to worry about responsibilities. Here, there will be a full staff to look after their home when they are travelling. As well, residents do not worry about landscaping or shovelling. All their needs are taken care of. They have the space of a home, without the worries."

As a member of a team that includes builders, architects and landscape architects, part of Gluckstein's work on the condominium involves designing the lobby, the hallways and the recreation facilities. The concept is to design public spaces that are consistent with a luxury hotel and private suites that have the scale and detail found in the finest homes.

He designed the two-storey lobby to be accented in mahogany and glass panels and to include one wall that is made out of limestone, one wall mirrored with brass rivets and one wall that is draped in velvet.On the third floor of the building, he has designed a lounge area that includes a wall of French doors that opens onto a large, furnished stone terrace.

"Our buyers are people who are looking for elegant living space in a downtown, yet not so busy location. We expect a cross-section of buyers from their mid-30s to their mid-70s. In my capacity, I am trying to design space that will reflect their active lifestyle."

Sonny Goldstein, CLU,CH.F.C.
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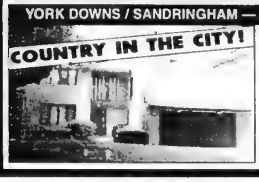

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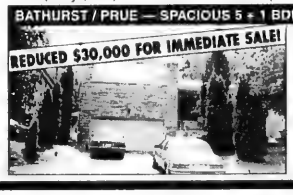

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Fabulous entertaining home, indoor swimming pool, whirlpool tub, walk-out basement, must be seen! $799K. *Ted Waxman

• • •

BATHURST-GLENCAIRN – ALL THE BELLS & WHISTLES
Lovely 4 bdrm. home, library, family room, kosher kitchen, finished basement with kitchen, sauna & separate side entrance. Too many upgrades to list! *Karen Seltzer

• • •

BATHURST-STEELES – OPEN FOR OFFERS!
2 storey 4 bedroom & oversized sitting room off master bedroom. *Mary Fenyes

• • •

BATHURST-CLARK – BEST VALUE!!
Large 4 bdrm., shutters, skylight, custom deck+++! Walk to Aish. *Robyn Reisman

• • •

BATHURST SOUTH OF STEELES $379K
Executive, sunfilled home! Over 3,000 sq. ft., renovated kitchen, spacious rooms, 4+2 bdrms., 4 baths, park garden setting. *Helen Gould

• • •

BATHURST-CLARK - ON QUIET CRESCENT $299,900
Large 3 bdrm., dble. garage, fin. bsmt., reno'd kitchen, extras galore! *Ted Waxman

CONDOMINIUMS FOR SALE

CLARK & HILDA – 1ST AD!
Large 2 bdrm., solarium & balcony, ensuite laundry +++ close to all! *Ted Waxman

BATHURST-CENTRE – DONE TO THE NINES!
Exquisite 2 bdrm., lacquer kitchen, huge living room, etc. $194,900. *Helen Winer

BATHURST-CENTRE – GREAT VIEW!
2 bdrms., 2 car parking, largest in building, only $168,000. *Helen Winer

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REAL ESTATE LIMITED REALTOR

BATHURST/EGLINTON - $98,500
Picture perfect co-op. 1 bdrm., hardwood floors, spacious. Great opportunity to own! Call Jack Solomon*

APARTMENT DWELLERS NEXT MOVE!
Begin with this lovely 3 bdrm., with large eat-in kitchen, FP., & fin. lower. Mint condition - reasonable price. B. Abramson*

THE ST. REGIS ON SPADINA
Elegant new 23 unit condo building offering "BAGHAI" quality and flair. Several designs & sizes. Call Adeana Axler*

BATHURST/WILSON 52 X 115 LOT!
Great family home 3+1 bdrm. den on main floor. Separate entrance to bsmt. apt., fenced yard. Call now! Aron Sussman*

REDUCED TO SELL NOW!! - BAYVIEW VILLAGE HOME
Some reno's done. Some to be done. A spacious 3 brdm., with den & rec. room on a quiet cres. Beautiful grounds. B. Abramson*

MELROSE AVE - JUST REDUCED TO $375,000
40 foot lot, backs onto park. This large 3 bdrm, 3 bath home is too good to miss. Fin lower level. Call Syma Solomon*

PRINCE ARTHUR CONDO
Beautifully decorated 2 bdrm. in full amenity building. Quick closing possible. Call Jack Solomon*

UPPER FOREST HILL! HURRAY!
Totally renovated centre hall, 4 bdrm. & den on 50'x120' south lot. Call Michele Rosen*

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BATHURST/CLARK CUSTOM BUILT

5 bdrms., fam. + den. Large rooms. Huge white kitchen, over 4300 sq. ft., fin. bsmnt., 3 garages, walk to shuls, schools, Promenade + shopping.
A "Must See"!
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SHEPPARD ALLEN RD.
$249,900. 4 bdrm., 2 storey, 2 baths, mod. kit., 5 appls., 50'x150' lot. rec. rm., fireplace, A-1 Buy.

• • •

BATHURST MANOR
Lge. side split, 3 bdrms., bath ens., L-shaped liv. & din., fam. rm., rec. rm., dble gar.

• • •

WILMINGTON OVERBROOK
3 bdrm. bung., 2 baths, 2 kits., fin. bsmnt., gar., move-in cond., steps to all, don't miss!

• • •

BLUE FOREST WILMINGTON
Cust., quality built, 4 bdrm/. den, fam. rm., ki8t. w/walk-out to balc., fin. lower lvl., w/out to beautiful ravine lot, don't miss!

• • •

TRI-PLEX BATHURST WILSON
2-3 bdrm. + 1-1 bdrm. apts., garages, balcs., good income

•

A. & D. SEIDMAN 633-7373

WILMINGTON/GARTHDALE
Want to be a landlord. Make money & live in your own home. Buy this nice triplex 2-3 bedroom, 1-1 bedroom, 2 car garage & parking.

SHEPPARD/WILMINGTON
Lovely side split 3 bedroom, 3 baths, huge fam. room w/out to garden, rec. rm. & wet bar, appliances, 2 car garage, steps to shopping & synagogue.

SALLY ROSEN, Sale Rep.
(905) 884-4425
CENTURY 21 SMITH LTD. BROKER

AVENUE ROAD/WILSON HOT AREA
$675,000. Approx. 3000 sq. ft. quality home being built on lg. lot. Just steps from synagogues! Lux. features include fin. bsmt., skylights, maple kit., granite & more! Please call now for more info.
NATALIE HACKER
Sales Representative
Re/Max Realtron Realty Inc.
(416) 764-6000

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10 HOUSES FOR SALE PRIVATE

Bathurst/Steeles - 4 bdrm., den, 2 bths., extra large kosher kit., 50 x 150 ft. lot, near shul, school, buses. 416-733-1472.

Hamilton - 4 bdr., 2 1/2 bth, 2 fam. rms., fin. bsmt., 5 min. walk to McMaster Hospital, shul, day school, Yeshiva, golf. $315K. 905-526-8257.

Hilda/Clark - Concord Model, det., 3 bdrm., 3 bth., master w/ensuite, fam. rm. w/F.P., lrge. eat-in kit., many upgrades. $269,900. Call 905-771-0892.

15 HOUSES FOR RENT

Bath./Wilson - lge. 5 bdr., lge. yard, 4 bth., fin. bsmnt., walking dist. to Bathurst & TTC. Avail. Sept 1. $3,000. 416-636-6099.

30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE

Bathurst/Steeles - Primrose 1 2 bdrm., 11/2 bths., 5 appl., ensuite stor., pkg., locker, balcony w/great view, sec., pool, sauna, tennis, etc. $175K or best offer.

Call 416-739-0105. Please leave message - All calls will be returned.

30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE

'MENKES' BUILT
Two Bedroom Condominiums
From $154,900. Move in Now.
Prestigious Forest Hills and Primrose Buildings in the Bathurst-Steeles area.
Page: **Maureen Stoeken** *at*
(416) 501-4015

SKYMARK II - $244,900
A super upgraded 1700 sq. ft. suite with the best view-south. Huge liv. rm. & huge kit.
LAURA BARNETT
229-4454
HomeLife/Partners Realty Inc.

35 CONDOMINIUM FOR RENT

3000 Bathurst
Lge. 1 bdrm. + den, wood firs., Shabbat elevator, pkg. July 1. $1200 incl. utilities. Marshall Cohen, 520-0079

55 ACCOMMODATION WANTED

Cdn couple from Isr. need furn. kosher home to rent Aug/Sept. Flex., 2 wks-mo. 905-764-8703.

60 SHARED ACCOMMODATION

Bath./Sheppard - Furn. room in apt., private bth,. Kosher, pkg., female. No Sat. calls. 638-9240.

Senior lady, young at heart seeks same to share her apt. in Toronto (Don Mills & Eglinton) and condo in Florida (Century Village). 416-449-8191.

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

BATHURST-SHEPPARD
Very lg. 1, 2, 3 Bedrms., ample closets, some 1½ baths & 2 balc., roof, laundry, ravine setting, pool, ind. pkg., 6 apts. per flr. From $850.
960-3238 - Bus.
631-9377 or 631-0388 - Super

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75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

BATHURST WILSON
CONVENIENT NORTH YORK LOCATION

NEWLY DECORATED SPACIOUS 1, 2 & 3 BDRMS.
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- Sunken living rooms
- Surveillance cameras and card access system
- Outdoor swimming pool
- Close to conveniences and TTC
- Underground parking available

125 Neptune Dr.
(416) 787-7171

Bath./Glencairn - new furn.1 bdrm. bsmt. apt., sep. entr., full kit., bth., n/smkr., n/pets. Avail. immed. Call 416-787-4154.

82 ROOM FOR RENT

Bath./Finch - 1 room in 2 bdrm. apt. avail. Non-smkr. 635-8480

105 COTTAGE FOR SALE

Belle Ewart - North Shore, brick 4 bdrm. bung. + 1 cottage, 79 ft. lakefront. 416-482-4140.

105 COTTAGE FOR SALE

WATERFRONTS

BELLE EWART - year round, 5 bedrooms, 3 baths, f/place, dock, boathouse. Near shul. SOLD
BELLE EWART - 4 bedroom, 124' lot, breakwall, boathouse, marine rail. Motivated vendor.
BELLE EWART BEAUTY - new 2 storey, 3 bdrm., 2½ bath, f/place, sandy beach, near shul.
LAKE OF BAYS - 10 bdrms., 6 baths, 3 kit., air, tennis crt., winterized, 100'x600' lot.
SANDRA ROTH (BOTNICK)
RYBAK REALTY LTD.
(416) 782-0598

110 COTTAGE FOR RENT

Lake Simcoe, lakefront estate, Beaverton area,lux. 4 bed. Sandy beach. Sunsets. Tennis. Seas./mo, 226-0009, 749-6600.

Lakefront house 8 Mile Point, Lake Simcoe just south of Orillia. 3 bdrm., 1 bth. 449-7413 or 705-325-4125 on weekends.

115 COTTAGE FOR SALE/ RENT

BATHURST-LAWRENCE PROPERTIES

Lovely 7 rm. split, 50' frtg., lg. eat-in kit., liv./din. comb. with w/out to deck. Sep. entry to fin. bsmnt., wet bar, cent. air, closets galore, walk to shuls, schools & all. Owner leaving city.

Estate sale - 3 bdrm. bung., master ensuite, fin. bsmnt., cent. air, 54' frtg. beautiful corner lot.

RUTH RYBAK
RYBAK REALTY LTD.
(416) 787-7151

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115 COTTAGE FOR SALE/ RENT

Monthly or seasonal, Big Cedar Pt., Lake Simcoe. Clean, cute 3 bdrm. cottage, steps from camp Arrowhead, across from priv. beach. 905-764-7504.

135 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT

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160 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR RENT

Jerusalem - near Mt. Scopus, 3 room lux. flat, patio garden, marvelous view. Oct./98 for 1 year. Call 416-221-3540 or Jerusalem 972-2-581-4475. Email: aryeh.shimron@mail.gsi.gov.il

230 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

This is a small ad with a **BIG OPPORTUNITY**. Call Susan 416-410-1715/905-826-9949

240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Enthusiastic creative, Hebrew teacher req'd. Sun. mornings & Wed. afternoons for downtown school, beginning Sept. 1998. Successful classroom experience & teacher training req'd. Reply to DJCS, 750 Spadina Ave, Toronto, M5S 2J2 or fax 416-924-0442, include refs.

Synagogue with mechitzah seeks Modern Orthodox RABBI. Send résumé: Herzlia Search Comm., c/o 600-294 Portage Ave., Winnipeg, Man. R3C 0B9

Vice President of Finance
Growing international company looking for aggressive, independent hands on manager to oversee and co-ordinate all financial functions. CA required. Fax résumé to 905-660-4918.

240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Foster Parent/House Parent req'd for a kosher residence for children with emotional problems. Previous foster exp. and/or CYW diploma req'd. Only individual or couple w/out children at home need apply. Jewish identity incorporated into the treatment program. Lovely home in Thornhill provided. Excellent remuneration package. 416-495-8832.

Administrative Assistant
For small private non profit organization. Ten month contract position. Seeking a bright, professional individual with strong administrative and secretarial skills. Excellent communication and organizational abilities. Familiar with Office 97 and Windows 95. Knowledge of Internet and shorthand an asset. Please fax résumé to 416-932-1214, attention Janice Freedman.

245 EMPLOYMENT WANTED

Accounting/Finance/Admin. Mgmt.expertise avail. 782-5627

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

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Our Company is dedicated to fulfilling the domestic needs of your family. Tired of searching for the right nanny, housekeeper, elderly caregiver? We pre-screen, interview & verify references personally. Why not let the search end here?
CALL (416) 630-3773

Frustrated by trying to find a suitable nanny? Let us help you. We have dependable, caring nannies who are thoroughly qualified, personally interviewed & pre-screened. All refs. are checked. Some are CPR trained. Low finders fee.
Wee Care Placement Agency
416-789-3070

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

Cleaning lady w/12 yrs. exp. avail. References 416-284-7874

High quality house cleaning. Call Dora, 736-1179.

Home cleaning. Introductory special offer including all cleaning products. 2 people will clean for $15/hour. Fully insured. 7 days/wk. *Call Sharon* 783-8068

Lady will take care of kids in your home. Exper., refs. Call Liana, 416-631-0399.

Nannies, housekeepers, companions for elderly, cleaning ladies, live-in or out. Sponsorship from overseas. No fee for the Sponsor. **Excellent Placement Agency. 222-4912.**

Nannies, live-in/out, full/part-time, in-home elderly care, FT, PT, RN's, nurses aides, cleaning. Bonded,refs. **416-630-0674** or **416-224-9907**. **#1 Domestic.**

Reliable cleaning lady w/refs. avail. Mon - Fri. 416-782-8240.

255 DOMESTIC HELP WANTED

English speaking lady w/car pref. to live-in req'd for 1 lady. References req'd 416-250-9341

P/T caregiver for our elderly mother, walks in the neighborhood, lunch prep., and mainly congenial companionship. Pref. 8:30-2pm., Mon.- Fri. 488-0002.

P/T live-in caregiver for elderly lady req'd. Must be caring & gentle. Friday 7:30pm to Sunday 8:00pm. Call 416-481-1920

257 HEALTHCARE AVAILABLE

Affordable nursing grad to care for senior, car & refs. 667-7117

257 HEALTHCARE AVAILABLE

RPN avail. to care for elderly. Live out, refs. 905-839-9065

259 SENIORS

Lonely? Tired of cooking, cleaning, shlepping? *Heimisch, kosher residence* with 24 hour supervision near shul. **225-8740**

260 BUSINESS PERSONALS

B"H
"At Soulmates we know that for every soul G-d created he also created their mate!" Find your mate now! **SOULMATES INC.**
Call **905-709-3868**
www.soulmates.net

Bringing People Together INC a confidential, personal service, call Ruth at 905-731-5204.

Jewish Singles Registry, over 1610 members. Website, www.total.net/~jsreg. 483-4151

264 SOCIAL ANNOUCEMENTS

Mona & Ernest Krehm and **Ester Brown** are happy to announce the engagement of their children **Kayla Krehm & Pesach Brown.**

264 SOCIAL ANNOUCEMENTS

Carolyn & Larry Silverberg are delighted to announce the engagement of their daughter **Wendy to Mitchell** son of **Anna & Harvey Lerner**. Proud grandparents are Lillian Barkin & the late Harry Barkin, Abe & Eva Sloma, Edith & Bill Ratner of Montreal.

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

*** CJN Boxes for Personal Companions Wanted ads are valid for 30 (thirty) days only (from 1st publication date). Replies must be received within this time frame in order to be forwarded to the correct CJN Box #.**

Attractive woman, 40's, who likes the finer things in life seeks a male, 45-65 who can offer her the finer things in life. Call 416-222-4565.

SJM, prof., 39, 5'11", 160 lbs., outgoing, traditional Jewish values, seeks attractive, accomplished SJF, 28-35 with similar background. CJN Box #7057.

SELL IT FASTER!
CALL TANYA AT 391-1836 FOR RATES

CJN Classified Ads Work!

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

Seeking my beshert! I am an adventurous, creative, passionate, kind & spirited divorced Jewish female, no kids, 41, tall. You are a single or divorced Jewish male, prof., 5'11"+, 38-48, with or without kids. I am seeking a long term relationship, placing value in friendship, mutual respect and building a solid foundation with someone. Reply to CJN Box # 7055.

DJF 40, attractive, petite, brown hair, green eyes, warm & caring enjoys movies, dining out seeks an attractive, honest & sincere, professional man, 40-48 who loves kids. Please include a recent picture. CJN Box # 7063.

I have a very attractive, young 74 year old grandmother of Hungarian descent (perfect English). I am looking for a man for her between 68-77, who is young at heart, in good health and relatively fit and is looking for companionship. Please write & send me a recent photo. CJN Box # 7061.

Replying to a Companion ad with a CJN Box Number?

Address your mail to:

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Suite 205
North York, Ontario
M3B 3K4
Box # _____

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

To **Listen** & **Respond** To Ads **call 1-900-451-4552** ***Ext.#*** **65**
The cost of the 900# is only $2.29 per minute
To Place Your **FREE** Ad **call 905-276-6167** ***Ext.#*** **65**

The Meeting Place

Brought to you by the Canadian Jewish News

Women seeking Men

VERY ROMANTIC
Single lady, 27, Jewish, 5'8", short brown hair, brown eyes, nonsmoker, nondrinker, enjoy sports, very outgoing, movies, dining & dancing, seeking Jewish gentleman, 27-36 for serious long term relationship Ad# 1291

LONG TERM RELATIONSHIP
Attractive, single Jewish lady, green eyes, petite, enjoy travelling, swimming, kind, sincere, trustworthy, seeking loving male, Jewish, 35+ Ad# 1298

FRIENDSHIP FIRST
Attractive Jewish lady, 5'4", dark hair, hazel eyes, professional, enjoy travelling, movies, theatre, bowling, camping, cooking, gardening, seeking gentleman, 30-43 with similar interests Ad# 1302

DOWN TO EARTH
Jewish female, 27, outgoing, honest, caring, down to earth, enjoy working out, sports, movies, theatre, seeking a Jewish male, 24-35 who is romantic, sincere, ambitious Ad# 1023

FRIENDSHIP
Jewish lady, late 50's, widow, attractive, fun to be with, seeking gentleman, down to earth, stable, good conversation. Ad# 1309

LONG TERM RELATIONSHIP
Young lady, kind, sensitive, strong sense of humour, seeking gentleman, 27-39, 5'8" or taller, would prefer Jewish with no dependents who enjoys music, sports, & sharing good times. Ad# 1271

SEEK ESTABLISHED GENTLEMAN
Single female, 50, nice shape, blue eyes, open minded & kind, like sports & music, seeking an established gentleman over 45. Ad# 1308

LIKE SCRABBLE
Petite, 40+ Jewish lady, raven hair & dark brown eyes, seeking an attractive, unattached, nonsmoker with integrity. I like singing, movies, scrabble, walking, dining out & fireplaces in winter Ad# 1286

LIFE PARTNER
Jewish lady, 38, petite, nonsmoker, very down to earth, sincere, caring, seeking Jewish gentleman, 35-42 who enjoys oldies music, bingo, dining & dancing Ad# 1311

FINANCIALLY SECURE
Single Jewish female, attractive, tall & trim, financially secure, seeking a male, 55+ who is presentable, non-smoker & loves to laugh Ad# 1341

LOYAL & CUDDLY
Attractive, caring female, blonde, fit, loyal, cuddly, like movies, animals, children, dining out & walking, seeking someone between 45-60 who is nice, honest, down to earth & a nonsmoker Ad# 1259

LIKE TO WORK & PLAY
Single female, 30, brunette, like nature, exercising & travel, seeking someone who is fun & adventurous & also stable & serious Ad# 1292

LASTING RELATIONSHIP
Single Jewish female, 50, employed, caring, sincere, super personality, seeking male, 45-50. Ad# 1266

ROMANTIC AT HEART
Single lady, attractive, kind, passionate, poetic, intense, creative, enjoy reading, theatre, poetry, seeking gentleman who is a good conversationalist, intellectually stimulating, to share romantic moments. Ad# 1267

RADIANT SMILE
Attractive, slim, fit, petite Jewish lady, soft brown hair & brown eyes, I've been told that I'm cute, sexy & young looking for my 47 years, I have a radiant smile & enjoy dancing, seeking a man who is young at heart. Ad# 1279

LIKE TO CUDDLE
Very smart female, 40's, like to exercise, movies, concerts, cuddling, looking for an educated, nonsmoker who is kind, has high integrity & traditional values to share my life with. Ad# 1213

WARM & FIT
Attractive, warm & fit Jewish woman, who likes long walks & good conversation, looking for a nonsmoker, who is over 50 & has a zest for life, should be in good physical shape & have a good sense of humour Ad# 1214

KIND HEARTED
Single female, 5'5", red hair & hazel eyes, kind hearted, attractive & like many things including, dancing, picnics, movies & golf Ad# 1215

LONG TERM RELATIONSHIP
Single professional lady, nonsmoker, Jewish, very sincere, honest, down to earth, seeking gentleman, 37-45, with good sense of humour, kind & nonsmoker Ad# 1263

SUMMER ROMANCE
Single Jewish lady, brown hair, green eyes, very down to earth, enjoy travelling, long walks, theatre, reading, seeking gentleman, 48-58, Jewish, compassionate, sense of humour Ad# 1282

YOUNG AT HEART
Single lady, 51, young, separated, professional, honest, sincere, very kind, seeking dark skinned gentleman, 35-50 for the sweet romance of the summer. Ad# 1283

LONG TERM RELATIONSHIP
Classy, charming, affectionate, Jewish lady, professional, very down to earth, enjoy movies, theatre, long walks, seeking gentleman, 48-58, Jewish, kind, honest. Ad# 1239

FRIENDSHIP
Petite lady,5'2", 118 lbs., independent, neat, honest, sincere, have many interests, seeking gentleman 60-70 who welcomes life to enjoy learning & sharing experience. Ad# 1225

A LOT TO OFFER
Tall female, 50, Jewish, business professional with good communication skills, trustworthy, romantic with a good sense of humour, a lot to offer the right gentleman, seeking a male, 6', 49-60 Ad# 1226

AMBITIOUS
28 year old Jewish female, pretty, ambitious, sexy, striving & down to earth, enjoy sports, working out, dining out, dancing, travelling & having a good time with friends, seeking tall, professional, classy male, 20-30 preferably Jewish for friendship Ad# 1275

THEATRE & TRAVEL
Petite, youthful, Jewish high school teacher, like sports, theatre, travel, movies & outdoor activities, seeking a thoughtful nonsmoking Jewish man, 50-60 for good times Ad# 1276

Men seeking Women

DINING & DANCING
Gentleman, 33, 6', brown hair, green eyes, well established, financially secure, enjoy travelling, dining, dancing, movies, seeking a Jewish female, 28-34, 5'5" or taller, slim, attractive, well read with strong sense of humour. Ad# 1307

SIMILAR INTERESTS
Single male, 45, 5'8", conservative looking, enjoy dancing & collecting art & antiques, seeking female of any build with similar interests. Ad# 1314

TRADITIONAL & KIND
Traditional, down to earth Jewish man, good sense of humour, fun to be with, healthy, good looking, kind & easy to get along with. I seek someone for a relationship, maybe marriage. Ad# 1265

LIKE AUCTIONS IN THE COUNTRY
Single male, 45, still have all of my black hair, I like art auctions, car drives & antique auctions in the country. I'm not choosy & children are OK. Ad# 1264

MOVIES & DINING OUT
Single Jewish male, 40, short brown hair & brown eyes, work out with weights, like movies, dining out, sports & walks, seeking a Jewish lady, 34-45 with similar interests Ad# 1272

PROFESSIONAL & FIT
Divorced, sincere, handsome & fit professional man, originally from Eastern Europe, enjoy movies, dancing, biking & computers, seeking someone under 40 who is kind, caring, slim, attractive for lasting relationship Ad# 1273

HARD WORKING
Jewish gentleman, late 40's, hard working & successful, like quiet times, movies, music, travelling. Ad# 1278

SEEK OUTGOING GIRL
Single male, 18, looking for a single girl who is outgoing, likes shopping & is not afraid to accept presents. Ad# 1330

ECLECTIC INTERESTS
Easy going professional man, brown hair & eyes, 6'2", 170 lbs., have a good sense of humour, seeking someone romantic & unattached. Ad# 1323

BE MY SUNSHINE
Tall, handsome male, 40, originally from Montreal, enjoy outdoor activities, good sense of humour, very warm hearted, seeking slim, kind, sincere, honest lady for long term relationship Ad# 1244

SUMMER ROMANCE
Gentleman, kind, sincere, very quiet & a bit shy, seeking lady to make my summer special. Ad# 1249

LET'S TALK
Gentleman, early 40's, handsome, fit, creative, enjoy sports & other outdoor activities, seeking lady, early 30's, attractive, sincere, intelligent. Ad# 1250

HAND IN HAND
Gentleman, outgoing, fun loving, enjoy movies, dining & dancing, good conversation, long walks & the romance of life, seeking lady who is trustworthy, honest, sincere, kind. Ad# 1011

MARRIAGE MINDED
Gentleman, tall thin, 70, American Jewish, warm, cultured, well travelled handsome, sincere, trustworthy, seeking marriage minded lady under 65, affectionate, soft, slim, very feminine, sincere & kind Ad# 1240

COFFEE & SMILES
Single male, 18, brown hair, green eyes, enjoy dining, dancing, shopping, working out, seeking young lady with very outgoing personality, terrific sense of humour, attractive with a zest for life Ad# 1241

LONG TERM RELATIONSHIP
Single Jewish gentleman, 37, 5'8", 200, many interests, seeking lady to share the sunshine of love & life Ad# 1243

CONSERVATIVE MALE
Single male, 5'8", conservative looking, buy, sell & analyze stocks, despite my accomplishments I don't take myself too seriously as you will see when you hear my ad Ad# 1255

SEMI RETIRED
Single male, 69, well established, very athletic, looking for sincere, honest, caring, female for friendship, possible relationship Ad# 1034

HAVE NO BAGGAGE
Jewish male, 41, attractive, honest, kind, affectionate, brown hair & eyes, nonsmoker, enjoy movies, dancing, seeking Jewish female, 32-42,petite, attractive. Ad# 1277

QUIET LIFESTYLE
Single male, 40, 5'8", get compliments on my looks & have a quiet lifestyle, like movies, walks, dining out & cycling, looking for a Jewish woman, 35-44. Ad# 1227

SENSE OF HUMOUR
Single male, 30, dark hair, 5'8", 150 lbs., in the accounting profession, have a home in Richmond Hill, have a good sense of humour, like movies, dinners, night clubs & theatre. Ad# 1228

Questions ???
416-236-6644

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

SJM Downsview 38 5'5" never married Shomer Shabbat handsome warm caring friendly funny smart and serious seeks SJF for marriage and family. Photo optional. Reply: CJN Box 7064.

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330 OBITUARIES

ABRAM, Helen (Robins) formerly of Toronto, passed away Wednesday, June 17, 1998 in Florida. Wife of the late Milton Abram, daughter of the late Freda & Samuel Robins. Sister of the late Eva Pomerantz (New York), Millie Marks, David, Morris and Alex Robins, Bessie Mitchell, Jean Rubin. Survived by two sisters in law and nieces and nephews. Burial in New York.

KOCH, Sam, on June 17, 1998. Beloved husband of Adela, dear father of Hank and Bonnie, Cheryl and Ira. Devoted Zaidy of Leah and her husband Joe, Danny, Jeremy, Lisa and Jeffrey. A funeral service was held on June 18, 1998 at 1:00 P.M. from Steeles Memorial Chapel. Interment at Bathurst Lawn Cemetery, Warsaw Lodzer Synagogue Section. Shiva at 7460 Bathurst St., apt. 801, Thornhill.Donations may be made to Toronto Hospital General Division 416-340-3930.

GINSBERG, Rosanna - on June 11, 1998, late of 4190 Bathurst St., #806.
SAMUELS, Alice - on June 11, 1998, late of 377 Ridelle Ave., #1214.
BERCOVICI, Sima - on June 13, 1998, late of 15 Atwood Crt.
TOKER, Vici - on June 14, 1998, late of 351 Christie St.
GRUSHCOW, Hilda - on June 15, 1998, late of 1 Country Lane.
ENGEL, Gertrude - on June 16, 1998, late of 330 Spadina Rd.
BURKE, Thelma - on June 17, 1998, late of 561 Melrose Ave.
TANZER, Joseph - on June 17, 1998, late of 5 Glen Arden.
POPPER, Reuben - on June 18, 1998, late of 1 Clark Ave. W., #1201.

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

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United Restitution Organization helps survivors get compensation

By STACEY STEIN
Student Intern

TORONTO — Their organization is housed in a modest office in the Lipa Green building, but the work done by Dora Elzbet and Kurt Herzstein is anything but small in scope.

Elzbet and Herzstein are the two caseworkers for the United Restitution Organization's Toronto branch, which seeks monetary compensation for Holocaust survivors from the German government.

Over the years, the office staff has diminished and the facilities have not been updated, most easily evidenced by the absence of a computer. Meanwhile, the volume of people seeking compensation has increased.

"A lot of Holocaust survivors are aging, and they didn't make their claim for various reasons in the 40s and 50s, but now they want to make their claim," says Elzbet.

"Publicity of the Holocaust is very high," she says, citing the prevalence of the Holocaust in the newspaper and in books. "Before, people were guarded, but now they will talk about it because it's everywhere."

Herzstein adds that in the past, many survivors refused to accept money from the German government. "Initially, people didn't want to take what they called blood money," he says.

But as the survivors age, their desperation grows. In some cases they are destitute, and in most cases they are grasping for some way to come to terms with the horrors they endured, he says.

Herztein, who was born in Germany, fled to the Netherlands in 1938 at the age of 14, and left in 1941 with the help of the Dutch underground. He arrived in Canada in 1944.

Elzbet is the child of a Holocaust survivor. A Lithuania native, she moved to Canada in 1980.

The majority of the United Restitution's clients in Toronto are Russian. The two caseworkers' multilingualism is a tremendous asset.

Elzbet speaks Russian, Yiddish, Polish and Ukrainian, among other languages. Herzstein says he "only speaks English, French, German, Dutch and Spanish.

"Somebody who works in this office has to have some language skills," he says.

The organization's first office was established in Frankfurt, Germany, right after World War II.

"Historically, Frankfurt had one of the largest Jewish communities in Germany," says Herzstein. "It was a natural place to establish an office."

The first United Restitution office in Canada was established in Montreal in 1947 or 1948. This was followed by the opening of the Toronto office around 1952. There are also offices in New York, Tel Aviv, Munich, Berlin and Los Angeles.

"At one time there were offices all over the world," says Herzstein.

The Toronto office is independently run, and the space is rented from the Canadian Jewish Congress.

There used to be about 12 people working in the office, but staff has been reduced to "one and a half," according to Herzstein. He works three days a week while Elzbet works four.

Aside from dealing with a large volume of claims, Elzbet and Herzstein must also deal with old claims, and a community that is rapidly aging. Herzstein says that deadlines for claims against Germany usually expired in the 1960s.

"There was a window of about 15 to 20 years," says Herzstein. "Claims could be made against the government for people who lost property in Germany, people that lost their health, their family, their education. But there were deadlines."

He says that after that time, the German government no longer accepted claims.

The United Restitution deals with a limited amount of claims which are administered by the Claims Conference against Material Claims of Germany. This is an umbrella organization that grants and distributes a series of funds that are given by the German government.

Elzbet and Herzstein interview claimants to determine which type of claim they qualify for, if any. The claim is then submitted to the Claims Conference.

"Our office here has the highest success rate of any office for successful claims," says Herzstein.

Integral to the operation of the United Restitution is "an understanding of the community and the difficulties we face," Herzstein says.

One of these difficulties is the length of time it can take to resolve a case. Herzstein cites a case involving a man born in 1906, whose claim was made in July 1993 and wasn't approved until November 1997. The man was sent a cheque that was returned to the Claims Conference.

"Maybe he's no longer alive; the man was born in 1906," says Herzstein. He adds that no one has been able to find a telephone number for the claimant.

"The frustrating thing is when you see a man born in 1906 getting approval at the age of 91, and now they can't find him. It makes my blood boil."

Herzstein acknowledges that not all cases take that long to resolve. He recently had a case that was approved in about 15 months.

"The Claims Conference takes a very long time to approve and process claims," says Elzbet. "And they don't necessarily go by age. A claim of a person who is born at the beginning of the century will be finished almost at the end of the century."

Another problem, Herzstein says, is the difficulty of obtaining documents attesting to the credibility of the claim.

"It's a little bit better now because the archives in the Iron Curtain, whether it's Russia, Ukraine or Poland, are [slightly] more accessible than they were three or four years ago," says Herzstein.

But he points out that these archives are different and "it's at the Claims Conference's discretion to accept the credibility of a claim."

Another challenge is dealing with people who have endured unfathomable atrocities.

Herzstein recalls one case where they had to call security. "[The client] became physically abusive," says Herzstein. "But you cannot blame these people because of what they have all been through."

As Herzstein discusses the touchy nature of the work, he points to a box of tissues on his desk. "Clients don't always act very rational," he says, accounting for its presence in the room.

"There are people who don't tell the truth, and people who, because of the horrors they went through, do not remember all the details that are required," he says. "For the client, it's a very traumatic experience.

"We all carry a certain amount of luggage and we cope with our experiences in our own way. These people have to function in a society that isn't particularly interested in what happened to them 50 years ago."

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Maccabi names fundraiser

By DAVID LAZARUS
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — Maccabi Canada, which organizes Canadian-Jewish participation in the Maccabiah Games in Israel, always seemed to be strapped for cash.

In the final months leading up to the big event, you could depend on seeing a flurry of last-minute fundraising events to help pay for the high cost of sending 250 of the country's best Jewish athletes to Israel.

Often, such efforts, while successful in their own right, seemed to lack coordination. And in recent years, athletes themselves were being asked to help pay for their trips and be part of the fundraising.

With the recent appointment of 50-year-old Montrealer Martin Schwartz as national fundraising chair, however, the hope is that by the next time the Games come around – in 2001 – there will be plenty of cash.

Schwartz, the head of Dorel Industries, which manufactures ready-to-build furniture, took on the fundraising title under tragic circumstances, following the death of the previous national fundraising chair, Gordy Schwartz.

Martin is determined to pick up where Gordy left off.

This will be done mainly by getting started early, in this case, three years before the next games begin.

The plans include the formation of teams of regional fundraising chairs, soliciting more corporate sponsorship, stepped-up public relations and the publication of brochures, in cooperation with the YM-YWHA Jewish Community Centre's public relations department, Schwartz said.

In an interview, he recalled that before the last games, the biggest fear was that there would not be enough money to take all the athletes along. Fundraising began late, and as things turned out, "we came out pretty close to budget."

Schwartz is now discovering that, beyond being an organization for Canadian-Jewish athletes, Maccabi Canada is a stepping stone for general involvement in the Jewish community and in Israel.

"If not for their participation, many of the athletes could not go to Israel. They come back with a feeling for the community, with a feeling to build their involvement. Now they're aged 16 to 20. In a few years they could be very active in the community."

Schwartz himself has been a visitor to Israel several times since 1993, sometimes as part of a community mission and last year at the Maccabiah itself. He has also served as a leader at the Shaare Zedek Congregation.

It was Schwartz, with his contacts at the Royal Bank of Canada, who got the bank to make a corporate donation to the Games and to lend use of their offices for a Maccabi Canada meeting with hockey legend Jean Beliveau, who attended the Games for the second time last year.

"I saw the excitement of the kids," Schwartz said, "and I saw [Maccabi Canada president] Roy [Salomon] working so very, very hard.

"It's why I'm involved,' he said. "We know the community will need as much support as possible to keep going forward."

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NBA's 'wandering Jew' Schayes league's oldest starting centre

By HARLAN C. ABBEY
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Danny Schayes humorously refers to himself as "the wandering Jew of the NBA."

The only Jewish player in the league since 1985, the son of Hall of Famer Adolph "Dolph" Schayes also might be called "the bionic centre" after moving into the Orlando Magic's starting lineup in mid-season at age 38.

"I could be the oldest starter in the league," he agreed in a recent interview. "For sure, I'm the oldest starting centre."

Schayes moved off the bench when Rony Seikaly was traded to the New Jersey Nets. The Magic had 18 wins and 23 losses with Seikaly starting, but went 19-14 with "golden oldie" Schayes starting.

"I'm an old model with low mileage," he said at the time.

Drafted by Utah in 1981, Schayes averaged over 10 points and nearly seven rebounds per game with Utah (1½ seasons), Denver (7½ years) and his first season with Milwaukee in 1990-91.

After that – as a backup with the Bucks, Lakers, Suns and Heat, and Orlando since '96 – the 6-foot-11, 276-pound veteran saw his playing time cut sharply.

But a devotion to physical conditioning kept him ready to contribute, such as in a 21-point, six-steal, 11-rebound effort against the New York Knicks on April 4, 1997.

Even before resuming his role as a starter earlier this season, Schayes had been given more to do than under previous coach Brian Hill.

"My role then," joked Schayes, "was 'Break glass in case of emergency.' As you get older, coaches think you can't play a lot of minutes and you get pigeon-holed into that role."

Although he remembers hitting the six-foot mark as a seventh grader, when his father coached the old Buffalo Braves, Schayes credits his older brother David, now a social worker in Syracuse, with helping him develop his basketball skills by allowing him to play with older boys.

"And of course, I was a ball-boy for the Braves and attended many basketball camps where my father was coaching" the two-time Maccabiah Games participant said.

In fact, he has not ruled out coaching in the future, saying he has been coaching "in my mind" as a way of keeping mentally alert while on the bench.

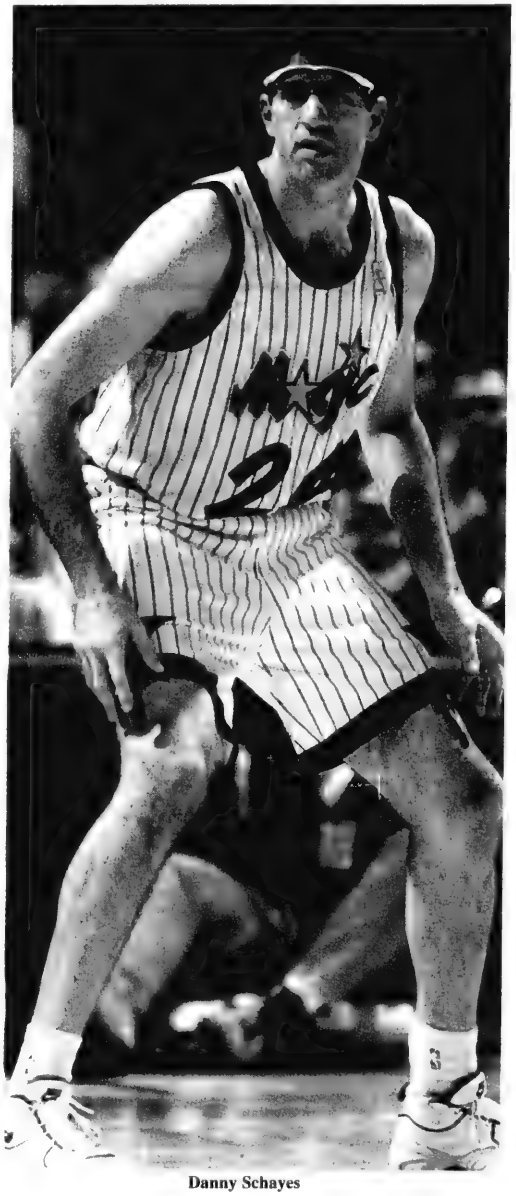
If he does become a coach, Schayes said, he would adopt "parts of a few" of the many coaches he's played for:

"I spent eight years with Doug Moe in Denver, a purist in the passing game. I liked his uptempo, movement, everyone involved style.

"Chuck Daly [the current Orlando coach] is a players coach, which means he puts his players in a position to make plays, rather than call out every play every time you come down the floor."

Looking to the post-season, Schayes said he'll try to beat his father in a game of HORSE, where a player must duplicate his opponent's shot, a tough task because of his father's deadly long-range shooting touch.

"I can take him in a one-on-one game," he laughed. "He doesn't get up and down the court too swiftly nowadays."



Danny Schayes

The Inside Back

Media weigh 'God beat'

As I was saying...

By RON CSILLAG

My head is still spinning from a jam-packed three-day conference last month in Ottawa on Faith and the Media, at which religious leaders roasted the national media for stereotyping, misreporting, under-covering or ignoring altogether faith issues, while news representatives went into their customary defensive crouch, muttering something about "shooting the messenger." But as with most issues of faith and spirituality, the conference raised more questions than it answered, both about religion and the nature of news coverage.

Listening to some of the presenters, one could be forgiven for coming to believe that religion is the single most important story out there for journalists. Religious leaders, academics and even some reporters made a convincing argument: the biggest stories of the day – abortion, homosexuality, the Middle East, Northern Ireland, immigration, even gambling and sentencing of criminals – have overriding ethical/moral/religious angles.

As well, delegates noted repeatedly, Canadians are hungry for spirituality (witness the stunning success of the *Chicken Soup* series of books, and of author Deepak Chopra), and are far more religious than the media believe. One poll released at the conference showed that six out of 10 Canadians say religion is an important part of their lives, while another revealed that 6.2 million people in this country attend religious services every week.

But the poll also showed that 65 percent of those who attend a house of worship weekly believe the media do a "poor" job of covering faith and religion.

So came the media bashing, some of it deserved.

Complaints came fast and furious, mostly from Muslims, that the media's portrayal of non-mainstream faiths is often dismissive, patronizing or presented as an afterthought, sandwiched between the Wheels and Travel sections. Coverage of mainline religions, the conference heard, suffers from benign neglect.

But here's an interesting nugget: Which faith groups get the most ink and airtime, according to a scan of 1,300 articles from 26 newspapers? Roman Catholicism is one (understandable, given that nearly half the population professing a faith is Catholic.) And which was second? Judaism, whose adherents amount to just 1.2 percent of believers. As author Lois Sweet, a one-time religion reporter for the *Toronto Star* put it, a visitor from outer space would conclude from media coverage that Canada's two biggest faith groups are Catholics and Jews.

The discussions did not extend to why that is so (the old newsroom saw that "Jews is News" did not come up), or whether the Jewish community, notoriously sensitive when it comes to the secular media, welcomes all that attention. The thrust of the conference was how to improve relations between what academic and journalist Peter Desbarats called the "rationalist" media and "fundamentalist" faith groups.

The standard media response was that the news business thrives on the negative; that journalists for the secular press must cater to a general market; and that the media, in their hallowed tradition of skepticism, must never be cheerleaders for anything.

On the other hand, veteran editors, with the notable exception of the *Globe and Mail*'s William Thorsell, seemed to get the message: The media should cover faith issues more and better, simply because religion matters to Canadians. And faith leaders conceded that the media should continue to play the role of watchdog over powerful institutions like religions.

It was a healthy, exhilarating debate. And it accomplished other things, like baring the foibles of the often sanctimonious media, and showing that religion (and spirituality) are growth industries. It also showcased the inherent tensions of living in a largely secular society – a society shaped, ironically, by Judeo-Christian tenets on law, family structure, education and culture.

So don't be surprised if more media outlets make religion a "beat." The *Ottawa Citizen* has led the way in the field, abandoning its weekly religion page and incorporating coverage of religious issues throughout the news pages.

The "God beat," as one U.S. observer put it, must surely be as important as the stock market, Viagra, or Roger Clemens' arm.

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4 sprigs rosemary
1/4 cup balsamic vinegar
3 tblsp. sugar
1 pint vanilla ice cream

Stem strawberries and cut in half if large. Wash and set aside.

Mix vinegar and sugar in small bowl until sugar disappears.

Divide the strawberries among 4 (12") foil squares. Spoon balsamic sauce over strawberries and top with a rosemary sprig. Carefully fold or roll ends of foil together to form secure packet.

Grill over medium heat until strawberries are slightly softened and sauce has come to simmer, about 8 minutes. Serve over ice cream.

Yield: 4 servings.

About Seniors

Dear Jesse,

I find that my appointments with doctors are very frustrating. I never get the amount of time I need. After I leave, I don't always remember everything the doctor said to me because our visit was short. Do you have any suggestions?

CB

Dear CB,

Before you go to your appointment, prepare a list of questions you want to ask the doctor and take this list with you. At the appointment, you could then write down the answers or ask the doctor to write the information for you. Alternatively, you could ask someone to go with you to the doctor and help you get the information you need. You have a right to clear, understandable information from you doctor. If your doctor does not communicate with you in a way that is comfortable for you, then you may want to change doctors. It is very important that you feel that you are a partner in the management of your health care needs.

Readers are invited to send any questions they have for Jesse to The CJN. *Jesse is the executive director of Jewish Support Services for the Elderly (JSSE) in Montreal.*

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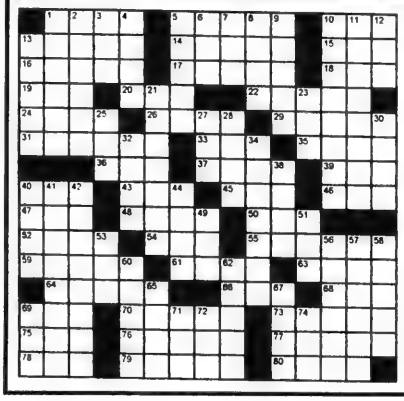

Across

1. Gangster "Dandy __"
5. Speak biblically
10. Freud invention
13. Brother to Marceau
14. Stooges
15. Vase
16. Baseball's "Flip"
17. Schindler
18. Commandment no no
19. Likely
20. Plagues
22. Town allotted to Asher
24. Encounter
26. Prophesized
29. Tanaim
31. Gabbai catch
33. Job for Getz or Sedaka
35. Actress Louise
36. Soupy's ammo
37. Simcha
39. Wiggling tref fish
40. Owns
43. Avdat to Ashdod (dir.)
45. Wallach
46. Haifa to Hebron
47. E. Lazarus specialty
48. Nebbish? (Eng.)
50. Corp.
52. Sound of MGM
54. Observe
55. Shamsky, Major __ player
59. Fury
61. Al Jolson position
63. __ for Peace?
64. Seder
66. Winger to friends
68. Imitate Yadin
69. __ Carte
70. Israelite
73. Cohanim?
75. On the __
76. Irwin Hasen comic strip
77. Levite domain
78. Mems (Eng.)
79. Broke the eighth
80. Acted the Galelah

Down

1. Kosher?
2. Jewish street NYC
3. Infuriate
4. Acted the Usurer?
5. David's Ammo
6. Dancer Charisse
7. Noodge (Eng.)
8. Seder salt water
9. City of Dan
10. Judah ha-Levi poems
11. Fried skins and onion
12. Shema ender
13. Border
21. Enemy to Sadduces
23. Abzug's trademark
25. Dreidel
27. Roasted on Pesach
28. Bloody river
30. Transaction
32. Baer's milieu
34. Lake Kinneret?
38. Seder action
40. Dance
41. Concluding hymn
42. Bronfman company
44. Joy of Shavuot
49. Oakland A's Holtzman
51. White Sox Abrams
53. "Gingy"
56. Israel's progeny
57. UJA word
58. Tsitsit site
60. Shiva garments
62. Singer Cantor
65. Seder plate item
67. Emcee Parks
69. Shikker's choice?
71. Alphabet run
72. B'nai B'rith Org.
74. 52

These puzzles are the work of Kathi Handler of Waterbury, Connecticut.

(Last week's answers are on page 28.)

We are awaiting Prime Minister Netanyahu's response.

This letter was sent to Prime Minister Netanyahu by the Board of Directors of the New Israel Fund on June 22, 1998. We wish to share our reaction to the recent developments on religious pluralism and conversion with those members of the North American Jewish community, who are concerned about these issues.

For the latest information out of Israel regarding this issue, sign up for our Religious Freedom Bulletin by emailing us at Info@nif.org or call us at (416)781-4322.

Dear Mr. Prime Minister,

We applauded when you created the Ne'eman Commission to seek a compromise on conversion in Israel acceptable to all streams of Judaism.

Unfortunately, the compromise was stillborn, never even signed by its members. Now your government proposes to legislate the so-called Ne'eman recommendations--new institutes to train would-be converts with conversions performed by the Orthodox rabbinate only.

We deplore such legislation.

Why? The commission envisioned a compromise contingent upon four elements: conversion institutes staffed by rabbis from all denominations; approval of these institutes by Israel's religious establishment; conversion of candidates by the Orthodox rabbinate; and a two-year trial period during which to evaluate the process.

The Chief Rabbinate harshly rejected the institutes. So far, not a single Orthodox rabbi has agreed to serve in one. The only element of the plan the Rabbinate did accept was that conversion would remain under their control.

Under these circumstances, the Reform and Conservative movements have opposed your legislation.

Religious pluralism is not, however, just a Diaspora concern. A Gallup poll found that 42% of Israelis indeed want an Orthodox rabbi to officiate at their most important ceremonies. But 32% would prefer a Reform or Conservative rabbi!

We believe that in Israel, as everywhere else in the Jewish world, individuals wishing to marry, divorce, or to convert to Judaism deserve the right to do so under the auspices of whatever denomination they choose. Israel's denial of that right violates the "freedom of religion and conscience" guaranteed by its Declaration of Independence.

Mr. Prime Minister, we understand that you face many political pressures. However, we must advise you that in our judgment your proposed law will further alienate North American Jews and cast doubts on Israel's commitment to its own founding vision. It will deepen polarization within Israel. And it will make life all the more difficult for thousands of Israelis from the former Soviet Union who want to convert but are unwilling to promise that they will rigorously observe Orthodox practice.

We urge you to withdraw this destructive piece of legislation.

Respectfully,

The Board of Directors of the New Israel Fund

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This Week

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***CJN* article** helps reunite two Birkenau survivors. *Page 14*

Yitzhak Rabin H.S. graduates its first students. *Page 20*

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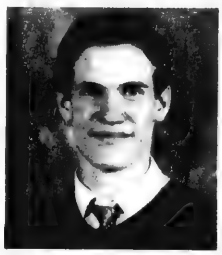
Sibling rivalry kept in check in promising new band Adam's Curse. *Page 28*

Travel

San Diego: California's sunny, jewel in the crown. *Page 30*

Sports



Toronto-area teenager Michael Henrich drafted 13th overall by Edmonton Oilers. *Page 38*

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Havdalah: 9:47

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Compensation plan unveiled

Agreement assists some survivors for the first time

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — As many as 1,000 Holocaust survivors in Canada will receive compensation from Germany for the first time as a result of a landmark agreement.

The agreement signed last month between Germany and the New York-based Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany expands the eligibility criteria to two groups of survivors who until now have not received any compensation from the German government.

Some 7,500 survivors worldwide are expected to be affected. A spokesperson for the Toronto office of the United Restitution Organization (URO), which seeks compensation for survivors here, estimates the accord could affect up to 1,000 people in this country.

This week, Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) president Moshe Ronen and executive director Jack Silverstone are in Jerusalem for the annual meeting of the Claims Conference, and it is expected they will lobby to make the new compensation package more liberal in its criteria.

Congress is hailing the agreement as an important step in the ongoing and emotionally charged issue of financially compensating Holocaust survivors with German money.

Payments resulting from the new agreement are expected to be made after Jan. 1, 1999. The package is geared toward two groups.

Continued on page 25

McDonough speaks with *The CJN*

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Alexa McDonough wears the mien of leader much better these days, given that in last year's federal election, she took her New Democrats from nine seats in the House of Commons, to a respectable 21, one more than the once-mighty Progressive Conservatives, but still well back of the Bloc Quebecois and the Official Opposition Reform party.

But the NDP did especially well in Atlantic Canada, carrying eight seats, six of those in Nova Scotia, where McDonough had led the provincial New Democrats for 15 years, sometimes as the sole NDP member in the House of Assembly.

McDonough, chosen federal NDP leader in 1995, is on something of a PR campaign

Continued on page 2

AERIAL ACROBATICS OVER TEL AVIV

In celebration of Israel's jubilee, aerial acrobatic teams from 11 air forces including the U.S., Britain, Turkey, Spain, Chile, Italy and Switzerland took part last week in a spectacular display over the Tel Aviv beach front. *[Israel photo]*

INSIDE

Is the end of Ethiopian aliyah at hand? Please see page 9.

Our offices will be closed July 13-17.

Pressure is building on the Swiss — please see page 24

Greater Toronto Area

Country's slide concerns NDP leader

[Cont'd. from page 1]

these days. She spoke to *The CJN* at length last week, after her publicists contacted the paper for an interview. Several wide-ranging issues were discussed, including those of interest to Canadian Jewry.

McDonough, 54, reserved her most pointed remarks for Canada's record on pursuing Nazi war criminals, calling efforts to date "weak-kneed...the antithesis of what should have been expected."

Without mentioning the name of one-time U.S. Nazi hunter Neal Sher, whom Canada has hired as a special advisor to its war crimes unit, McDonough said it is "humiliating to think that we have to have American neighbors come to Canada and say, 'Here's what needs to be done and here's how it can be done.'

"I think that disappoints and shocks Canadians, although it didn't totally shock [those] who read Irving Abella's account [in] *None is Too Many*, or other historical accounts of Canada's early response to refugees."

For McDonough, Canada's record on war criminals and other issues is part of what she sees is a downward slide the country has gone through in recent years on matters of international concern.

It's all part of "a disappointing picture people have with Canada. I think Canadians have a sense of lost stature and credibility and erosion of what was once a proud record of achievement and leadership on international issues."

'Canada has not distinguished itself on many foreign policy fronts'

Except for Canada's recent leadership role in getting most of the world to sign an accord banning the production and use of land mines, which she praises, McDonough seems to rue this country's presence on the world stage.

"Canada has not distinguished itself on many foreign policy fronts," including the Mideast peace process, she says. As vice-president of the Socialist International, McDonough comes into contact with many world leaders, whom she says speak of Canada's role in world affairs "in a kind of mournful way...[as] a celebration of the past, not the present."

One reason for that, she feels, is that Canada "has submerged [its] identity," and hitched its foreign policy wagon to that of the United States.

(At the most recent meeting of the Socialist International in Oslo, McDonough held talks with former Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres, for the second time.)

McDonough sidestepped *The CJN*'s questions about B.C. New Democrat and party foreign affairs critic Svend Robinson, whose publicly stated positions on Palestinians and Israel have caused some concern in Jewish circles over the years.

Most recently, Robinson attended a pro-Palestinian rally in Ottawa, where he spoke out against "the injustice of Israel's continuing to confiscate occupied land, to build illegal settlements and to legalize torture of Palestinians."

Asked whether Robinson's views on Israel mirror those of the NDP, McDonough said her party, "in a very clear way," is "fiercely committed to ensuring that Canada plays a positive role in advancing the [Mideast] peace process. We don't want to veer away from that."

Other areas discussed included:

• the Liberals' main claim to fame, the balanced budget and the much-vaunted surplus – The NDP believes the surplus was created on the backs of provincial and municipal governments, and that Ottawa should "start repairing the damage it created" by using extra monies to pump up social and health care programs it had cut back.

• social programs and health care – McDonough and the NDP favor national standards. She points out that Ottawa has cut its funding of provincial health plans from 50 percent to 13 percent, which has damaged not only health care but the relationships between the provinces and Ottawa.

• the Calgary Declaration – It was passed by nine provincial governments and it recognized Quebec's "unique character." While McDonough calls it an "important gesture," it would be "a very big mistake to exaggerate it. Anyone who pretends it's a solution would set up the rest of Canada for the kind of ridicule that you would expect [Quebec's] Premier Lucien Bouchard to engage in. It's a gesture...an accord, not a legal document."

Alexa McDonough

• the Social Democratic Forum – The NDP will press on with on Canada's Future, established at the party's spring convention. It's a grassroots effort, in conjunction with other progressive forces, to get Canadians focussed on national unity and a vision for Canada.

McDonough predicts a decline in the popularity of the federal Liberals, whom she accuses of working hand-in-hand with the Reform party. She termed recent efforts by Reform and the Bloc Quebecois to see eye-to-eye "a bizarre tango" between two parties, both of which try to convince Canadians that federalism doesn't work.

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UIA-CJF merger creates new organization

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — In what must certainly be seen as a rarity in communal Jewish life in Canada, the number of Jewish organizations has dropped by one with the announcement last week of the merger of the United Israel Appeal (UIA) and the Council of Jewish Federations (CJF).

The new organization, supported by all 10 federated communities in Canada, is called UIA Federations Canada, said Steve Ain, its senior administrator. The group is up and running and held its first board meeting in Toronto recently.

The merger parallels a development in the United States where that country's United Jewish Appeal and the Council of Jewish Federations moved into the same Manhattan offices and agreed in principle to merge.

The Canadian consolidation has a number of benefits, said Ain and Harvey Wolfe, the organization's Montreal-based president. It should attract stronger leadership, blur the distinction between overseas and local needs and shift the discussion to "Jewish needs," enhance the efficient use of human resources, increase the involvement of lay leaders and give Canada greater influence at the Jewish Agency.

It will also clear up confusion in the various communities over where to obtain support for their campaigns or federation concerns, Wolfe said.

The move should also see a shift in influence domestically towards the larger federated communities, particularly Toronto and Montreal, when it comes to deciding how much money raised in annual campaigns goes to Israel (through the Jewish Agency) and how much remains for domestic needs, Ain suggested. That outcome will result from the new governance formula for UIA Federations Canada's board of directors which will see the 10 federated Canadian communities and unfederated communities receive representation on the new organization's board of directors based on size. Toronto and Montreal will each be entitled to four board members while London, the smallest federated community, will receive only one seat, he said.

Will likely operate by consensus

Wolfe suggested that despite that new formula, UIA Federations Canada will likely operate by consensus.

In the world of Jewish organizational life, there are numerous acronymed groups that perform functions that only flow chart devotees seem to understand. At the heart of the larger Jewish community is the federation which coordinates planning and budgeting issues, develops leadership and services a myriad of agencies providing services to the Jewish community. In Toronto it is known as the United Jewish Appeal (UJA) Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto. In Montreal, it's Federation CJA.

In addition to its administrative functions, each federation operates the community's annual fundraising effort. In Toronto, the UJA is the chief fundraising group.

The United Israel Appeal (UIA) of Canada is the conduit through which funds earmarked for use on the international Jewish scene are allocated. Most funds go to the Jewish Agency, which operates rescue and settlement programs for Jews making aliyah. The UIA had several other tasks, including operating fundraising campaigns in unfederated areas like southwestern Ontario and Saskatchewan. It also provides support for campaigns through speakers, materials and it organizes missions to Israel.

In Canada, the Council of Jewish Federations has a primary mission of strengthening local federations. "It acts as the collective voice for local federations and provides consulting services in planning, budgeting, personnel and leadership development. It also develops endowment funds," Ain said.

CJF also serves as a forum for the allocation of funds raised in local campaigns to national Jewish organizations like Canadian Jewish Congress and Jewish Immigrant Aid Services.

The amount each federation allocates to these groups is based on a formula but when it comes to Israel, "each federation negotiates with UIA Canada," Ain said.

With the new consolidated organization, "hopefully some kind of collective international response based on a formula will emerge," he said. "One of the things we're going to be able to adopt is the equivalent of a national collective responsibility."

[Cont'd. on page 5]

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Students write creatively

Each year the Board of Jewish Education (BJE) in Toronto sponsors a creative writing contest for elementary and middle school students in the day and congregational school system.

The contest this year was dedicated to Israel's 50th anniversary. More than 500 poems, stories and articles – a record number – were submitted.

We place a very high priority on encouraging our youngsters to think and to write creatively, especially in these times, when the subject is Israel.

For the past three years *The CJN* has published samplings of the contest's "winning" entries. We are pleased do so again this year. I regret that space permits us to reproduce so few submissions.

We commend all the students who took part in the contest.

***

Freedom

At last I see the soothing light
Of the magnificent glowing moon.
The freedom of the earth begins at sunrise.

The frog jumps carelessly from lily pad to lily pad.
The bird soars peacefully above the fluffy clouds.
The ant crawls out of his tunnel awaiting the day to come.

And I can wake up and roam free under the heat of the sun.

While the screams of the Holocaust still ring in our ears.

by Dan Shiner, Grade 4,
Leo Baeck Day School

***

The Little Girl Who Came to The Kotel

Once there was a little girl who lived in Canada. The little girl's name was Nicole. Nicole always wanted to go to Israel for her bat mitzvah. One day Nicole did go to Israel with her mommy, daddy and both her sisters. Nicole wrote a letter to go into the Kotel and the letter said:

"I wish there was peace in the world and everyone would have food. And if it is OK, I would like to have a little puppy."

by Nicole Jacobs, Grade 2
Associated Hebrew Schools

***

I Must Never Forget

I am joy, in pride I stand.
I never think of what is wrong.
We can live in our holy land
and sing... no, shout its holy song.

Yet, now I wonder, wonder why
I celebrate with my joyful face,
Do I know who had to die,
So I could be in this very place?

Their names, their lives, hopes and dreams,
Whose loved ones just broke down and cried,
Whose voices are among the screams.
Who for their people, they all died.

Would I also boldly give my life?
Would everything I have, I'd give?
They went through this hellish strife,
So in our land, free I could live.

So now I stand. I pray for peace.
I still remember, amongst the cheers,
Those men who died had signed the deed,
That gave our land its fifty years.

by Joseph Heller, Grade 8
Bialik Hebrew Day School

***

Israel Through The Eyes Of An Oleh Chadash (excerpts)

One morning, when I was a girl of five
I awoke to receive quite a surprise
My parents announced with a great deal of glee
We're going to move to the Land of Milk and Honey!

Now, although I was still very young,
From the time I was a baby, of Israel we had sung.
I knew it was the land the Torah talked about
Where Jewish people had once lived, strong and proud...

As we drove to Jerusalem we passed rocks, trees and hills,
Strange looking cactus plants, even tanks in which Jews had been killed.
The sun, setting behind the mountains, cast its golden glow,
But the famous milk and honey, nowhere did it flow...

When we arrived at our destination, with no milk and honey in view,
I could no longer contain my curiosity, some explanation was due.
"Mom and Dad, please tell me, I have looked all around
For a land filled with milk and honey, but none can be found."

"No my dear child," my parents answered laughingly,
'Land of Milk and Honey' is an expression not be taken literally.
It means that God gave us a land with the potential for blessing and sweet life,
Where all can live in peace and an absence of strife.

But that is something that depends on our efforts and cooperation.
To build a land is no simple operation.
Now we are here perhaps we can be part
of fulfilling God's blessing.
Come let us start.

by Daniella Zolty, Grade 7
Eitz Chaim Schools

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Israel's Jubilee 50 — *from the archives*

PLOUGHING AND PLANTING

New immigrants bend their backs in difficult agricultural work near the Yarkon River in 1950.

[Keren Hayesod – UIA Communications photo]

***

For the latest in *Israel at 50* news, check out the *Israel at 50* Web site: [www.feduja.org] or call the *Israel at 50* hotline 416-635-2883 ext. 706.

Greater Toronto Area

Police investigating NOI leader

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The Toronto police hate crimes unit is investigating a complaint that the leader of the Toronto branch of the Nation of Islam (NOI) promoted hatred in one of his speeches.

The investigation stems from a complaint launched by Canadian Jewish Congress, based on an address by NOI Toronto leader Don Muhammad to a recent meeting of 50 supporters.

In the meeting, which was closed to whites, Muhammad claimed Jews throughout history have financed wars and created enemies between countries to keep the wars going and enrich themselves, according to a report in *NOW*, a weekly news and entertainment publication.

Muhammad reportedly also told the meeting, held in the NOI's new mosque at Oakwood and Vaughan Streets in central Toronto, that the television show starring an openly gay Ellen DeGeneres represents part of the danger threatening to wipe out the black race in the next century.

In a subsequent interview with the *Toronto Star*, Muhammad denied the NOI is anti-Jewish, anti-gay or anti-white, but he stood by his statements about Jews financing international conflicts.

Congress' national president Moshe Ronen said the NOI message runs contrary to "the essence of Canadianism, the celebration of diversity and national harmony."

Ronen said he had requested leaders of the Roman Catholic, United and Anglican churches to "reject the anti-integrationist separatism which the NOI has embarked upon. This approach tears down bridges of understanding and tolerance that we together have so carefully built."

Doug Tindal, a spokesperson for the general synod of the Anglican Church of Canada, said "the church supports the efforts of any group to raise above its oppression. We encourage people to take a positive route and look at their own empowerment and not in the disempowerment of others."

Suzanne Scorsone, a spokesperson for the Catholic Archdiocese of Toronto, said "generally we don't comment on the statements made by other religious groups."

However, the "commitment of the archdiocese and the Roman Catholic Church as a whole is to tolerance... Relations with cultural groups and religious groups makes for a richness that is incomparable."

Organizations merge

[Cont'd. from page 3]

Currently, federations allocate from 46 percent to 10 percent of their campaigns to international causes, Ain said.

Toronto is at the high end of foreign allocations with 46 percent while Montreal gives about 31 percent. With Toronto and Montreal getting greater influence on the new organization's board, which has inherited that allocation task, greater funds should be forthcoming for Israel, Ain said.

"We have a concern in the UIA that a lot of people are turning inward as they feel the needs overseas are over," Wolfe said. But Israel still receives 60,000 immigrants every year, he added.

Any new funding formula "is not going to change overnight," Ain said. Any increase in foreign allocations will have to be implemented over time and through an allocation formula.

Bloor JCC dedicates lobby

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — *Toronto Star* columnist David Lewis Stein was honored with the Leonard Bernstein Controversy Award at a presentation at the Bloor Jewish Community Centre (JCC) recently.

Stein was presented with the award as part of a dedication ceremony in which the centre's reception area was renamed the Leonard Bernstein Lobby.

Bernstein was a long-standing member of the Bloor JCC who took an active role in the centre's chapel, and who enjoyed stimulating conversation on topics of the day, his brother Coleman said. The plaque that will be placed in the lobby quotes his late brother, saying: "It's the most wonderful place in the city."

Stein, a commentator on urban affairs, recalled Bernstein's devotion to the Bloor JCC and its unique atmosphere. "I'm doubly honored to get the award on the day he is being honored," he said.

Stein was introduced by CFRB commentator and former *Toronto Sun* columnist Christie Blatchford, the first recipient of the Controversy Award.

The dedication and presentation took place shortly after conclusion of Sunday morning services in the centre's chapel. Coleman Bernstein remembered his late brother as someone dedicated to the Bloor JCC's place of worship. "He made sure there was a minyan," as well as refreshments for the worshippers afterwards, Coleman said. Even when he wasn't feeling well, he made a point of picking up people to attend services, he added.

Bernstein's granddaughter, Tamara Burns, 13, said her grandfather "instilled the love of this institution in our family." A student at the Downtown Jewish Community School that is housed in the Bloor JCC, Burns said the centre is "a living example of the concept of an extended Jewish family."

With the dedication of the lobby, there are now two facilities in the Bloor JCC that bear the Bernstein name. The chapel is named for Michael Bernstein, Leonard and Coleman's brother who was killed in action during World War II. Michael enlisted at age 17 and saw service during D-Day. He was wounded in July 1944 but returned to action and was killed on Dec. 20, 1944 in fighting in Italy.

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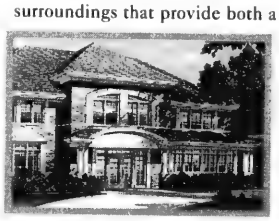

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Greater Toronto Area

Panel examines delicate issue of interdating

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — As a Jewish campus professional, Pearl Gropper Berman walks a fine line between serving as a representative of the Jewish community and avoiding judgmentalism when talking to students involved in interfaith relationships.

In those situations, the recently named assistant executive director of Jewish Campus Services of Greater Toronto likes to ask, "Why be Jewish?" She has found a strong correlation between students' ability to answer that question and their understanding of interdating.

Gropper Berman, the former director of York University's Jewish Student Federation, was one of three panelists at a recent forum on interfaith relationships sponsored by the Hesed committee of Beth Tikvah Synagogue. Also speaking were Susan Jackson, director of continuity programming for UJA Federation, and Rachel Schlesinger, social worker and educator.

Ben Zion Shapiro, professor emeritus at the University of Toronto's Faculty of Social Work, moderated the evening.

"I can appreciate how difficult it may be for a student to talk to me," said Gropper Berman, "and I would not want to do anything that could potentially jeopardize our relationship."

She asks students who are interdating questions such as, "How is your Judaism going to be affected by this?" And she tries to have them think about what their life would be like without Judaism.

Students who interdate may feel animosity toward parents, said Gropper Berman. "They can't understand why their parents aren't happy for them. They feel they're not a priority. Their parents seem to be more focused on the issue than on their child."

Rabbi Wayne Allen, spiritual leader of Beth Tikvah, mentioned in a dvar Torah preceding the panel that the participants he met in an Introduction to Judaism class for potential converts included day school graduates who had fallen in love with someone non-Jewish and wanted to commit themselves to having a Jewish household.

Gropper Berman has met numerous students "who had extensive Jewish experiences, and for some reason, Judaism never spoke to them. [Parents] need to help them find the answers about what is positive," she advised.

The parents' role is to "give kids as many tools as they can," said Jackson. But keep in mind, she cautioned, that teenagers are "merely hormones with feet."

To help them realize some of the problems that can arise in interfaith relationships, she recommended the film *When Love Meets Tradition*, available through UJA Federation's media centre.

Parents give their children conflicting messages when they espouse liberalism but caution them about marrying outside the faith, said Schlesinger.

She stressed the importance of identity for children. "They need to know who they are. If a parent doesn't have a strong identity, it's impossible to give it to a child."

Her fear is that children "will be left without strong values, morals or supports of either group... I have seen a number coming for counselling who can't relate to a grandparent."

In a sense, every marriage is a mixed marriage, Schlesinger noted.

Couples who intermarry need to make decisions about what type of religious education to give their children and how to maintain a warm family relationship. "You have to negotiate and renegotiate. If there is a conversion, you have to have a strong motivation for it. That motivation will be felt throughout the family unit."

Although having a "shared religious core" is important, Schlesinger said, "research indicates that a strong family is going to be strong even if there are differences in religion, if other things are in place."

An interfaith relationship "forces us to think more clearly about our Jewishness, who we are and what we stand for," said Schlesinger. "The rest of us can go through life not thinking about it."

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BIALIK STUDENTS HONOR ISRAEL

To mark Israel's 50th, Bialik Hebrew Day School published a commemorative photo album dedicated by the students to the State of Israel. Principal Uri Korin (centre) recently presented copies to Israel's consul general Jehudi Kinar (right) and consul Irit Waidergorn. Israel's foreign ministry is featuring the album in its exhibit honoring Israel on its anniversary.

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Bonds honors Canadian leaders

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — In celebration of Israel's 50th anniversary, State of Israel Bonds held a gala tribute dinner at the Sheraton Centre Toronto honoring seven outstanding Canadians .

The black-tie event, featuring Gregory Peck, attracted 1,450 sponsors. Former premier of Ontario William Davis was the master of ceremonies, and co-chairs were Susan Fenwick and Stanley Hartt.

Honorees were business executives and community leaders A. Ephraim Diamond, V. Maureen Kempston Darkes, Anthony Munk representing his father Peter Munk, Isadore Sharp, Bernard Sherman; Henry Jackman, former Ontario lieutenant governor and chancellor of University of Toronto (U of T); and Rose Wolfe, former chancellor of U of T.

Davis, who visited Israel on two occasions where he "gained a sense of what that country was all about," told the audience, "Tonight we are celebrating, not just the State of Israel's 50th anniversary, but the recognition that in that very volatile and difficult part of the world, Israel stands out as the true democracy.

"I have a sense that for me at least, it is one of the great accomplishments of this century."

Toronto MP Jim Peterson, in his greetings from the government of Canada, said that the story of the State of Israel is a story of courage.

"In 50 years, Israel has met and overcome the challenges of its creation and survival. In that time, the people of Israel have built a modern nation, a truly historical achievement on which we reflect with great pride."

Hartt said that in the past, Israel Bonds were marketed mainly for the Jewish community as a way to help Israel. Today, the bonds are treated as investments , he said.

He noted that these bonds carry an excellent rating – rated A minus by Standard and Poors and number one by the National Association of Insurance Commissioners in the United States, "which is the highest rating obtainable."

The proceeds from the evening, Hartt explained, are being used to purchase Israel Bonds in the names of local and Israel-based foundations selected by the honorees. He announced that for this Double Mitzvah program, "commitments raised in connection with this dinner honoring our seven worthy honorees has surpassed $15 million."

A specially prepared video featured the honorees, and focused on the infrastructure needs of Israel.

Peck, talking about his role as a Jew facing anti-Semitism in America in *Gentleman's Agreement*, said, "I hope people left [the theatre] with a change of attitude."

Peck visited Israel 10 times and once filmed there for three months. "I feel a tremendous affinity with Jews – I feel close to the Israeli people."

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Greater Toronto Area

Non-Jewish students use drama, song to explore the Holocaust

By DANIEL WOLGELERENTER
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — A group of mostly non-Jewish students recently used drama and song to learn some lessons from the Holocaust.

Before an audience of parents and students, 120 grade 3, 4 and 6 students at Parkdale's Queen Victoria Public School performed excerpts from the *Brundibar* children's opera, composed in 1938 by Terezin inmate and Auschwitz victim Hans Krasa, and performed at Terezin after 1941 by 8 to 12 year-olds.

Queen Victoria, Ontario's largest elementary school with 967 students who speak over 50 languages, joined the United Synagogue Day School – which staged a similar performance May 26 – as one of two schools in arts educator Helena Fine's pilot *Brundibar* project.

Funded by the Ontario Arts Council and the private Delaney Foundation, Fine brought *Brundibar* to Queen Victoria at the urging of vice-principal Margie Marmor.

"For [Queen Victoria students], it was a real introduction to the history, to the Holocaust," Fine said. It also helped the mostly non-white students see that racism can happen to non-visible minorities as well, she added.

"I think they realized that it's not just skin color, it can be anything," Fine said.

Brundibar also exposed students to professional musicians, directors and set and costume designers who worked with them in smaller groups on various aspects of the opera, which consisted of a multi-media slide show and dramatic musical performance.

"For many of the kids, it was the first time ever they were involved with artists for staging and music," Fine said. "The kids were enthusiastic and they loved it...It's something meaningful in their lives. They'll remember it forever."

In all, students spent 16 hours over 3 weeks on the production.

The opera, which was performed about 55 times at Terezin, deals with themes of bullying and oppression through the eyes of children.

It tells the story of Aninka and Pepicek, two children who must sing for money to buy milk for their sick mother, but who are thwarted by a mean organ grinder named Brundibar who drowns out their songs.

Eventually, the children are joined by animals who hatch a plan to interrupt Brundibar with a lullaby sung with other town children. It earns the children milk money, which Brundibar steals.

In the end, the animals and children retrieve the money and turn Brundibar over to a police officer.

"The idea is that if we get everyone together, we can win... and in the end the evil is defeated," said Fine.

The computer slide show preceding the performance – prepared by students and teachers – explicitly linked the opera's themes with the Holocaust.

"One doesn't have to be Jewish to deal with issues of the Holocaust because the issues speak to all oppressed peoples," Marmor told teachers after the performance.

Participating Grade 4 teacher Sanjukta Roy estimated that 80 percent of her students have been in Canada for one year or less, and only "four or five" were born here.

Many arrived as refugees, like at least one Roma (Gypsy) child in the performance. One child said the performance reminded him of how his father was imprisoned in Vietnam.

"What happened here was that a safety net was created for the kids...and in that safety net they felt comfortable dealing with issues that take a long time to get at with children," said Marmor.

"Often, kids who have trouble with the academics can thrive through the arts...[it] gives them a chance to shine," Marmor said.

Grade 3 teacher Lynette Stejshak-Cohen added that "the children were able to understand the issues at a deeper level through drama" because they could act them out in a non-threatening environment.

The grades 3 and 4 students saw *Brundibar* performed professionally at the Beth Sholom last fall as part of ongoing Holocaust and anti-racist studies in the Queen Victoria curriculum.

Clein says goodbye to USDS

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — When Pauline Clein, principal of United Synagogue Day School (USDS) Bayview branch, began working at the school in 1971 there were only 75 students.

The school grew to more than 600 students under her leadership, an era which comes to an end in July when she retires.

Accolades for Clein flowed at a recent retirement party at the Bayview campus, attended by students and former students, school staff and former colleagues, members of the board of directors and parents.

The formal speeches by educators and the board, as well as informal comments made by parents and teachers, all echoed a common theme: Clein was described as an innovative and top-notch educator with a warm and caring disposition.

Board member Julia Spritzer, whose involvement with USDS Bayview dates back some 13 years, said that Clein "always had an open door. She's always addressed our needs."

At the same time, there's a "grandmotherly" quality about Clein, Spritzer said. "At recess, she stands by the door to make sure the kids are zipped up and their hats are on."

Grade 2 teacher Rivka Schechter, a teacher at the school for nine years, described Clein as a "forward looking" educator and a "very supportive" administrator who encouraged innovation in the classroom. "Pauline never got stale in her approach to education," she said.

Elie Newman, president of the USDS board of directors, said "there aren't enough words to describe my admiration for Pauline, for her commitment and dedication."

Clein said "It almost pays to retire to hear all this wonderful stuff."

She said the job of principal has been very fulfilling. "It's been rewarding to see the campus grow, and to have students who are returning as teachers or parents, as well taking their place as leaders in Israel."

Along with overseeing the increase in the number of students and the subsequent physical expansion of the building, Clein said, she played a key role in setting up the middle school.

She said she is particularly proud of introducing recorders to the school. The recorder group, which is made up of about 30 students, has become part of the school culture, she explained.

Clein said her educational initiatives include the integration of Judaic and general studies, the integration of computers into the curriculum and the development of Hebrew methodology.

She noted that the school now serves a wider spectrum of the population and that there are more support services available for students with special needs.

Clein's immediate plans include a three-month trip to Israel to visit her son and his family. She intends to return to the classroom while she's in Jerusalem, but not as a teacher.

"I'd like to study for myself," she said. "I want to do some text study...Torah study is ongoing and continuous. It's a life-long occupation."

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The Canadian Jewish news

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Unwelcome doctrines

Since the middle of this century Canada has increasingly defined itself by an abiding emphasis on communal inclusiveness and inter-ethnic tolerance, by religious pluralism and multicultural accommodation. Indeed, so highly valued was that emphasis, it became enshrined in 1981 in the Charter of Rights and Freedoms of the then newly repatriated, amended constitution of our country, to ensure that it characterizes our society for all time.

Section 27 states: "This Charter shall be interpreted in a manner consistent with the *preservation* and *enhancement* of the multicultural heritage of Canadians." (our emphasis)

Multiculturalism is now part of the very essence of our way of life, adding strength, sinew, resilience and profound meaning to Canadian society. But more than this, the laws that embody our values and protect our society must be interpreted in a manner which *enhances* this evolving, uniquely Canadian ethos of multiculturalism.

Into our multicultural community, the Nation of Islam (NOI) has formally arrived. Last month, the first Canadian mosque of the NOI opened in mid-town Toronto. Judging by the first media accounts, the NOI program is alarming and quite antithetical to the Canadian ethos.

Relying on published statements and paraphrasals of public statements made in *NOW* magazine by Don Mohammed, minister of the Toronto mosque of the NOI, the *Globe and Mail* last week reported that Mohammed had once again raised many of the old, malicious, Jewish conspiracy canards; had tried once again to cast doubt on the historicity of the Holocaust; had reiterated his xenophobic and homophobic messages; and was trying to foment fear and resentment among a new, potentially burgeoning, local following.

In swift response to the report of Mohammed's preaching, the Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) asked the Toronto police to investigate. That investigation is currently underway. Alongside the complaint to the police, Congress has also appealed to the leaders of Canadian faith communities to rebuke and renounce these odious pronouncements.

In a letter to the leaders of the Canadian Christian establishment, Moshe Ronen, CJC national president, wrote: "Those who are the moral and religious leaders of our country must speak out forcefully for tolerance and disavow [such] statements that are harmful to racial or religious minorities. We hope that your faith community will reject the anti-integrationist separatism which the NOI has embarked on. This approach tears down bridges of understanding and tolerance that we together have so carefully built."

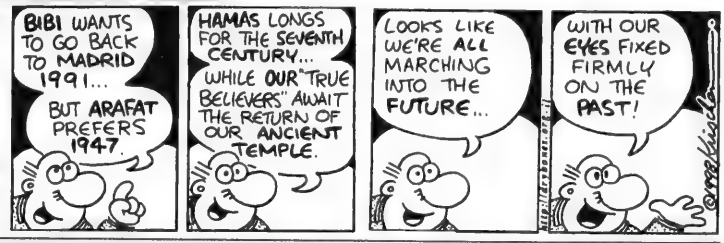
Summing up the situation, Keith Landy, CJC Ontario chair, put the issue plainly and boldly: "Spouting hatred of others is unacceptable. We won't tolerate it as a community and we don't believe Canadians should tolerate it."

We commend the CJC for its swift response. And we agree with Landy. The brand of expression practised by the NOI should not be tolerated by ordinary Canadians. Nor do we believe that it is tolerated by the majority of Canadians. Its vile, exclusionary, anti-Semitic message, cannot and should not, in the words of the Charter of Rights and Freedoms, be "demonstrably justified in our free and democratic society," in our constantly evolving, uniquely Canadian, multicultural ethos.

A new house of prayer in the midst of any community in this country is surely to be welcomed. But a house of such divisive, hateful, anti-Semitic impiety is not. In view of the fact that the police are investigating the purported NOI teachings, there may be a question of the legality of those teachings. They are antithetical to our values. They harm rather than enhance multicultural accommodation and understanding in our society. We therefore add our voice to that of the CJC and plead with the leaders of the Christian and the Muslim community in Canada to publicly defend our Canadian values by denouncing the unwelcome doctrines of the NOI.

WISDOM OF THE AGES
"A person who wants to fly will not agree to crawl."
Helen Keller

Dry Bones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Yiddish still lives in these schools

In his article "Yiddish in Canada" (*CJN*, June 18), Prof. Leo Davids states that in "other than the ultra-Orthodox population...and among Jews who are now in their 70s and 80s, the language has been given up."

Yiddish is a living, vibrant subject at Jewish People's Schools and Peretz Schools and Bialik High School (JPPS/Bialik).

Every child from Grade 1 through Secondary V studies Yiddish language and literature and many of them actively participate in Montreal's Yiddish theatre troupe. Yiddish is required for a student to receive a Bialik High School diploma. Our graduates have won Rhodes Scholarships and have professorships for their work in Yiddish. The childrens' love of Yiddish is reflected in their enthusiasm and participation and in their use of the language.

Our school system and its students, founded by Labor Zionists 85 years ago, represents the entire spectrum of the Jewish community.

Merle Frankel
Executive Director
Jewish Peoples Schools and Peretz Schools
Montreal

Opposes bid to extend Jerusalem's boundaries

We are troubled by the current efforts of the Netanyahu government to extend Jerusalem's boundaries to the east via an "umbrella municipality." Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu can act as offended as he wishes at the reaction to this move throughout the world, but there can be little doubt that this initiative is essentially annexation by stealth.

Whether it be by land expropriation, housing demolitions, new Jewish settlements, or other means, Netanyahu and Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert are continually trying to up the ante on Jerusalem in ways that preclude finding an honorable solution.

Within the framework of an undivided city there are indeed ways to accommodate reasonable expressions of Palestinian nationalism. But as long as Netanyahu continues with his unilateral efforts to completely separate the Arab parts of Jerusalem from the West Bank there will only be trouble. Shalom Achshav and others in Israel will continue to resist all measures contrary to the spirit of Oslo whether they be Israeli or Palestinian actions.

Frank Guttman
Simon Rosenblum
National Co-Presidents
Canadian Friends of Peace Now

Seeks truth behind Oslo declaration

Sheldon Kirshner, in his review of Uri Savir's book *The Process* (*CJN*, June 11), writes "Savir, a fluent writer." This fluency seems to apply to his Hebrew writing only. The book was translated to English by Amos Carmel.

In the June 10 issue of *Ha'aretz*, Yoel Singer reviewed the book. Singer was, at the time, a legal advisor to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and was part of the Oslo process. His first involvement was an assignment from Shimon Peres to review the draft of the Declaration of Principles.

This is what Yoel Singer writes: "The Oslo paper had been written unprofessionally and in poor English. Some of the ideas seemed confused to me, and other leaned too much towards the Palestinians. I had respect for Peres, [Yossi] Beilin and their aides, but I was afraid that in their enthusiasm over having succeeded in reaching an agreement, they had gone overboard. I was not particularly impressed by their stories of the 'chemistry' between the parties in Oslo. So I went ahead and warned them, in the frankest terms, not to sign such a document."

If Singer is right about the poor English of the document (and assuming that the negotiations were conducted in English), it would explain the widely different interpretations the parties have, the Arab claims and the denials of Peres, Beilin and others.

Singer further writes: "The logical thing to do would have been to throw out the document and start all over again. The orders I received, to my consternation, were to use it as a working paper and make only the changes that were absolutely necessary."

Yoel Singer remained involved in the process. Maybe one day he will write a book about it, and we will have more insight into how the Oslo process was started and managed.

Michael M. Salamon
Toronto

How to give real meaning to 'never forget'

I applaud Chad Finkelstein's final paragraph in his personal March of the Living journal (*CJN*, June 11). In it he writes, "What one must come away with from a venture like this [a visit to Auschwitz and later to Israel] is a message to give to the world that no such dehumanization can ever happen again...a message that we can never forget."

I agree with Finkelstein wholeheartedly that the purpose of March of the Living should be to raise the consciousness of young Jews and to translate their Jewish sorrow and anger into action.

Therefore, if we feel it is important to send Jewish teenagers to see a place where some of humankind displayed a total disassociation from their soul, it would seem correct that a prerequisite and follow-up to the trip would be for all participants to actively involve themselves in battling against current inhumanities.

The term "never forget" was not meant to encourage a simple passive recollection of the atrocities committed against us. It was a phrase coined to help the Jewish people remember our overwhelming time of anguish so that we would be watchful and aware when inequities happened again, and respond with fervor to douse its authority.

Avrum Rosensweig, Executive Vice-President
Ve'ahavta: The Canadian Jewish
Humanitarian & Relief Committee
Toronto

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures. Letters sent by E-Mail must also include the sender's municipal address.

Perspectives

Is the end of Ethiopian aliyah at hand?

A timeline of the major developments in the exodus of Jews from Ethiopia to Israel.

1979 – The first few hundred Jews manage to leave Ethiopia and get to Israel.
1980-83 – A few thousand more Ethiopian Jews come out quietly through the Sudan.
1984 – Huge numbers of Ethiopian Jews go to the Sudan trying to get to Israel. Dire conditions lead to the deaths of more than 4,000 en route or in refugee camps.
December 1984 – Operation Moses brings 6,000-8,000 Jews out of Ethiopia. But the Sudanese government brings the operation to a halt after newspapers publish stories on the secret rescue. A mop-up operation brings out fewer than another 1,000.
1985-89 – Several thousand others are quietly brought out by Jewish aid groups and the Israeli government.
January 1990-May 1991 – The numbers of those allowed to emigrate increases to between 8,000 and 10,000 after Ethiopia agrees to allow Israel to reopen its embassy.
May 1991 – Israel launches Operation Solomon, a dramatic 36-hour airlift that brings an additional 14,000 to Israel, including 2,000 Falash Mura.
August 1991 – An Israeli ministerial commission rules that entry to Israel requires "a clear belonging of the converted person to his ethnic roots, clear desire to return to Judaism and a process of return to Judaism."
1992 – 3,500 Jews from Upper Kwara and another 3,000-to 4,000 Falash Mura go to Israel.
1993-present – About 10,000-12,000 Falash Mura leave for Israel, some 5,000-7,000 brought through the compound in Addis Ababa and the rest from northern Ethiopia. Falash Mura all have undergone "return-to-Judaism" procedures.
April 1993 – An Israeli ministerial commission rules that only those eligible under the Law of Return, and some under a very narrow definition for family reunification, may come to Israel from Ethiopia.
June 1997 – After years of political wrangling, the Israeli government decides to allow entry, on humanitarian grounds, to those Falash Mura who have been waiting in the Addis Ababa compound, even if they cannot be admitted under conditions of the Law of Return.
October 1997-June 1998 – Some 4,000 remaining Falash Mura are brought to Israel from the compound in Addis Ababa, where they have been living since the early 1990s.
May 1998 – The government of Israel instructs Jewish aid groups to end their work in the capital.
June 1998 – The government of Israel announces plans to close the compound in Addis Ababa, end immigration from Ethiopia under Law of Entry and process via the Law of Return only those of recent Jewish lineage.

By DEBRA NUSSBAUM COHEN
Jerusalem Post Foreign service

Fourteen years after Israel launched its first dramatic rescue operation of Jews from Ethiopia, those involved in the rescue effort are planning to close up shop. The ostensibly last planeload of Ethiopian Jews to Israel, 58 Falash Mura – Ethiopians who consider themselves Jewish but are not considered Jewish by the Israeli government – arrived at Ben-Gurion Airport two weeks ago, welcomed by top Israeli officials, including Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

But efforts by the Israeli government and humanitarian groups to close down operations in the East African nation are being complicated by reports of atrocities against those still hoping to make aliyah, continuing disputes over the Jewish status of many seeking refuge and urgent pleas from those being left behind.

At the same time, there are an estimated 2,500 Jews in Kwara, near the Sudanese border, who were left off the original rescue list. Israeli government officials say their attention will now turn to them.

Also at issue is the fate of as many as 15,000 Falash Mura. The Israeli government fears that many, if not most, will want to settle in Israel.

At the request of the Israeli government, the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee (JDC) closed its compound in the Ethiopian capital of Addis Ababa July 1.

Recent visitors to the northern Ethiopian villages report that one 6-year-old Falash Mura child was burned to death when her family's home was set on fire, and that hundreds have fled from their villages. But these reports have not been confirmed by other sources and are questioned by some involved in the issue.

Meanwhile, these Falash Mura have appealed to Ethiopian Jewish activists not to abandon them.

"We would like to beg of you in the name of the God of Israel to continue your assistance for us," they wrote to the North American Conference on Ethiopian Jewry (NACOEJ). "Please don't abandon us at our time of need, at this time of suffering and grief. Please finish what you have already started."

Debate over the Jewish status of the Falash Mura undergirds the increasingly complex situation in Ethiopia today.

The Israeli government and some Jewish humanitarian officials consider them Christians whose ancestors converted from Judaism generations ago. Others, however, say the Falash Mura didn't actually convert to Christianity, but do not live religious Jewish lives.

Three recent visitors to several northern villages report that Falash Mura are being targeted in "pogroms" and are being burned out of their homes by their Christian neighbors who want to expropriate their property.

In separate interviews from Addis Ababa and Israel, the travellers reported that Christians have set fire to the modest huts, or tukuls, of their Falash Mura neighbors in the middle of the night, waving guns and screaming at them to go to Israel.

Barbara Ribakove Gordon, executive director of the North American Conference, who visited the village of Buchara on June 14, was told that a 4-year-old girl was rescued from the flames of a burning tukul.

Michael Schneider, executive vice-president of the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, which has spent upwards of $10 million aiding the Jews and Falash Mura of Ethiopia, is dubious of the reports of violence against the Falash Mura in the northern villages.

"There is no hard evidence to suggest that there either is, or will be an outbreak of pogroms against either Jews or Falash Mura," said Schneider, who sent his own team to investigate.

But several sources say that as a result of the rapidly changing situation, some Falash Mura are fleeing. This has complicated the situation in Addis Ababa, where the JDC and the North American Conference have maintained a compound, providing educational, health and other services for those waiting to immigrate to Israel.

Most of those in the compound were brought to Addis Ababa by Israeli emissaries in the process of preparing for Operation Solomon. They missed the airlift either because they didn't arrive in the capital in time or because their applications weren't processed in time.

Of the 14,000 Ethiopians airlifted to Israel during Operation Solomon, the majority were Jews, but some 2,000 were Falash Mura, many of whom were separated from family members, according to Avi Granot, Israel's former ambassador to Ethiopia and the current minister for public affairs at the Israeli Embassy in Washington.

Operation Solomon followed Operation Moses, a secret airlift that began in late 1984. More than 6,000 Jews were airlifted from the Sudan, where thousands of Ethiopian Jews had trekked. That airlift was suspended by the Sudanese government when it became public.

The rescue of Ethiopian Jewry came after Israel's Sephardi chief rabbi, Ovadia Yosef, issued a ruling in 1973 recognizing the Falashas as Jews who were descendants of the lost tribe of Dan.

Some 65,000 Ethiopians now live in Israel. Controversy has surrounded the question of whether Israel should be responsible for those left in Ethiopia who have questionable Jewish ties.

Amid ongoing disputes over the status of those Falash Mura at the compound in Addis Ababa, an Israeli ministerial committee last year decided to allow all of those waiting to emigrate to come to Israel and then to close down the compound.

Israel "definitely had a humanitarian responsibility for those people" because they were brought to Addis with the "belief that they are on the way to Israel" and they practiced Judaism while living in the compound, Granot said.

But Israel has no obligation to assist others, even if they have family members in Israel, because they are not Jewish, the former ambassador said.

The problem, Granot said, is that all of the Coptic Christians in Ethiopia – even the country's prime minister – could consider themselves to be direct descendants of Jews.

Israel is concerned, Granot said, that if it assists them, "millions of Ethiopians would turn to the Jewish state for refuge from their country's grinding poverty and escalating war with neighboring Eritrea."

When the operations close down, any who believe they have a right to immigrate to Israel will have to apply to the Israeli Embassy in Ethiopia the way any non-Jew would.

Others dispute the view that the stream of Falash Mura would be endless.

A survey of the country's remaining Falash Mura in 1992 recorded about 25,000 names, said Avshalom Elitzur of South Wing to Zion, a social action group. Fewer than 15,000 remain in Ethiopia, most of whom have first-degree relatives in Israel, he said.

The notion that there would be an "endless stream" of Falash Mura into Israel "is a myth cultivated in Israel by those who don't like the idea of more black people there," he said.

Rabbi Moshe Waldman, the representative of Israel's Chief Rabbinate who deals with the Ethiopian immigration, agrees.

"It is absolutely a question of color," he said, pointing to the hundreds of thousands of people from the former Soviet Union who do not claim to be Jewish but have been permitted entry by Israel.

Granot said the charge of racism "is nonsense."

What happens next is unclear.

Israel says the group of Falash Mura, who arrived in Israel two weeks ago, marked the end of the official campaign to reunify Falash Mura families. But dozens more are left at the Addis compound. It is not clear whether Israel will grant them permission to enter the country.

It is Israel's job to reassure the Falash Mura that applications to immigrate will be taken seriously, by sending emissaries to the villages to meet with them, Schneider said.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and his wife Sarah were among the welcoming party for the 58 Falash Mura who arrived in Israel June 25 on the "last" Ethiopian airlift. They are trying to calm an unhappy youngster. The child, however, will not be calmed. [Isranet photo]

Opinions

Time for new beginnings

The first words are always the hardest. They grab the reader's attention; they make the listener stop and absorb the story you're telling. First words are slow and painful. They are what first year university is all about.

By Jennifer Fox in Halifax

Write something about yourself. That was my first assignment for my Foundations of Journalism course at the University of King's College in Halifax. Something. I wanted specifics; I didn't want to fail. These words were to be the first my journalism tutor and fellow students would read. The cursor on the tiny Macintosh computer screen blinked, demanding that something be written. The clicking of other people's keyboards taunted me. Why was I here? Could I survive four years creating stories out of nothing? My screen remained blank, confirming my fear. I wasn't a future reporter but a fraud, an English student capable of writing only essays and fiction. How did I end up in Halifax?

King's is a small university tucked away in the corner of the Dalhousie University campus. It is three provinces and one time zone away from Thornhill, Ont., the quiet suburb above Toronto where I grew up. I came to King's to become a journalist. There are fewer than a dozen undergraduate journalism programs in Canada and this one seemed to suit me best.

I never considered why my future career should be in this field; yet I knew the image of noisy newsrooms, approaching deadlines and my name in print could always make me smile. But I was terrified. Of the articles I would have to write, of the complete strangers I would have to call. Of explaining how and why I was different, when at home no explanation was needed.

My mezuzah is an object of curiosity on my floor of Alexandra Hall, King's female residence. The mezuzah is something different – foreign.

My fellow student doesn't know what it is – a thin, long and grey rectangle attached to my doorframe. Her hand reaches up, about to pry it off the wall for further examination. I swat her hand away and tell her it's supposed to be there. She apologizes; she didn't know. In her small town in New Brunswick, such an object has never been seen because it's just not needed.

The first time I was questioned, I hesitantly replied that this was a mezuzah. Had she heard the term before? In Thornhill this question isn't asked. People already knew the answer because there's a large Jewish community. But she wants an explanation of this odd word because it's something new. And that's what university is for – to experience new things.

How do I explain something that is so ordinary in my world but is so out of place in hers? Is now the time to get into the story of Pesach? Is the hallway of Alex Hall the right place to describe God passing over the homes smeared with blood? If I hadn't attended public school, but CHAT, the Hebrew high school in Toronto, then maybe I could feel confident about the answers to all of last year's questions. Why don't you eat milk and meat together? Why is your New Year in September? Why are you fasting? Why? I didn't always have the words. I just didn't know.

Now I've got two months to find the right words. To figure out how to explain to my housemates why I brought two sets of dishes for our kitchen and what that weird thing is above my door. Two more months until I'm once again seated in front of a Macintosh with a deadline approaching and no clear idea where to begin. But I'm optimistic. I've done it once before and the second time can't possibly be harder than the first.

Focusing on the future

"It's nice to meet you," I say. The balding man responds, "You look just like your father. Where are you in school these days?"

By Erica Horn in Montreal

For most of my friends, the answer is monosyllabic and self-explanatory. Not for me. I take a deep breath. "I go to McGill," I say, hoping this will satisfy his honest curiosity.

To my dismay, he pursues the issue, "What are you studying?" he asks.

Here we go. "I'm in humanistic studies," I sigh, with a you've-probably-never-heard-of-it expression on my face.

"What is that exactly?" This man is evidently very interested.

"It's an interdisciplinary arts major."

Most people then quickly move on to, "So, what do you want to do with your life?"

Not him. "So, what specifically are you taking?"

This I can answer easily. "A little bit of this, a little bit of that. Some Spanish, Jewish literature, Middle Eastern history, philosophy," and the list goes on.

Finally, he does ask, "So, what do you want to do with this?"

With this? I want to find an abbreviation for my major and its accompanying description, that's what I want to do "with this."

Upon introducing myself to one of the staff reporters at *The Canadian Jewish News*, for an article he was writing about three of us who created and co-edit the *Hillel Hub* at McGill, I was asked to state my major and my age. I had just turned 19. You know how it is; the first couple of months after your birthday, you have difficulty remembering that your age has changed so you constantly answer a year younger than you are (or, in the case of my parents, they purposely mislead you).

Then he inquired about my major, figuring that this answer would come more easily.

I offered the same response as I had given to the balding man, but this time, the reporter answered, "I'm a humanistic studies graduate." Funnily, the same conversation occurred when I introduced myself to the executive director of Hillel.

My parents had been concerned because the McGill handbook reads: "Humanistic studies does not prepare you for any specific vocation or graduate school." I was not and am not worried, because the handbook mentions nothing about aimless, hopeless or homeless. My philosophy is that those who are motivated will succeed.

The recent plans to construct the Montreal Jewish Community Campus are an ideal example of recognizing the importance of ensuring a bright future. Members of the community are aware that to guarantee a future for Jews in this city, they must prepare themselves by establishing strong foundations and offering worthwhile reasons to remain here. Faith in the community must radiate from the actions and attitudes of the community's leaders to its members.

I have too many friends who have fled Montreal for Toronto and claim that there is no worthwhile future for young Jews here. I disagree. I am acquainted with many former Montrealers, now Torontonians, most of whom claim that Toronto has become a reborn Montreal. (So why bother moving?)

People involved in the Montreal Jewish community evidently want to end the ripple effect of emigration to Ontario. They are doing so by building a campus and showing a commitment to Jewish life in Montreal. Dedication, diligence and a strong-willed vision for the future are all that are required to ensure happiness and prosperity. A sense of satisfaction is guaranteed provided that the will to remain and rebuild what may seem dwindling is greater than the sensation of simply feeling left behind.

I have no qualms about remaining here. The mere recognition and knowledge that a vibrant Jewish community in Montreal is possible because it once was and still is, is significant enough to ensure a worthwhile future. Although leaders within our community cannot be certain of the exact needs of the members of the Jewish community, simply knowing that you want a strong community to exist is sufficient to drive the dream to become reality. Individuals function in the same way. Having the characteristics and mindframe to succeed in life is more important than the certitude of exactly how you will reach success.

Similarly, just because my major does not have any specific focus for the future, it does not mean that I will graduate knowing nothing about nothing; nor will I be aimless or futureless. In fact, I will know at least a little about many things.

Although it is the summertime (and hopefully El Nino does not have any big plans), it is essential to recognize the importance of focusing on the right things at the right time. Take some sun, and make sure that your tongue doesn't get stuck to the popsicle you have just removed from the freezer.

My next column will be written from Camp Green Lane, on Green Lane Road, in Green Lane, Pa. Hasta la vista, à la prochaine, Shalom.

People like Burg a vanishing breed

Recently, I had the good fortune to be present at a breakfast meeting with Yosef Burg, for 39 years a member of Israel's Knesset and a cabinet minister in many Israeli administrations. Some people have called him a political survivor, but that is putting him down rather than understanding the unusual and in fact extraordinary personality he is.

By Rabbi Gunther Plaut in Toronto

After his speech, a number of listeners remarked that people like Burg seem to have vanished from society: men of education, intelligence, compassion and tolerance. He was indeed admirable in his references to historical figures, to incidents of past history, Jewish and general, his capacity to remember names that I had long forgotten – and in his wonderful way of mixing Hebrew, English, German and, of course, Yiddish into one "Burgian" address.

Burg will be 90 years old come next January, and he was in Toronto as part of a gruelling lecture tour. He had received smichah as well as a PhD in Germany, and he has no hesitation to describe his native city, Dresden, as a place in which culture once had an important place. A founder of Israel's National Religious Party, Burg is an Orthodox Jew in a tradition of accepting other denominations with a remarkable degree of openness, and thereby stands in significant contrast to many of his colleagues. In fact, what impressed me most in this latest appearance in our midst was a particular statement that one rarely hears from any politician. He said: "I have been in politics a very long time and when you have that opportunity you also have a chance of being wrong a few times. I was wrong in the 1930s when I opposed – at a Zionist Congress – the recommendations of the Peel Commission, which suggested the partition of Palestine (then under British mandate). I was wrong then, and later when the opportunity arose to correct myself, I did so." I cannot offhand remember anyone else who has made politics his home, and has unequivocally asserted not only that he had made mistakes but was also willing to specify them rather than let it go as generalities.

He answered questions about Israeli politics and his bottom line was this: questions that have bothered the Jewish people for thousands of years cannot be quickly resolved by a nation only 50 years old. He quoted a Yiddish proverb: "Unless you are a bit meshuge, you cannot have a real understanding of our problems."

When asked how we could bring the Jewish people together, his answer was not evasive. He said: "It starts with you yourself and with every one of us. We are all part of the polarization and each of us can reduce the level of distance between us and the 'others' by beginning to speak in softer and more accepting tones."

Burg, whose son is now the chair of the Jewish Agency, belongs to a vanishing breed. He draws on a multitude of intellectual sources and does so with great charm, without putting down his audience. On the contrary, he is one of the few who can manage to pull it up to his own level, and that is an experience of which

The Kirshner File

Croatians gird for Sakic war crimes trial

Dinko Sakic, the commander of the Jasenovac concentration camp, was deported to Croatia from Argentina last month,

By Sheldon Kirshner

setting the stage for a painful re-examination of Croatia's fascist past and its current fixation with the wartime Ustashe proto Nazi state.

Croatia, absorbed into Serb-dominated Yugoslavia after World War I, won its independence in 1941 under the leadership of Ante Pavelic and the sponsorship and protection of Germany.

The Croatian puppet state, a carbon copy of Nazi Germany according to Marcus Tanner's new book, *Croatia: A Nation Forged in War* (Yale University Press), persecuted Jews and Serbs. An estimated 750,000 Serbs and 20,000 Jews were killed during the Ustashe period, chiefly in Jasenovac.

Sakic commanded the notorious camp from December 1942 to October 1944. With Croatia's collapse in 1945, Sakic and his wife, Esperenza, the sister of one of the highest ranking Ustashe leaders, fled to Argentina. Juan Peron, the president, permitted thousands of war criminals – Germans, Croatians and others – to find a haven there.

Until last April, Sakic, 76, lived an uneventful life in Argentina as a businessman. But in a television interview, he dropped his guard and acknowledged his role in Jasenovac. He declared, however, that the prisoners under his watch had died of natural causes, mainly typhoid, and had not been murdered. But witnesses tell a different story, one in which inmates were tortured and killed.

With Sakic having been deported to Zagreb, he will become the first member of the Ustashe regime to be tried for war crimes in Croatia, which declared independence from Yugoslavia in June 1991.

Croatia's president, Franjo Tudjman, is an ambivalent figure. During World War II, he compiled a distinguished record as an anti-fascist partisan in Josip Broz Tito's resistance movement. But during Croatia's struggle for statehood in the early 1990s, when he sought to instil patriotic pride among all classes of Croatians, Tudjman invoked a fairly positive spin of the Ustashe state. He admitted that Croatian fascists had been guilty of "wrongdoing," but added that they had been patriots.

In his zeal to reconcile the contradictory strands of Croatian history, Tudjman suggested that Jasenovac be turned into a memorial for all victims of fascism, communism and the 1991 Serb-Croat war. The idea was criticized as morally inappropriate by Croatia's small Jewish community.

Tudjman has not stopped there. In a bid to garner the support of nationalists, the government has taken the following steps: renamed streets in Zagreb – the capital – after Ustashe luminaries; incorporated the checkered Ustashe coat of arms into Croatia's flag; and, in revised school texts, portrayed the Ustashe state not as a willing participant in atrocities, but as a country fighting for nationhood.

Worse still, Tudjman, in 1989, wrote a book, *The Wastelands of Historical Reality*, in which he accused Jews of inflating Holocaust numbers and charged that Jews had run Jasenovac.

Tudjman has since apologized for these references, which were deleted from the subsequent English-language edition. But his reputation is such that when he appeared at the opening of the United States Holocaust Museum in Washington several years ago, he was roundly booed. And when he announced his intention to visit Jerusalem after Israel and Croatia established diplomatic relations in August 1997, protests forced him to cancel it.

In an effort to make amends, Croatia's foreign minister, Mate Granic, visited Israel two months ago. He condemned the suffering of Jews in Croatia during the war, lambasted the "crime of genocide of six million Jews," and reiterated that Croatia would prosecute Sakic. With Sakic awaiting trial, Croatians are girding themselves for a round of national soul-searching which may tell them more about themselves than they wish to know or acknowledge.

Goldhagen bashers

Two years ago, a young Harvard historian named Daniel Jonah Goldhagen caused quite a stir with the publication of *Hitler's Willing Executioners: Ordinary Germans and the Holocaust*, which has sold a phenomenal 600,000 copies worldwide.

Put succinctly, Goldhagen's hypothesis was that the Final Solution was largely implemented, not by fanatical Nazis, but by "ordinary" Germans, and that a climate of venomous, "eliminationist" anti-Semitism in Germany paved the way for this unparallelled crime.

The book, by turn brilliant and glaringly weak, was praised and attacked by critics. The latest Goldhagen bashers are Norman Finkelstein and Ruth Bettina Birn, whose book, *A Nation on Trial: The Goldhagen Thesis and Historical Truth* (Fitzhenry & Whiteside), is based on essays which originally appeared in academic journals. It is doubtless the most sustained barrage so far against the Goldhagen school of historiography.

Finkelstein, a professor of political theory and international relations at Hunter College and New York University, is hard on Goldhagen. He describes his work as one of "scholarly pretention" which "adds nothing to our current understanding" of the Holocaust.

Some of his points are valid, his ill-tempered language notwithstanding. German anti-Semitism in itself was not sufficiently virulent to account for genocide. The Germans were not homicidally anti-Jewish. There were relatively few popular German assaults on Jews. The majority of Germans condemned Nazi atrocities and did not share Hitler's obsession with the Jews. Lastly, in his view, Goldhagen made light of the remarkable successes registered by Jews in German society between the last third of the 19th century and 1933.

Finkelstein, however, falters when he states that Germans "could not tolerate" Nazi assaults on Jews that "outraged their sense of decency." Contrary to Finkelstein's claim, it's abundantly clear that most Germans were not overly troubled by Hitler's policy of isolating and demonizing Jews and subjecting them to a regime of humiliation and terror.

Finkelstein also errs egregiously when he suggests that Israeli leaders and Jews in the Diaspora have expediently exploited the Holocaust to justify Israel's very existence and its "repressive policies." And while this has occasionally happened, I strongly suspect that Finkelstein's visceral anti-Israel animus impairs his judgment and his ability to evaluate the truth nonprejudicially.

Birn, chief historian of the war crimes section in Canada's Department of Justice, suffers from no such blindness. As a result, she can be taken more seriously.

Broadly speaking, she faults Goldhagen on two counts. He relied mainly on secondary sources, and his "evidentiary base" is extremely small.

Disagreeing with his argument that the Nazis were particularly murderous and cruel toward Jewish forced laborers, Birn points out that millions of Soviet prisoners of war were similarly starved to death.

Finally, Birn's greatest gripe concerns his methodology. As she puts it: " He takes selected parts and blows them up out of all proportion. Sweeping generalizations then emerge from these distortions... Had he used a broader source base and applied the comparative method, a truer picture would have emerged."

Furthermore, she observes, Goldhagen never answers two fundamental questions: How widespread and deep-rooted was German anti-Semitism, and to what degree did Germans support Hitler's anti-Jewish measures?

These are legitimate questions, and for the sake of historical veracity, Goldhagen should answer them, if he already hasn't done so.

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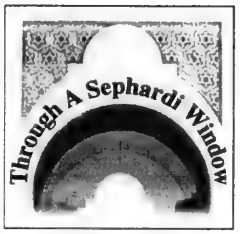


A vibrant heritage

By PERLITA ETTEDGUI

Being of Sephardi heritage articulates itself very differently in different experiences.

Recently I discovered one woman's sense of being Sephardi in a discussion on a roof top patio overlooking the bustling traffic of downtown Toronto. Mary Benadiba, unit manager for Fashion Television, spoke with me about her perceptions of the past, her professional accomplishments and her personal connection to Israel. My talk with her allowed me to understand one remarkable modern woman's identification with a heritage rooted in centuries of history.

Mary, whose father was born in Morocco, and whose mother came from Spain, confided that she feels "more Sephardi than Jewish in many ways." Although she was born in Toronto, she recalls with nostalgia the fragrant scents of the Mediterranean cuisine, the roaring sounds of family gatherings and always... the laughter. For her, being Sephardi has much more to do with a passion for life, close familial unity, a strong sense of community and a proud tradition, than with strictly religious connotations.

Mary's identifications with her Sephardi roots are not very different from my own. Since I am the second oldest granddaughter in a family of 11 children, the importance and presence of family have always been paramount in my life.

At family functions it is never the beautifully decorated ballrooms, the sumptuous menus or the fashionable wardrobes that are noted by guests. What most non-Sephardi guests note at our parties is the passion – dancing bodies penetrated by the music, laughing children flung in the air, teenagers singing historic verses, and kisses on both cheeks as if they were handshakes.

This passion is what becomes synonymous with the way of life of a people rich in culture, tradition and history. Fuelled by the immigrant experience and the feeling of being uprooted from everything familiar, a generation of children evolved who came to be characterized by an innate drive and need to succeed.

For as long as I can recall, my parents only imposed one requirement on me: that I would pursue with tenacity whatever I truly wanted to do . There were never expectations on what I should do and never any limits on what I could do.

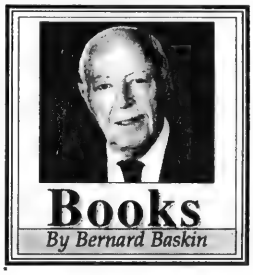
Mejorado Pa Ti (and so it should be for you) is a dictum that has been thrown at me time and again. At wedding parties and baby naming ceremonies, I cannot count how many times older women and family friends have said these words to me. The words eventually became more than a wish. They became an expectation where potential could become realized. Although I understand the literal meaning of these words, the larger meaning is what strikes me as significant. It is what reminds me of Mary, of myself, and of the fire inside so many Sephardi young people that inspires them to persevere.

Closing my eyes and remembering, seeing the scenes of my childhood, I can vividly picture the hands of my grandmother clapping always and the ringing howling of the women, expected as expressions of joy at fiestas.

The seder plate hitting the heads of all the cousins, bringing in the new year with strength and hope. The candies thrown at the bar mitzvah boy, raining a storm of emotion. The chain of names in families honoring the living and joining the younger generations. The henna on open palms shooing all evil eyes away from the bride. The cookies with rose water and honey exuding the aromas of another place and time.

These are the memories that Mary recalls when identifying with her Sephardi heritage.The close family bonds and the boisterous laughter can be found in any home, but joined with the passionate flavor of the music, the dance and the emotion, they characterize a culture unique in history and traditions.

These characteristics are what I think of, as well, when I think of being Sephardi, and they instil in me the same determination and pride that pushes our youth towards the future.



An ambitious novel

***Damascus Gate*, by Robert Stone (Houghton Miffin, $35).**

At the heart of this multi-dimensional novel is a malady known as "Jerusalem Syndrome." In a recent interview, the author explained that "People suffering from the syndrome are usually pilgrims – Jews, Christians, and Muslims – who feel themselves drawn to Jerusalem.

They become delusional, and believe that God has called them there for an important purpose, or that they are the embodiment of some figure from religious history. The syndrome is so prevalent that there's actually a police detachment specifically trained to deal with people suffering from it."

In this book, the sickness concerns a plot by Christian fundamentalists and Jewish radicals to blow up the mosques on Jerusalem's Temple Mount and thus hasten, for the former, the Second Coming, and for the latter, the rebuilding of the ancient Temple. This storyline is skilfully developed and leads to suspense, intrigue and an exciting climax in the maze of caves beneath the Temple Mount.

A character who fails prey to the dangerous syndrome is Adam De Kuff, a wealthy and learned manic depressive guru in search of ultimate redemption for himself and society. A Jew, unsure about his conversion to Christianity, he is a student of the Kabbalah and esoteric mysticism.

He is manipulated by a self-absorbed American musician and drug addict – a former yeshivah student and follower of Zen – who convinces him to accept the mantle of messiah in an effort to unite all religions and thus prepare for the great tikkun or repair of the world.

All of these events occur in the early 1990s, during the time of the intifadah, around a focal character, Christopher Lucas, an expatriate American freelance journalist. He is a non-practising Catholic and half-Jew who decides to write a book on the Jerusalem Syndrome.

Before long, he finds himself in the midst of a bizarre plot. Intelligent and likeable, Lucas is fascinated by religious faith, although he has little of his own, and is unable or unwilling to make the necessary leap.

He is attracted to beautiful Sonia Barnes, an African-American nightclub singer who is innocently drawn into the sinister workings of the Temple Cabal.

The panoramic cast of characters is rounded out with Nuala Rice, a careworker with the International Children's Foundation, a veteran of Beirut, Somalia and the Sudan, who brazenly smuggles arms to the Palestinians; and Jan Zimmer, a soldier of fortune, who turns out to be an ambiguous hero in a surprising and rather unbelievable conclusion to the novel.

This ambitious novel contains a number of superb set pieces, including a violent confrontation in the Gaza Strip, a chilling trip through riot-torn Jerusalem streets, and a desperate attempt to prevent a bomb from detonating that would bring on Armageddon.

Robert Stone, the author of five novels including *Dog Soldiers, A Flag for Sunrise* and *Outerbridge Reach* knows how to maintain reader interest even in a long, somewhat confusing, complex work that includes matters of religious faith, meditations on mysticism, Middle East intrique, tangled relationships and a meticulous rendering of Jerusalem.

A rewarding novel, rich in evoking place and formulating ideas, *Damascus Gate* is highly recommended.

Web site explores genealogy

By ZE'EV GLICENSTEIN

Is there any valid ethical reason why a genealogist should choose not to use the census of non-Teutonic peoples that the Nazis conducted in Germany in 1938-39?

The German Minority Census of 1939 probably was useful for the Nazis when they imposed the Final Solution upon the Jewish people. The research arising from the Nazis' sadistic medical experiments has been deemed inadmissable to medical science. Since the census was used for an evil purpose, should it likewise be considered "treif" ?

This question was the subject of a recent public exchange in the JewishGen discussion group on the Internet.

The 474,464 pages of the original census are located in the Bundesarchiv in Potsdam, Germany. In 1991 the Mormon Family History Library microfilmed them, making them easily accessible to researchers via 292 reels of microfilm. The U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C. also has a set of the microfilms.

Despite the Nazis' reputation for clerical perfectionism, the census, which is organized by census district, is not easy to use. Although the returns for some large cities such as Berlin are arranged alphabetically by surname, there is no overall alphabetical index.

Recently genealogist Harry Stein posted an item on JewishGen in which he questioned the appropriateness of using the census. "I can understand the desire to use any source of information that comes to hand in obtaining information about one's forebears," he wrote. "All the same I would have thought that there are limits and ... that using a Nazi census that seems to have had as its purpose not the enumeration of the Jewish population but their identification for future 'action' (would be highly inappropriate)."

Several participants of the JewishGen forum were quick to defend the use of the census for family tree research. Perhaps the most succinct response came from Julia Bonem of New York: "Are you suggesting that we should not use a valuable piece of information that is out there because it was used to destroy the German Jewish population? I for one have frequently used the Nazi deportation lists, among many other sources, as a way of tracking what happened to my family in Germany in the 1930s.

"It is simply wild to think that we should only use 'untainted' sources for our research. One of the ironies of the Nazi era is that these murderers kept meticulous records on their victims. I will take every available research opportunity to reconstruct the generation they wiped out."

* * *

This exchange and many others are e-mailed to me daily via the JewishGen discussion group. Even when I am facing a tight journalistic deadline, I usually cannot resist a glance at the contents list at the top of each JewishGen transmission.

Each day brings a diversity of issues: for instance, the location of Jewish cemeteries in remote lands, where to find old city directories, the availability of school records from Minsk, and the brief residency of Leon Trotsky in the Bronx. The JewishGen discussion group helps participants learn about diverse aspects of family tree research and sometimes helps them discover new branches of their family trees. Some recent items:

One correspondent requests a modern literal translation of the Biblical phrase "Nin v'neched," which is usually translated as "kith and kin."

Several responses indicate that the word "neched" means "grandson" when used alone, and the full phrase means "descendant."

Always interesting and informative, the JewishGen discussion group is an excellent forum for matters large and small that pertain to Jewish ancestral research. For more information, visit the Web site [http://www.jewishgen.org/].

European travel on the net

By MARK MIETKIEWICZ

If this is Thursday, it must be Austria, England *and* Sweden.

Whether you're spending the summer puttering around your home or lazing around the cottage, you can also visit some of the most spectacular Jewish museums in the world if you have access to the Jewish Highway.

And if you really are planning a grand tour abroad, these sites will help you prepare for your trip.

Please note that the quality of these sites varies greatly. Some offer virtual exhibits that parallel the real thing. Others merely post an overview of their museums with directions and hours of admission. But even that can be helpful for the wandering tourist.

We'll start by touring some of the finest Jewish museums of Europe. The Jewish Museum in Prague in the Czech Republic dates back to 1906 and is located on the site of what was once the Prague Jewish ghetto **[http://www.ecn.cz/ort/]**. The museum houses a collection of approximately 40,000 artistic artifacts and 100,000 items of printed material. But what I found particularly interesting was that in 1996, the museum opened the education and culture centre "to renew awareness of the Jewish presence in the Czech Republic, a presence that was fully suppressed for more than 40 years under the Communist regime." Recent programs in Czech included a lecture about Shavuot by Chief Rabbi Karol Sidon and a talk by the the Bulgarian ambassador to the Czech Republic on The Destiny of Jews during World War II in Bulgaria.

For hundreds of years, Spain was a focus for the Jewish world. That history is reflected at the Museo Sefardi of Toledo. However, I would have wished for a more extensive site for such an important museum as this **[http://www.servicom.es/museosefardi/]**.

After their expulsion from Spain in 1492, many Jews migrated to the small town of Italy and then to Venice. In 1516, the governor of the republic decided that the Jews had to live in only one area of the city.

Venice's Ghetto Novo became the first ghetto in Europe. I highly recommend visiting The Ancient Ghetto of Venice and the neighboring Jewish Museum **[http://www.doge.it/ghetto/indexi.htm]** for a taste of the community's history and a glimpse at them today.

During your travels, you will come across Web sites that don't speak English. For a quick, free and often crude translation into English, I recommend Altavista's online translation site **[http://babelfish.altavista.digital.com/]**. This translation technology is not perfect, but it can help the cyber-tourist whose German, Spanish or French is rusty or non-existent.

Now back to the trip. The Jewish Museum of Rhodes isn't finished yet, but it already has its own Web site **[http://www.Rhodes Jewish Museum.org]**. The Jewish Sephardi community on the Greek island of Rhodes was once a thriving centre for learning and living. That ended with the Holocaust.

Today, Rhodes is a popular vacation destination, but there has been little to mark its proud history. Thanks to the efforts of Aron Hasson, the museum is taking shape. You can follow its progress at this lovely Web site.

I concede that a virtual voyage may not be as much fun as the real thing. But at least this way, you'll never have to worry about losing your luggage.

Next week, on to London, Vienna, Stockholm and beyond.

* * *

Mark Mietkiewicz is a television producer in Toronto with an interest in the Internet. He can be reached at [mdm@inforamp.net].

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CJN article helps reunite Birkenau survivors

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

VAUGHAN — A *CJN* article has helped reunite two former concentration camp inmates who both cheated death by mere seconds.

For years, one of them, Jack Steinmetz, searched high and low for someone who lived through the same ordeal in Birkenau as he had. It turns out that a fellow survivor was just up the street.

David Mark's experience at Birkenau eerily resemble those of Steinmetz: As teenagers, they arrived at the death camp on the same transport from Hungary; they were on the same work detail; and both narrowly escaped death from the gas chambers.

What's more, the tattooed numbers on their forearms are just 20 digits apart. They call their survival nothing short of miraculous.

What brought them together was an article last spring in *The CJN* on John Freund, who was marking his 50th year in Canada. Freund, also a Birkenau survivor, was brought to this country in a special war orphans program Canada initiated in 1947.

Steinmetz, now 69, called him to inquire about Birkenau. "He told me, 'You know, I just heard from someone whose story is very similar to yours,' " Steinmetz recalled. That someone was Mark, 68, who lives two blocks from Steinmetz in Thornhill. The two got in touch, and the recollections began.

Jack Steinmetz (left) and fellow Birkenau survivor David Mark.

The similarities of their tales are almost chilling: Both had been deported from northern Hungary in the spring of 1944. At Birkenau, the sister camp of Auschwitz, both were ordered to the same work detail – emptying latrines. And shortly after Yom Kippur, 1944, both found themselves inside Birkenau's gas chamber. They were already stripped naked, crammed inside with hundreds of others awaiting their fate, when a kapo (a prisoner in charge of inmates) and a Nazi officer abruptly arrived to demand young people for a work assignment. Mark was plucked out, and Steinmetz quickly volunteered. The large iron doors were then slammed shut, and the gas turned on.

"Maybe we were a few feet apart," Steinmetz said to his new friend during a recent *CJN* interview. "Maybe we were," Mark responded with a shrug.

"We went by the crematoria every day," said Steinmetz. "They burned night and day, and the smell was terrible."

Recalls Mark, his voice choking, "I asked someone what happened to my mother. He pointed to the fires coming out of the chimney and said, 'There she is.' I cried and cried..."

Steinmetz lost his entire family to the Nazi murder machine. Mark and two siblings survived.

After forced marches to other camps and incarceration centres, both men were liberated in 1945. Steinmetz arrived in Canada in 1947, while Mark came a year later and settled in Halifax. He moved to Toronto in 1991.

Steinmetz spent years searching for someone who also survived Birkenau's gas chamber. He even went to the huge 1985 Holocaust survivor's conference in Ottawa. He turned up nothing.

"And for the past few years, someone lived two minutes away," he pointed out. "It's a relief to finally find someone who remembers this. I thought I was the only survivor of this group."

Added Mark: "This reminds me of going to a psychiatrist. He [Steinmetz] understands what I'm talking about."

The two men underline what their survival meant: Steinmetz and his wife have two daughters and one grandson, while Mark and his wife have two sons and four grandchildren.

"I will definitely keep reading *The CJN*," Steinmetz smiled.

'The Boys' hold special reunion

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — When The Boys assemble for one of their annual get-togethers, it often resembles something of a family reunion.

There's lots of hugging and kissing, sharing of stories and warm feelings. As children orphaned during the Holocaust, who were brought to England for rehabilitation after the war, the other Boys are often the only family they have.

This year, The Boys welcomed another member of the family to their annual get together – Israeli President Ezer Weizman.

Weizman attended a dinner held by The Boys at their reunion in Israel, which was held to mark the Jewish State's 50th birthday.

Although not a member of The Boys himself, Weizman's wife Nehama was a "madrichah" (counsellor) at one of the English hostels that housed The Boys.

Weizman noted that many of The Boys left England in 1948 for the new State of Israel and served in the Haganah during the fight for independence. Many remained and made outstanding contributions to the state, he pointed out.

For Howard Chandler, 69, the reunions afford the opportunity to meet people who became his family after the war. Along with his wife, Elsa, a long-standing school trustee and past chair of the North York Board of Education, he enjoyed the camaraderie of the most recent reunion.

"It was very emotional because we saw many of The Boys who went to Israel and stayed," he said. "Some held high positions, even in the security establishment. One fellow is retired but he won't say what he did. Some of The Boys called him 007."

Depicted in historian Martin Gilbert's book of the same name, The Boys were a group of about 1,000 young Jewish orphans brought to England after the war.

Chandler, a native of the Polish town of Wierzbnik, near Radom, was liberated in Theresienstadt, a Nazi camp in Czechoslovakia. After passing a physical exam, he and 300 others were ferried to England, in his case aboard a converted Lancaster bomber.

They were taken to an aircraft factory in Windermere in northern England for rehabilitation. There, "we made friendships that last until today," he said.

Of the 300, about 20 live in Toronto, with the majority remaining in England or in Israel. Smaller clusters of orphans made their way to the United States, Zimbabwe, South Africa, Argentina and Brazil – anyplace they had relatives, he said.

Chandler had two aunts in Toronto, Faigie Hochberg and Yentl (Jennie) Obsbaum. He joined them after two years. His brother, Harry, remained in England.

Most of The Boys lost all their families in the Holocaust. "This was our family. We didn't have anybody else," he said.

"I think the relationships that developed between The Boys is the kind of warm relationship that doesn't even develop in families," said Elsa. "When we see each other, the kissing among the boys and girls is something to behold."

MINYANIM IN THE GTA
WEEK OF JULY 10-JULY 17/'98

Synagogue	Address & Tel.	Fri. Night	Shabbat	Sun. A.M.	Daily A.M.	Daily P.M.
Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda (C)	100 Elder St. (416) 633-3838	7:30 PM	8:45 AM	7:30 AM & 8:30 AM	7:30 AM & 8:15 AM	9:00 PM
BethTzedec (C)	1700 Bathurst St. (416) 781-3511	6:00 PM	9:00 AM	9:00 AM	7:45 AM	6:00 PM
Beth Tikvah (C)	3080 Bayview Ave. (416) 221-3433	7:30 PM	9:00 AM	9:00 AM	7:15 AM	7:30 PM
Chevra Shas (O)	3545 Bathurst St. (416) 781-7126	7:00 PM	9:15 AM	7:00 AM & 8:00 AM	6:30 AM & 7:30 AM	10 minutes before sunset
Kehillat Shaarei Torah (O)	2640 Bayview Ave. (416) 229-2600	7:00 PM	9:15 AM	9:00 AM	7:00 AM	----------
Petah Tikva Anshe Castilla (O)	20 Danby Ave. (416) 636-4719	7:00 PM	8:30 AM	8:30 AM	6:45 AM	10-15 minutes before sunset
Shaarei Shomayim (O)	470 Glencairn Ave.	7:15 PM	9:00 AM	8:30 AM	7:30 AM	8:40 PM
Temple Har Zion (R)	7360 Bayview Ave. (905) 889-2252	8:30 PM	10:00 AM	----------	7:15 AM	----------
Temple Sinai (R)	210 Wilson Ave. (416) 487-4161	8:15 PM	10:30 AM	----------	7:30 AM	----------

This is not a comprehensive listing of the synagogues in the Greater Toronto area. The information is provided by the Vaad Harabonim of Toronto and the Toronto Board of Rabbis. The Vaad and the Board will periodically revise the listings.

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Greater Toronto Area

ENVIRONMENTAL AWARD WINNERS

Baruch Rand (fourth from right, back row), principal of The Toronto Heschel School, accepts one of the four 1998 Environmental Awards of Merit for North York Schools. The award, presented at the North York Community Council Chamber, was for the school's organic vegetable garden, part of its Environmental Studies program. Every student is involved in working in the garden. Grade 3 students Shenhav Ramu and Jacob Morgan hold photographs of the project. Toronto mayor Mel Lastman holds a cutting from the garden. The Heschel School is also the first Jewish day school to receive a city grant from the Toronto Atmospheric Fund for its environmental studies, conservation work, organic garden program and environmental awareness promotion program. [Barry Shainbaum photo]

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Jews urged to oppose UN resolutions on Israel

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Toronto Jews should urge their government to stand beside Israel and the United States to oppose United Nations resolutions that regularly condemn the Jewish state, a select group of major campaign contributors was told last week.

Israel is targeted for at least 20 condemnatory resolutions each year, a figure that persisted even during the tenures of Prime Ministers Yitzhak Rabin and Shimon Peres, said Jeane Kirkpatrick, former U.S. ambassador to the UN. Only the United States and Micronesia regularly support Israel in voting against the resolutions, Kirkpatrick said.

Last year, Israel was formally charged by the Palestinian representative to the UN of inoculating several hundred Palestinian children with the AIDS virus. "That charge was so shocking that even the chair of the Human Rights Commission, a Czech, protested that attack on the State of Israel." But instead of expunging the record of that "scurrilous attack," the chair backtracked after a collective visit by several Arab ambassadors. Kirkpatrick speculated there were "not so subtle" threats of retaliation directed against the Czech Republic.

Kirkpatrick was the keynote speaker during a recent UJA Federation Tribute Evening in honor of 50 years of past campaign chairs. The event was designed to coincide with the celebrations marking Israel's 50th birthday.

A political scientist and syndicated columnist, Kirkpatrick was lavish with her praise for Israel, saying it shared many similarities with the United States. Both states are vigorous democracies that honor pluralism and the rule of law. Both states were founded by people who thirsted for freedom, who were "fleeing persecution and who dreamed of creating a new civilization.

"Israel is a great success by any standard of nation-building" even though it has three times been the subject of foreign aggression – in 1948, 1967 and 1973, she said.

Turning to the Oslo peace process, Kirkpatrick said "Israel is still taking risks for peace and is committed to peace in a way that is virtually unique in our century."

Citing the Israeli civilian death toll in the wake of the Oslo accords (259 killed by terrorists) and Israel's deployment out of Hebron, Kirkpatrick said "the friends of Israel can be comfortable in the realization that the Jewish state [has not] slowed the search for peace."

In return for its withdrawals, Israel only asks for one thing in return, "security for civilians," Kirkpatrick said.

Israel will require even more solidarity and vigilance from its friends in the future, she added.

In other addresses, Campaign for 50 co-chair Brent Belzberg said the UJA's annual fundraising "will move towards a $50-million goal that will forever change our campaign and our community.

Jeane Kirkpatrick

"We're not just looking for incremental increases, we must take a giant leap forward and move this community to a whole new level," he said.

Belzberg said the rapid growth of the Toronto Jewish community, coupled with huge cutbacks in government funding, have necessitated a more aggressive approach.

"Today we are are a booming community of at least 175,000. However, with all this growth has come a sharp increase in the number of our elderly, our poor, our disabled, our immigrants and our children…not to mention our overseas commitments." As a result, the annual campaign must develop to meet these needs and ensure that "the circle of tzedakah and community will carry on forever," Belzberg said.

Jewish Lions aid community

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Karen Weinryb is one grateful mom. At a recent program at Zareinu Educational Centre, an emotional Weinryb thanked members of the Forest Hill Lions Club (FHLC) for funding a one-on-one worker to help her 5-year-old son Max, a Zareinu student who has cerebral palsy and is severely disabled.

"You have changed our lives, and improved Max's life," she said.

"We were really concerned that despite the excellent program at Zareinu, Max wouldn't be able to enjoy the program to his full potential…He went from sitting on the sidelines to being involved in all the activities, and from being distracted to being motivated and focused. Without your support, Max would not have progressed as he has this year."

At Zareinu alone, the FHLC has funded a number of projects, including the recent purchase of specialized physiotherapy equipment to help disabled children learn to walk.

Zareinu is one of many beneficiaries of the club's generosity. In the 45 years since its inception, FHLC – the only Jewish Lions' club in Toronto – has raised over $2.3 million for projects such as hospital expansion campaigns, and purchase of medical equipment and taxi chits (to enable people to keep medical appointments, visit a loved one in hospital or attend a class to further employment opportunities), according to outgoing president Sol Mednick, who joined in 1967.

The 50 members are dedicated individuals, said Mednick. To raise most of their funds, they run frequent bingos and used to run casinos. An annual donor dinner also raises a substantial amount.

Occupational therapist Tovit Rubin uses equipment donated by the Forest Hill Lions Club to assist 3-year-old Zareinu student Carly with her walking skills. **[Frances Kraft photo]**

The Lions, who meet twice monthly at the Columbus Centre, are also involved in hands-on philanthropy, with the delivery of food baskets to needy families at Christmas, Chanukah, Easter and Passover, and the delivery of hot food and warm clothing to street people during the winter through a Hunger Patrol program.

One of the group's most recent involvements is the funding of a project called SWAT (Students With A Target), in which students and police work together to resolve problems in a school.The project is a partnership with Metropolitan Toronto Police 33 Division's community response unit, the North York Board of Education, the Toronto Separate School Board and le Conseil des Ecoles Françaises de la Communauté Urbaine de Toronto.

"Each project is personally investigated by our members," said Mednick. "Before money is authorized, we do an investigation. Then it's brought to our project chairman …and a committee discusses it. The whole process can take about two to three weeks."

"They do a lot of incredible work," said Florence Weinberger, communications manager at Jewish Family & Child Service. "They bend over backwards to be very responsive whenever possible. They're very responsible with their allocations. They ask all kinds of pertinent questions."

Mednick estimates that five or six times a year, a request is deemed to be "an outright emergency," for which individual members are authorized to spend $100.

The FHLC belongs to a network of clubs with 1.2 million members worldwide – the largest service organization in the world, said Mednick.

"Our theme has always been to …help people in need," said Moe Emer, who is one of two charter members still active in FHLC. (The other is Mickey Snow.)

"The Lions are one of my particular favorites," said Emer. "There's a lot of camaraderie, and seeing our club being able to [help] is very rewarding for me, especially these days, when there's so much help needed."

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DEADLINE REMINDER

What's New and About People deadlines: Monday, July 20 is deadline for July 30 issue, and Monday, July 27 is deadline for Aug. 6. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 391-1836, fax 391-0829.

Sunday, July 12

JEWISH STORYTELLING

Jewish Storytelling on the Danforth, hosted by **Alec Gelcer**, 7:30 p.m., Riverdale Jewish Community Centre, 179A Danforth Ave. Come listen, come tell. 699-8914 or 440-1330.

Wednesday, July 15

PROGRESSIVE SINGLES

Beth Tikvah Synagogue Progressive Singles, 35-55, first event – movie, refreshments, mix n' mingle, $10, 8 p.m. RSVP (early) 223-5262 or 495-0734.

REVEALED SOUL

Uncovering the Mystery of the Breath and the Dust, the first of two lectures exploring the nature, complexity and reality of the soul, 8 p.m., Aish HaTorah, 949 Clark Ave. W., Thornhill. $5. 905-764-1818.

Thursday, July 16

BOOK LAUNCH

Canadian director and acting instructor **David Rotenberg** reads the opening chapter of his recently published detective novel, *The Shanghai Murders, A Mystery of Love and Ivory*, 6:30 p.m., at Sleuth of Baker Street, 1600 Bayview Ave. Rotenberg completed research for the book during his visit to China where he had been invited to direct a Canadian play in Mandarin.

And What Else Is New

INSTITUTE OF JUDAISM

B'nai Brith Canada 42nd annual Institute of Judaism Sept. 4-6 at Maple Lake Resort and Conference Centre, Parry Sound, in celebration of Israel's 50th anniversary. Theme is A Tale of One City, One King and Two Prophets, the effect of biblical Jerusalem on Jewish history, with **Rabbi Jeremiah Unterman**, scholar-in-residence. For information, **Joyce Aster** 633-6224, ext. 106.

SUMMER STUDY KALLAH

Kolel: A Centre for Liberal Jewish Learning 7th annual Study Kallah Aug. 12-16 in Orillia. Four days of in-depth Judaic study and programming including Judaic arts, music and dance. Special Friday night Shabbat speaker **Eugene Borowitz**. For information **Helen** 905-709-1900.

ART CLASSES

Drawing and painting, all levels, Thursdays, 1-3 p.m., July 9-23, at Beth Sholom Synagogue, 3rd floor, wheelchair access. Register. **Terri** (instructor) 487-7244.

WAGAR HIGH REUNION

Did you graduate from Montreal's Wagar High in 1968? Want to come to a 30th reunion? Send your name and address to **Claire,** phone 905-731-9292, fax 463-6271 or **Debbie** 514-483-3340 or e-Mail [wagarhigh68@hotmail.com].

FREE HELP FOR SENIORS

Are you a senior, 55 plus, looking after your husband or wife all day? Would you like free volunteer relief? (no physical care provided). Contact **Paula Mintzberg**, Respite Services coordinator, at Bernard Betel Centre. 225-2112, ext. 311.

INTERSINGLE SINGLES

Singles 25-36 and 36-50, upcoming summer events: Mini Golf, *Fosse* theatre tickets; Georgian Bay boat cruise includes bus ride up; community-wide Shabbat service and luncheon. **Rhonda** 905-731-9441. Under the auspices of Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue.

ART, CRAFT VENDORS

Richmond Hill Judaica Centre seeks vendors for Jewish community art and craft show held at the centre, Sunday, Aug. 9, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. $35 per table. 905-508-6139 or 905-770-1082.

[Cont'd. on page 19]

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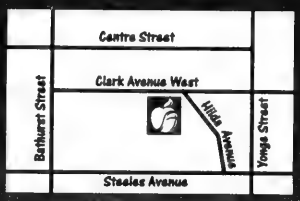

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229 lb.

Minute Maid Orange Juice
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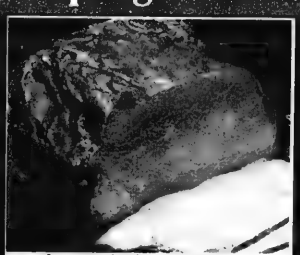
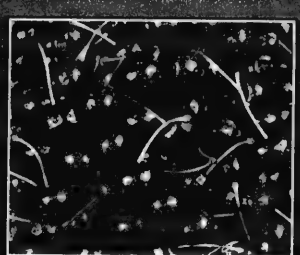
.88



Levitt's Roast Beef
From The Deli
2.79 /100 g
1169 lb.



Sweet Cherries
Product of U.S.A., No. 1 Grade
3.73 kg
169 lb.

Medium Ground Beef
Glatt, Kosher Beef
7.85 kg
356 lb.

Heinz Beans
Selected Varieties
398 mL tin
.49

Assorted Halvah
From The Del
.99 /100 g
449 lb.

Black Plums
Product of U.S.A.
No. 1 Grade
3.51 kg
159 lb.

All Beef Wieners
Continental
375 g pkg.
339 ea.

Kellogg's Cereal
Raisin Bran, Regular or Brown Sugar Mini Wheats or Honey Rice Krispies
475 - 775 g box
299

Apple Pie
From The Bakery
600 g
249

Double Rye Bread
From the Bakery
850 g
199

WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO LIMIT QUANTITIES. PRICES IN EFFECT SUNDAY, JULY 5 UNTIL SATURDAY, JULY 11, 1998.

What's New

[Cont'd. from page 18]

FREE HEBREW CLASSES

Richmond Hill Judaica Centre offers free Hebrew classes for beginners from July 15-Aug. 17, Mondays or Wednesdays, 8 p.m. at 604 Edward Ave. (Yonge and Elgin Mills). 905-770-1082.

NACHAMU SHABBATON

Cleveland Singles Connection Nachamu Shabbaton, Orthodox Singles 35 plus, Aug. 7-9, Green Road Synagogue, Beachwood, Ohio, featuring professional facilitator and shadchan **Rabbi Zvi Schachtel**, director, Neve Yerushalayim College. Call **Rochel Feig** 216-381-2568.

BAYCREST VOLUNTEERS

Baycrest Volunteer Services department, 785-2500, ext. 2572.

Russian and Hungarian speaking volunteers are needed in leadership roles to run discussion groups for the Jewish Home for the Aged. Days and times can be flexible.

If you enjoy listening to and discussing music of all types, then this program is for you. Volunteers are needed to push a music cart around to assigned clients to listen and discuss music. Make appointment.

Volunteers are needed for synagogue services every Saturday, 9 a.m. to noon. Must be able to push wheelchairs to escort clients to services.

Volunteers needed in the W.A. Cafe to help prepare food in a busy environment. **Sheri**, ext. 2575.

Clerical/office positions available July and August. **Sheri**.

JF & CS GROUPS

Jewish Family & Child Service groups. **Pat Lieberman** 638-7800, ext. 215.

Parenting When Your Child Has an Eating Disorder, education and support for parents, strategies for coping, impact on family life, available resources.

Groups beginning in the fall:

Do Your Kids have Trouble Making Friends, social skills groups for children and adolescents.

Parenting Made Easy: Recipes For Success, discipline, communication.

The Challenge of Anger: For Women, what triggers your anger and techniques for expressing anger in appropriate ways, daytime or evening groups.

MEALS ON WHEELS

Senior Care's (Community Services to Jewish Elderly) Kosher Meals on Wheels program requires drivers to assist with the delivery of meals in the north and northeast areas of the GTA. Just 2 hours, one morning a week. **Arnold** or **Judy** 635-2860.

BAYCREST SYNAGOGUE

Baycrest Terrace Synagogue weekday services: Shacharit 8:30 a.m.; Minchah, Ma'ariv, 7 p.m. Shabbat, 9 a.m., preceded by Torah study with **Gershon Samonovitz**. Call **David** 256-1600.

FOR SENIORS

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). July 9, bingo; July 16, Israeli film *Flush* ; July 23, one-day trip to Muskoka, $15. Register with **Rivka Kreuzer** 223-0904; July 30, members meeting. **Jerry Bengall** 905-707-7334 or **Dalia Dahary** 661-4689.

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: July 13-19, Catskills; July 23, Casino Niagara; Aug. 10, shuffle off to Buffalo; Aug. 16, annual barbecue party and entertainment; Aug. 24-27, Leelanau Casino, Magic of Michigan, $399/person, Canadian. 395-7881.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club: July 14, Kingston cruise with entertainment; Aug. 19, cruise and musical *Little Shop of Horrors* ; Oct. 27, *Man of La Mancha* at Stratford. In the planning, a 2 or 3-week trip to Israel in November. **Lena** 785-5773. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel. **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. 225-2112.

Safe & Sound '98, annual Health Fair, Thursday, July 16, 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Exhibits, guest speakers, information exchange, cafeteria and salad bar available, door prizes.

Parkinson's Support Group Tuesday, July 14, 1:15 p.m. **Bonnie Bereskin**, speech language pathologist, presents A Tough Act to Follow, a talk on swallowing problems in Parkinson's. **Ruth**.

Israeli Club Etrog meets 7 p.m. Tuesdays for movies, sing-a-longs, lectures, bingo, dances. July 14 is a lecture. **Anna**.

BATHURST JC

Bathurst Jewish Centre, 4588 Bathurst St. 636-1880.

Sign up now for Summer General Store, a program for children 12-30 months. Children enjoy music, arts and crafts, floor toys and snack. Ext. 24

ABOUT PEOPLE

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Aid to Disabled Veterans of Israel, Beit Halochem Canada, has announced the appointment of **Lisa Levy** as of June 15. Levy joins Beit Halochem after working 11 years in the non-profit sector, spending four of those years in the Jewish community. For 13 years prior to that she was actively involved in a Zionist youth movement, leading many missions to Israel and finally settling on a kibbutz for more than year. She holds a BA degree as well as a number of industry and related accreditations including public relations, sponsorships and special events.

Lisa Levy

ORT APPOINTMENT

Gord Berger has been appointed president of the Toronto Region of ORT Canada. Berger, who is president of a financial guidance company, is past president of the Kidney Foundation and has been actively involved on the board of directors of Jewish Family & Child Service, Jewish Vocational Service and the Toronto Symphony.

Gord Berger

A LORD AND TWO PRESIDENTS

Outside the Chamber of the British House of Lords, Lord Greville Janner (centre), president of the Commonwealth Jewish Council, meets a fellow member of World Jewish Congress, Moshe Ronen (left), national president of Canadian Jewish Congress; and Jacques Benquesus, president of the Sephardic Kehila Centre in Toronto and an internationally-recognized Jewish philanthropist. The three reviewd a number of concerns on the Jewish agenda including the Swiss banks issue.

HISTORY OF MOUNT SINAI HOSPITAL

Among the guests on hand at Indigo books to launch From Generation to Generation-A History of Toronto's Mount Sinai Hospital are (from left) Mount Sinai Hospital president and CEO Ted Freedman; Heather Reisman, CEO of Indigo books and an officer of the MSH board of directors; author Lesley Marrus Barsky; and MSH chairman of the board Bernard I. Ghert. [John Smee photo]

SINGLES EVENTS CAN BE FOUND ON PAGE 20

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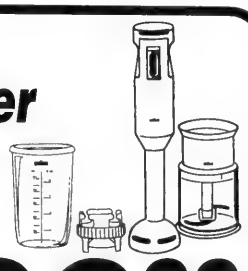

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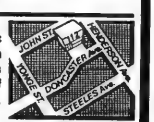

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Yitzhak Rabin H.S. graduates first students

By DIANE KOVEN
Ottawa Correspondent

OTTAWA — The first four graduates of Yitzhak Rabin High School recently received their diplomas at an elegant ceremony at Machzikei Hadas Synagogue.

Elisheva Braun, Tehillah Engel, Lila Kagedan and Rochel Kaiserman sat proudly on the bimah in the presence of over 200 guests including family, friends, staff, community leaders and clergy.

Prior to sharing his d'var Torah, Rabbi Reuven Bulka of Congregation Machzikei Hadas offered his warm wishes and expressed admiration for both the graduates and "those whose efforts have made this possible."

Ottawa's only Jewish high school began a mere three years ago and has grown steadily, both in size and in programming. It now offers a full academic curriculum including both core and extended French, a Judaic studies program, sports and recreational programs, leadership development activities and a variety of field trips.

The school operates on a collaborative philosophy, encouraging input and participation from students, parents and staff.

School board chair Dr. Neima Langner who was one of the founders of the school, reminisced about the early days when the school was just a dream and the dreamers frequently faced negative attitudes. She recalled, however, that they also "heard positive voices, voices of belief," and said she was grateful to those who believed in the dream.

She said Paul Bregman, vice-chair in charge of fundraising for the school, would be "graduating with our first graduating class. He is stepping down from the board and all his official duties." Describing Bregman's incredible energy, creativity and drive to get things done, Langner called him "a whole organization rolled up into one man."

Shirley Schildkraut, director of student services served as the evening's MC. She praised Langner for her dedication and untiring efforts on behalf of the school, described her as "the vision, the driving force behind the existence of Yitzhak Rabin High School."

Rabbi Howard Finkelstein, director of Judaic studies, spoke to the four graduates and presented each of them with a copy of *Tehillim Treasury*. The graduates in turn presented a mezuzah to the school, their "home away from home."

The keynote address was given by Dr. Aviva Freedman, who has been closely involved with the school since its inception. "The good news is that very few doors are closed to Jews and very few doors are closed to women," she told the graduates. They will have many opportunities open to them and many choices to make. However, this is also the bad news, she said, because choices lead to temptation. She advised them to follow the teachings and values they have learned during their years at Yitzhak Rabin High School and wished them every success.

Awards were presented to students in all grades for their accomplishments. Following the singing of Hatikvah, a reception was held in the synagogue's social hall.

FUNDS FOR HOLOCAUST CENTRE
Bialik Hebrew Day School grade 6 students Tyler Peikes and Stephanie Goldberg (centre) present a cheque for $300 their class raised to the Holocaust Education and Memorial Centre. With them are Holocaust survivor Magda Hilf (right) and Rachel Sochaczewski of the centre.

'Miracle' families gather for bash

By MOURA WOLPERT
CJN Correspondent

HAMILTON — In the fall of 1938, a group of 38 Jewish refugees from Czechoslovakia arrived in Canada.

Recently, they, their children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren, cousins, in-laws and a few close friends – around 200 people – gathered at the Mount Hope Community Centre and Library for their group picnic, which has been an annual event for 22 years.

And this one was special – it celebrated their 60th anniversary in Canada.

They came from the Hamilton area, Toronto, and as far away as Germany, Wisconsin, South Carolina and Illinois.

Tables were laden with bowls of salads, stacks of bagels and home baking – a far cry from their first meal in an old stone farm house between Mount Hope and Caledonia, where they had no heat, not enough beds or blankets, and their only food was the frozen apples and frozen potatoes that had remained unharvested.

Those early days were vividly recalled by Dan Iggers, grandson of the late Karl Abeles, "our Moses," who had led them out of Czechoslovakia in the nick of time.

"If it hadn't been for Karl Abeles," said Iggers, "we would all have been ashes."

Abeles, an experienced farm administrator, had convinced Canadian immigration officials that all those in the group were working farmers. It was their only hope of gaining entry into Canada.

"You were a miracle," said guest of honor, historian Harold Troper, who described the desperate struggle of the Sudeten Jews of Czechoslovakia to gain entry into Canada in his book, *None is Too Many*, written with Irving Abella.

"I don't know whether the government knew that this group were Jews," but Canada at that time was a very different world, Troper said. Although there were a small number of Jews in Canada, they were outsiders and not part of Canada and "it was not in the Canadian mind," he said, that Jews could be farmers and contribute to Canadian agriculture.

However, when Abeles died in 1954, a Brantford newspaper described him as "the most important immigrant of his generation" for his introduction to Canadian agriculture of a system of permanent pasture, which gained him a place in the Agricultural Hall of Fame in Milton.

Other family members, Joe Loewith, his wife Minna (Abeles' niece), and their sons, Carl and David, are award-winning farmers, as are some of their cousins.

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SINGLES EVENTS
Singles Events is an advertising feature of
The Canadian Jewish News
Please see the Classified section of this issue for EARLY DEADLINES for October
For rates or to place an ad, call:
Tanya at (416) 391-1836
The CJN encourages readers to direct any queries they may have on an upcoming event to the event's organizers.

Beth Tikvah Synagogue - 3080 Bayview Ave. "Progressive Singles" 1st event: Movie, refreshments, "Mix N Mingle" Wed., July 15 at 8:00pm. Ages 35-55, $10.00. R.S.V.P. early 223-5262, 495-0734

Check out Jewish Singles Events on the web. www.total.net/~jsreg

Jewish Singles Registry. Over 1610 registered. Averaging an engagement every 4 wks. **483-4151.**

Michelle's Singles Bash - A night to remember! Sat., July 11 at 7pm. Rock 'N Diner, 900 Don Mills Rd. For more info call 416-223-3817.

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From coast to coast

Students present seniors with special 'gift of song'

George R. Allan School students at Shalom Village with (back row, far left) Gert Roden and Beverley Lasky (centre). Seatred at front (from left) Katie Papernick, Lillian Tisnower, Bessie Cohen and Jack Shapiro.

By MOURA WOLPERT
CJN Correspondent

HAMILTON — To celebrate their partnership with Shalom Village, students of George R. Allan elementary school recently presented residents of Shalom Village with a "gift of song" at a special year-end assembly.

Twenty-five residents attended the closing program of GRANDPALS – George R. Allan Nurtures Dedicated People Advocating Literacy with Seniors.

The seniors tapped their toes, clapped and sang along as the children performed songs in English, Hebrew and French. They listened to a recorder group and applauded enthusiastically as Shalom Village administrator, Pat Morden, was presented with a plaque "so that our partnership with Shalom Village will be recorded forever."

GRANDPALS is an intergenerational learning program, conceived by teacher Beverley Lasky as a program to promote literacy when she was appointed school librarian.

"Kids develop better literacy skills through listening, talking and reading aloud," Lasky explained.

However, in the two years since it began, it has become a good deal more than a literacy program.

Once a week, a class of about 20 children, accompanied by a teacher and a parent, visit nearby Shalom Village where they are paired with a resident. The students read stories or poems they have written, read a favorite book, or chat with the seniors. As well, there are various group activities.

A Grade 4 student said "We have all shared many things with our Grandpas – stories, songs, crafts, games and, of course, wonderful refreshments."

'Inspiring program'

What the program means to both generations was perhaps best expressed by a Grade 5 student at the assembly. "I found myself enjoying the conversation and I forgot that the lady that was talking to me was someone I had just met. I will always remember this conversation because when it was over, the lady held my hand, kissed me and whispered that she hoped I would come back.

"In fact, she said that on Mondays when the children come from George R., the sun always shines for her. I know that her name was Anna. I shall always remember her."

Ward I Alderman, Mary Kiss, brought greetings from Mayor Bob Morrow and told students and teachers that GRANDPALS "is a truly inspiring program."

Shalom Residences expands

By MYRON LOVE
Prairie Correspondent

WINNIPEG — Shalom Residences Inc. recently officially opened its fifth home in Winnipeg. About 70 people were on hand for the affixing of mezuzot.

Based on the Reena concept in Toronto, Shalom Residences was established in 1980 to provide homes in a Jewish setting for Jewish adults with developmental disabilities. The homes all observe kashrut and the residents celebrate Shabbat and the Jewish holidays.

All five homes are in north Winnipeg. The latest addition has three residents, one is 25 and the other two are 31.

"One of them needed to live in a smaller setting," says Shalom Residences administrator Nancy Hughes. "His needs are complex."

There are currently 23 people in Shalom Residences' care, three-quarters of whom are Jewish. The organization receives substantial funding from the provincial government, so it cannot be restricted to Jewish clients.

In addition to the five homes the group operates, Shalom Residences has also begun moving some residents into their own apartments.

"We are at a turning point now," says Hughes. "We have to determine how much longer we can still remain a community within ourselves. The demand is there, but to do a good job, we have to move cautiously."

She reports that all social service organizations received a five percent increase in funding from the government this year. She notes that Shalom Residences also raises about $90,000 in the community each year to make up the rest of its funding needs.

The organization is also facing a new challenge. Two of its clients with Down syndrome have developed Alzheimer disease, Hughes says.

"There is a high incidence of Alzheimer disease among people with Down syndrome," she says. "We have had to bring in long-term care staff and train other staff members in nursing care."

Quebec to aid historic shul

By JANICE ARNOLD
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — The future of the historic little synagogue at the corner of Bagg and Clark streets seems assured with Culture Minister Louise Beaudoin's announcement that the Quebec government will spend up to $230,000 to renovate and restore the building.

Admitting she was a little nervous at the prospect of speaking in a synagogue for the first time, Beaudoin said from the bimah that the government recognizes the historic and heritage value of the synagogue, because it is "a reminder of a longstanding tradition and a past with which not many Quebecers are familiar."

The money is coming from the Religious Heritage Foundation of Quebec, established three years ago. It has a total budget of $50 million to distribute to houses of worship of all faiths in the province deemed to be of architectural or historical value that are in need of repair, as well as for the restoration of religious art and objects.

Beaudoin, who emphasized the important presence of the Jewish community in Quebec since the mid-18th century, also announced that the interdenominational foundation is studying 13 other restoration projects pertaining to Jewish religious artifacts, such as parchments, furnishings, and gold and silverware, the oldest dating back to the 15th century, housed in Montreal synagogues.

Congregation Temple Solomon, as it is officially named, is the first synagogue to benefit from the program.

Better known as Beth Shloime, or simply the Bagg Street Shul, the synagogue is the oldest in continuous use in Montreal and the only one in what was once the heart of the Jewish immigrant district.

Beth Shloime last year received $80,000 of the $230,000, which it has spent on urgently needed repairs to the exterior brick, the metal work around the roof, the canopy and the stairs.

The latest instalment of $150,000 will enable the shul to replace the windows, which number about 25, repair the roof, install an alarm, and do the basic work to upgrade the heating, electrical and plumbing systems, said president Joe Brick, the retired electrician who has kept the synagogue going almost singlehandedly for the past 30 years.

All work must be approved by the foundation before the funds are remitted.

The building itself dates back to before 1900 and was a residential duplex when the congregation bought it and extended it out the back in 1920.

The congregation itself was founded in 1906 and first met in a rented flat on Viger Street, later moving up to St. Lawrence Boulevard near Prince Arthur.

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פֿון ישׂראל קאַפּיטאַ

(שלוס פֿון פֿריערדיקן קאַלום)

שמעון דובנאָוו האָט געלערנט, אַז אויב אין אַלטערטום האָט די אויפֿגאַבע פֿון ייִדישן פֿאָלק זיך אויסגעדריקט אין פֿאַרשפּרייטן דעם מאָנאָטעאיזם, דעם גלויבן אין איין גאָט, צווישן די געצנדינע-רישע פֿעלקער, איז אָבער דער צוקונפֿט־ציל געווען די פֿאַרשפּריי-טונג פֿון אידעאַל וועגן דער אייניקייט און פֿאַרברידערונג פֿון אַלע פֿעלקער. דאָס, האַלט ער, איז די אומגעהויערע קראַפֿט, וואָס האָט דערמעגלעכט דעם תּמיד־גערודפֿטן ייִדישן פֿאָלק פֿאַרצחעצן און אויפֿהאַלטן זײַן נאַציאָנאַלע עקזיסטענץ. דערצו האָט דאָס דער-מעגלעכט דעם פֿאָלק אַרויסצוגעבן פֿון זיך די גײַסטיקע און שע-פֿערישע כּחות, וועלכע האָבן אין דער פֿאַרגאַנגענהייט און ביזן הײַנטיקן טאָג, געמאַכט אַ קאָלאָסאַלן בײַטראָג צו דער מענטשהייט.

ווי אַ טעאָרעטיקער פֿון ייִדישן נאַציאָנאַלן געדאַנק, איז דובנאָוו געווען אַ וועלט־דעמאָקראַט, אַן אָנהענגער פֿון דער גרויסער פֿראַנ-צויזישער רעוואָלוציע. אין דער צײַט פֿון ייִדישער עמאַנציפּאַציע האָט ער געקעמפֿט פֿאַר פֿולע נאַציאָנאַלע רעכט פֿון ייִדישן פֿאָלק. ער איז געווען אַ שטאַרקער קעגנער פֿון אַסימילאַציע. אין זײַנע פּאָלעמיקס מיט אַחד־העם און ליליענבלומען טרעט דובנאָוו אַרויס ווי אַן אָנהענגער פֿון ייִדישע אויטאָנאָמע רעכט פֿאַרן פֿאָלק. עס איז אים געווען פֿרעמד די ראָמאַנטיק סײַ פֿון די חובֿבֿי־ציון און סײַ פֿון די רעוואָלוציאָנערע סאָציאַליסטן. ער האָט געהאַלטן, אַז די ייִדישע סאָציאַליסטן זײַנען פֿאַלש און טוען שלעכטס מיט דעם, וואָס זיי שטעלן דעם קלאַסן מאָמענט העכער פֿון דעם אַלגעמיין נאַציאָנאַלן. ער האָט דאָס באַרעכטיקט דערמיט, וואָס כּל־זמן די ייִדישע באַפֿעלקערונג האָט נאָך נישט אויסגעקעמפֿט די פֿולשטענדיקע נאַציאָנאַלע און בירגערלעכע רעכט אין די לענדער ווו זיי וואוינען, טאָרן זיי נישט ווערן קיין שותּפֿים אין געראַנגל קעגן די נעגאַטיווע סאָציאַלע דערשײַנונגען אין דעם געגעבענעם לאַנד.

דער גרויסער היסטאָריקער גיט זיך אָפּ אַ חשבון וועגן די ספּע-ציפֿישע שוועריקייטן בײַם שרײַבן די געשיכטע פֿון אַ פֿאָלק, וואָס איז צעזייט און צעשפּרייט איבערן ערד־קײַלעך; אַ פֿאָלק, וואָס לעבט אין פֿאַרשידענע סבֿיבֿות, באַנוצט זיך מיט אַ צאָל פֿרעמדע שפּראַכן און ווערט באַאײַנפֿלוסט פֿון כּלערליי קולטור השפּעות, וואָס איז אַ מינדערהייט אין אַ פֿרעמדער וועלט און האַלט אָן פֿעסט די אײַנהייטלעכקייט פֿון אַ פֿאָלק.

אַ ספּעציעל וויכטיק אָרט פֿאַרנעמט אין זײַן קאָלאָסאַלן ווערק די געשיכטע פֿון מזרח־אייראָפּעאישן ייִדנטום. דובנאָוו באַרײַכערט די געשיכטע פֿון די ייִדן אין פּוילן ספּעציעל אין די יאָרן פֿאַרן נאַצישן מאָרד. ער שעפּט נײַע מאַטעריאַלן פֿון די ווערק פֿון דער גרויסער פּלעיאַדע ייִדיש־פּוילישע היסטאָריקער, ווי פּראָפֿעסאָר משה שאָר, מאיר באַלאַבאַן, י. שיפּער, רפֿאל מאַהלער, ביז צום ייִנגסטן צווישן זיי, עמנואל רינגעלבלום. אַ דאַנק די נײַע, וויכטיקע היסטאָרישע אַרבעטן און פֿאָרשונג, איז דובנאָוו געלונגען ברייטער צו באַנעמען און באַרײַכערן די געשיכטע פֿון ייִדישן פֿאָלק פֿון אַלטערטום ביז צו די נײַע צײַטן.

בײַם יאָר 1922 געפֿינט זיך דובנאָוו אין בערלין, וואו ער אַרבעט פֿלײַסיק אויף זײַן „וועלט געשיכטע פֿון ייִדישן פֿאָלק", וואָס הייבט אָן צו דערשײַנען באַנד נאָך באַנד אין דײַטשלאַנד. ווען היטלער קומט צו דער מאַכט אין 1933, פֿאָרט דובנאָוו קיין ריגע, וואו עס דערשײַנען 10 בענד פֿון זײַן געשיכטע אין דער דײַטשער שפּראַך. אין ריגע הייבט ער אויך אָן צו שרײַבן זײַנע מעמואַרן, וואָס האָט, צו דער זעלבער צײַט, געזאָלט דינען אַלס די געשיכטע פֿון זײַן דור. אָבער ער האָט דאָס נישט באַוויזן צו פֿאַרענדיקן. צום באַדויערן, זײַנען זײַנע כּתבֿ־ידן קיינמאָל נישט געפֿונען געוואָרן.

אין יולי, 1941, אָקופּירן די נאַציס די שטאָט ריגע. שמעון דובנאָוו טיילט דעם גורל פֿון זײַן פֿאָלק און ווערט צחאַמען מיט די ריגער ייִדן פֿאַרטריבן אין אַ געטאָ. דאָרט הייבט ער אָן שרײַבן אַ טאָגבוך, אָבער זײַנע פֿאַרצייכענונגען זײַנען פֿאַרניכטעט געוואָרן.

די שענסטע בלומען אויף זײַן אומבאַקאַנטן קבֿר האָט געלייגט זײַן טאָכטער, סאָפֿיאַ דובנאָוו־ערליך, דורך שרײַבן איר בוך זכרונות, געווידמעט איר גרויסן פֿאָטער, אונטערן נאָמען: „דאָס לעבן און שאַפֿן פֿון שמעון דובנאָוו". ס'ווערט דאָרט דערמאָנט, אַז אין זײַנעם אַ טאָגבוך האָט דובנאָוו געשריבן: „איך האָב ליב, שטאַרק ליב, די דאָזיקע באַגאַבטע מאַסע, וואָס האָט אויסגעהאַלטן אַלע צרות און רדיפֿות, נאָר אַ דאַנק דעם כּוח פֿון איר גײַסט — אַ זעלטענע, און אפֿשר אַן אײנציקע דערשײַנונג אין דער מענטשלעכער געשיכטע".

אַזוי האָט געלעבט און איז אומגעקומען מיט זײַן פֿאָלק דער גרויסער הומאַניסט און פֿילאָזאָף, דער געניאַלער ייִדישער היסטאָ-ריקער שמעון דובנאָוו. כּבֿוד זײַן אָנדענק!

UWO grads help launch new Jewish student activist group

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Two recent University of Western Ontario graduates are among a small group who have formed an Ontario Jewish student activist organization.

The new group, known as The Link, is an "unofficial revival of Network," the national student activist group which ceased operations in 1996, according to organizers Michael Bloom and Mark Zelunka, political co-chairs at Western's Jewish Student Union (JSU) this past year.

The Link draws heavily for inspiration from Network, the former Canadian arm of theWorld Union of Jewish Students, Bloom and Zelunka said.

Unlike Network, however, The Link – at least for now – will be province-wide, not Canada-wide, and, unlike Ontario-wide Kol Hastudentim, it will be politically oriented, they added.

Among the group's goals are Israel advocacy, ensuring that "good speakers on Israel" visit Ontario campuses, providing information to students writing responses to anti-Israel propaganda, and taking a proactive role in the Toronto Jewish community, perhaps through activities like delivering Meals on Wheels.

The group also hopes to foster Jewish pride and a connection to the Jewish community among students.

Its first event, a rally to free Jonathan Pollard, is scheduled for later this summer.

Bloom and Zelunka were the first Canadians to participate in the Soref Advanced Seminar, a Washington, D.C. conference on Middle East politics for Jewish students, which they attended in May.

The seminar is an annual event run by The Washington Institute for Jewish Leadership and Values. Bloom and Zelunka, who are both entering the University of Toronto (Bloom to study Medicine; Zelunka to continue his studies in Economics), were the only Canadians among 20 students accepted to the conference.

As co-directors of the JSU's Politics and Israel Affairs committee, Bloom and Zelunka sought to counter anti-Israel programming at Western. The task was "extremely challenging," wrote Bloom in his conference application.

First Canadians to participate

Among the difficulties they encountered were Arab protests during their Israel Day program and the cancellation of a jointly sponsored Peace Day with the Arab Students' Association. The repercussions from the latter event provided weeks' worth of material in *The Gazette*, Western's student paper.

"When [students who are not knowledgeable] see anti-Israel propaganda, they might believe it," said Bloom. "They might distance themselves from it."

At Western, the long-time friends wrote political commentaries in the JSU newsletter and on its Web site, including news from Israel not accessible in mainstream North American media.The pair would also "go to all the anti-Israel speakers [on campus] and try to diplomatically challenge what they were saying," said Bloom.

"[Jewish student] activism is below standard," said Zelunka, noting that he and Bloom were often the lone voices at such events.

At Soref, the two 21-year-olds compared notes with their counterparts from other North American campuses. "You get the sense," said Zelunka, "that the Arab and Muslim communities are becoming very large."

"And they're all very in the know," added Bloom, "even though what they're saying may be false. The Jewish students are not able to articulate a proper response."

Bloom, whose background is "modern Orthodox," prefers to describe himself as a "passionate Jew and Zionist." He says he is passionate about Jewish causes because "when I see an injustice in the world, especially when it affects me and my community, it's something I can't not react to."

Zelunka, who has become more observant over the last few years (his family is Conservative), originally took an interest in politics and activism because he thought it was "kind of cool. Now I see myself having a religious obligation to look out for my fellow Jew."

Senior graduates from U of T

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Like any other new graduate, Joe Fromstein is pondering his options. An aspiring poet, Fromstein said he's considering taking up writing full time now that he's completed his B.A.

He recently attended graduation ceremonies for Woodsworth College's 500 graduates at University of Toronto's (U of T) Convocation Hall.

But unlike most of the people collecting their diplomas, Fromstein is retired and a grandfather of four.

According to a U of T spokesperson, he was one of only 10 seniors to graduate this year. Fromstein's convocation took place just weeks after his 80th birthday.

Fromstein, a retired pharmacist, said his late wife encouraged him to go back to school after he sold his Ossington Avenue pharmacy in 1984.

He said he always loved learning, and even studied Portuguese to better serve his Portuguese-speaking clientele. On the advice of his wife he enrolled at U of T and took one course every year.

The subjects he studied included Greek mythology, English and linguistics. While academia was hard work, he said, he enjoyed the challenge.

Being the oldest student was never a problem, according to Fromstein. "I was immediately accepted as one of the gang...Once I came to class and the students thought I was the professor. I was the only old guy there."

Born in Toronto, he attended King Edward Public School and Harbord Collegiate. In May of 1940, he graduated from the College of Pharmacy, which is now affiliated with U of T, and by June he had enlisted in the air force.

Fromstein went overseas – first to England in 1941 – as part of the medical unit, where he began writing poetry, he said. "During the war if something impressed me I wrote it down." He landed in Europe a day after D-Day.

He married Bertha Riba in 1948; they had three children Stephen, Michael and Rhonda. He is still grief-stricken by Bertha's death from cancer two years ago, he said. "We had 47 wonderful years together."

Over the years, Fromstein has written humorous poetry and speeches for simchahs.

People enjoyed his humor so much they often sought his help for their special occasions, he added. "I would get requests from cousins for anniversaries and birthdays."

But now he plans to spend more time writing serious poetry. He said he was inspired by noted local poet Linda Stitt.

He said after attending one of Stitt's poetry readings two years ago, he was so impressed with her, he wrote 22 responses to her poems. Stitt has since invited him to participate in several poetry readings with her, he noted.

"When I write a poem that is comparable in quality, I really feel that I've accomplished something. Just to be accepted as her equivalent is something."

Fromstein is also the editor of Skyviews, a publication he writes and edits for Skyview Condominium on Yonge Street where he resides. "I write editorials solving the problems of the world," he joked.

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Deadlock in talks could lead to violence: Mubarak

By HERB KEINON and STEVE RODAN
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

Israeli soldiers hold their position during a tense standoff with Palestinian police on a main road in the Gaza Strip. The Gaza standoff formed part of the deliberations at the meeting hosted by Hosni Mubarak in Cairo. [RNS/Reuters photo]

JERUSALEM — After a summit with Palestinian Authority (PA) Chairman Yasser Arafat and Jordan's King Hussein, Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak warned last Sunday that the deadlock in peace talks and Israel's plan to expand Jerusalem could ignite violence that may prove unstoppable.

A top PA official said, moreover, that the Oslo accords are dead and that the recent confrontation in Gaza between Palestinians and the IDF could lead to eruptions throughout the West Bank.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu deflected the criticism, placing the blame for the impasse in the peace process squarely on the PA.

"The present situation is very difficult," Mubarak told a news conference in Cairo, flanked by Arafat and Hussein. "We're afraid that if the situation continues in this manner, violence will erupt. The Israeli government must understand that if the danger begins, the situation will be very difficult to control."

Netanyahu countered that "the agreement on the second redeployment is being held up by the Palestinian side's failure to keep its commitments.

"Israel expects the Palestinians to fulfil these obligations in practice," Netanyahu said, "by detaining terrorists, collecting illegal arms, outlawing terrorist organizations, stopping incitement against Israel, reducing the Palestinian Police to the number prescribed by the Oslo agreement, handing over murderers, and cancelling the sections of the Palestinian Covenant that call for Israel's destruction.

"Threats and violence are not the way to make progress in the peace negotiations," he added.

The prime minister was also critical of the very convening of the summit.

"Israel is working toward the achievement of a peace agreement with the Palestinians," he said. "There is no substitute for direct bilateral negotiations between Israel and the Palestinians disrupted by the Palestinian Authority 15 months ago."

Netanyahu called on Jordan and Egypt to influence the PA to live up to its commitments under the Oslo accords.

The plan to extend Jerusalem's municipal services, approved by the cabinet in June, also calls for the annexation of Jewish suburbs inside Israel to ensure a Jewish majority of 70 percent in Jerusalem, where the PA hopes to set up the capital of a future state.

The three leaders urged Israel to rescind the decision, and Mubarak warned that the situation "will hurt the Israeli people."

Netanyahu's communications director David Bar-Illan said that by convening the summit, "the Palestinians are hoping to create pressure on Israel. This will not work."

PA cabinet secretary Ahmed Abdul Rahman told the Voice of Palestine radio station that a full Arab summit should be convened where Arab countries would take action against Israel.

Mubarak said such a summit would be convened only at the "appropriate time," as a last resort.

"We say that [the peace process] is dead, that it is dying and that the American side is planting in us false hopes. Because of this, the sole outcome in the territory is that Israel is stealing our land, destroying our homes and changing our history," Abdul Rahman said.

Gaza Preventive Security chief Mohammed Dahlan warned of a "hot summer" of confrontations between Palestinians and Jewish settlers. "I believe that the situation could explode at any moment," he said.

PA-aligned newspapers quoted similar warnings by senior Palestinian officials, saying the standoff between PA and Israeli forces in Gaza over the weekend could signal the start of the breakdown of relations.

Abdul Rahman also called on Arab countries to freeze relations with Israel until it agrees to implement the interim accords with the Palestinians. He termed Netanyahu an "arrogant man who is committed to the settlements, and to raiding and seizing land."

Palestinian Justice Minister Freih Abu Medein warned of what he termed a "genocidal war" against the Palestinian people.

Hebron attacks may be work of organized groups: authorities

By MARGOT DUDKEVITCH
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Security officials are concerned that the recent series of attacks on Arab property in the Hebron area may be the work of an organized group.

Sunday morning, four vegetable stalls belonging to Palestinians near the Avraham Avinu enclave in Hebron were torched. Police are still trying to determine whether the arson was carried out by persons involved in last week's vandalism and if the recent incidents are the work of an extremist underground.

Judea and Samaria police spokesperson Opher Sivan said police are taking steps to put a halt to the wave of violent attacks on Arab property. He refused to divulge details, but said police are still seeking two of the suspects involved in the attack.

Netanel Nir, one of several persons who allegedly participated in a horseback assault on Arab property in Hebron, has been arrested.

"Nir is not cooperating with police and is maintaining the right to remain silent," said Sivan.

Former police inspector-general Assaf Hefetz said Sunday that police assisted the IDF operating in the area in quelling attacks by extremists on both sides.

"I hope it doesn't mark the establishment of an underground. Security forces must be alert and intelligence must be strong in order to prevent or quell such incidents," Hefetz said.

Hefetz warned that as decisions by the government on a further West Bank withdrawal become imminent, extremists on both sides may attempt to cause disturbances.

Residents from Kiryat Arba and Hebron condemned the attacks. They said it was unfair that their name is being besmirched because of the activities of several extremists.

Tzuri Popovitch, a spokesperson for Kiryat Arba, said the entire community regretted the harming of Arabs.

"We hope that those who may be considering similar actions in the future will think twice. We demand that justice be meted out against the perpetrators of the act."

MK Hanan Porat (NRP) echoed the sentiment. Speaking on Israel Radio, he said, "We must under no account accept such hooliganism."

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Commission considering sanctions against Swiss banks

By DANIEL KURTZMAN
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

WASHINGTON — In clearing the way for punitive measures against Swiss banks, American public finance officials have unleashed a forceful salvo in what is turning into a war of attrition over Holocaust-era claims.

Ignoring strong objections from the Clinton administration, a commission representing hundreds of state and local finance officials decided last week to lift a moratorium on sanctions against the banks, after settlement talks with Jewish groups reached what one official described as "a total, stone-like impasse."

California said it would become the first state to impose sanctions by not seeking new investments with U.S. subsidiaries of Swiss banks, and New York said that among other steps, it would bar short-term investments, with the banks if there is not a settlement by Sept. 1. New Jersey and Pennsylvania also announced they would take action.

New York City Comptroller Alan Hevesi, who heads the five-member commission, said he hoped U.S. officials would impose a graduated process of sanctions that may give participants in the negotiations "a little more time to resolve the issues."

Swiss banks lambasted the move and threatened to sue U.S. states or cities that adopt boycotts. The Swiss government called the sanctions "counterproductive, unjustified and illegal," and said the move could disrupt U.S.-Swiss relations and trigger a free trade dispute.

Talks between Switzerland's three largest banks and Jewish negotiators broke down last week after Union Bank of Switzerland, Swiss Bank Corp. and Credit Suisse Group said that $600 million was their final offer to settle claims over Holocaust-era bank deposits.

The World Jewish Congress (WJC) and lawyers for Holocaust victims rejected the amount as "insulting" and are holding out for a $1.5-billion "global settlement" that would cover all claims against the banks, the Swiss central bank and the Swiss government.

The funds would go to Holocaust survivors and their heirs.

It is not clear after the most recent developments where the settlement talks stand. After the Hevesi commission announced its verdict, the Swiss banks reportedly were considering revoking their $600 million offer.

Stuart Eizenstat, U.S. undersecretary of state for economic affairs, who began brokering talks between the two sides last December, expressed disappointment at the lapse of what he called a "historic opportunity for resolving this matter that may not come again soon."

In blunt remarks to the finance officials, Eizenstat urged them not to slap sanctions on the banks and warned that such a move could lead to a hardening of positions on both sides.

Speaking to reporters, Eizenstat had said earlier that while pressure on Switzerland may have played an important role in the past, "our belief is that sanctions or the threat of sanctions have made the Swiss public more inflexible [and] have contributed to an environment in which further progress becomes more difficult."

Edgar Bronfman (right) and Elan Steinberg at a conference on possible sanctions against Swiss banks. [RNS/Reuters photo]

Jewish groups, frustrated by what they felt was a lack of good faith by the banks, took a different view of the matter.

Edgar Bronfman, head of the WJC, which in March had asked the finance officials to hold off on sanctions while efforts to reach a settlement continued, told the commission the WJC would no longer stand in the way of sanctions.

In an interview the next day, Elan Steinberg, executive director of the WJC, rejected the State Department's concerns about a hardening of Switzerland's stance, saying, "There's no stance to harden. Either you return what was stolen or you don't. This is not a bazaar at which we are haggling over a price.

"We will win, we will lose, but we won't be swindled. We will struggle for justice," he said.

Other developments last week also served to increase pressure on Switzerland:

• Lawyers representing five Holocaust victims filed a new class-action lawsuit against Switzerland's central bank to recover plundered gold acquired by Switzerland during World War II.

The lawsuit asks the U.S. District Court in Washington to award compensatory and punitive damages stemming from what it called the "unlawful behavior" of the Swiss National Bank.

The Swiss government and the Swiss National Bank have refused to join the commercial banks in negotiations with Jewish groups and have said they would not be a part of any settlement.

A spokesperson for the Swiss government in Bern blasted the suit, saying it is "not justified by the facts, politically unacceptable and legally untenable."

• A separate group of four Holocaust survivors filed a new state lawsuit in California against three commercial Swiss banks, alleging that the banks' behavior violated California's Unfair Competition Act.

The new suits are in addition to a pending multibillion-dollar class-action lawsuit filed in New York against the three Swiss commercial banks. In the absence of a settlement, lawyers for Holocaust survivors have threatened to pursue that litigation as well.

Eizenstat said the standoff with Switzerland should be resolved in court if agreements cannot be reached, but cautioned against that scenario, which could lead to protracted litigation. "It is very important," he said, that a settlement "be reached quickly and in the lifetime of survivors. This is a race against the clock."

Meanwhile, some positive news has emerged for Holocaust survivors who are awaiting compensation:

• U.S. and British officials announced that the remaining gold looted by the Nazis from European central banks had been returned and about three-quarters of it would be donated to an international fund set up by the two countries last year to benefit Holocaust survivors.

With contributions from 16 countries, including eight European countries that donated part or all of their share of residual Nazi gold held by the Tripartite Gold Commission, the fund now stands at $57.5 million and is expected to increase.

The gold commission was set up by the United States, Britain and France after World War II to return looted Nazi gold to nations from which it was plundered.

Officials said payments from the fund, which is separate from a humanitarian fund established by Switzerland last year, are slated to be distributed to Holocaust survivors in eastern Europe through the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee as early as next month.

• The United States and 38 other nations announced a drive to identify art stolen from Holocaust victims and to compensate their heirs.

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STÉPHANE DION VISITS ISRAEL

Canada's Intergovernmental Affairs Minister, Stéphane Dion (left), was in Israel and the autonomous Palestinian regions recently on a fact-finding mission. He is pictured above holding talks with Knesset Speaker Dan Tichon (right). They are joined by David Berger, Canada's ambassador to Israel. Dion also met with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, who praised Israel's relations with Canada as "excellent." Dion also delivered the keynote address at the opening of the Jerusalem Conference in Canadian Studies at Hebrew University, where he said he is "ashamed" at Canada's poor record on admitting Jewish refugees before, during and after World War II. [Israel Photo]

Israel & the Jewish World

The Week in Israel

June 29

• Air Force planes attacked suspected terrorist targets in southern Lebanon after two South Lebanon Army soldiers were killed in roadside blasts planted by Hezbollah.

June 30

• Matan Vilna'i, passed over as army chief of staff earlier this month in favor of Shaul Mofaz, said Israel could not defend itself against surface-to-surface missiles. Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai said Israel was working on a new security approach. *(Vilna'i subsequently announced he was retiring from the army.)*

July 1

• An increasing number of Palestinians back violence against Israel, but a majority still support the peace process, according to a new poll by the Centre for Palestinian Research and Studies. Some 50 percent of Palestinians today, as opposed to 36 percent in September 1997, support the use of violence; 68 percent of Palestinians support the peace process, 29 percent are opposed.

• The Association for Civil Rights in Israel published its annual report stating that discrimination against Israeli Arabs and human rights violations against Palestinians are continuing.

July 2

• Hundreds of archeologists smashed pottery urns in front of the Knesset to protest a plan that would purportedly give Haredim authority over certain digs. The Prime Minister's Office refused to comment on the reported plan.

• IDF troops were locked in a nighttime standoff with Palestinian police and security forces at the entrance to Gush Katif in a dispute over access to Gaza Strip roads. Egyptian Ambassador Mohammed Bassiouny and U.S. envoy Dennis Ross helped mediate the dispute and avoid bloodshed.

July 3

• According to Israeli intelligence sources quoted in *Jane's Defence Weekly*, Syria is preparing to produce VX nerve gas.

• Ofer Nimrodi, publisher of the daily *Ma'ariv*, was sentenced to eight months in prison for ordering wiretaps against rival Israeli tabloid *Yediot Achronot* as part of a circulation war.

With files from JTA

Milo leads push against religious coercion in Israel

By HAIM SHAPIRO
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

TEL AVIV — Warning against increasing haredi control of life in Israel, Tel Aviv Mayor Ronni Milo said we could soon expect to see women television broadcasters wearing only "modest" clothing, like the women wrapped in veils on Iranian television.

Milo was speaking at a news conference following the opening meeting of a new group, the Joint Headquarters for Freedom of Religion for Israel.

Joining Milo were Jewish Agency Chair Avraham Burg and Prof. Uriel Reichman, a longtime advocate of a constitution for Israel.

The group includes such groups as the Reform and Conservative movements, Na'amat, Am Hofshi, and Hemdat.

"We are facing a basic question of whether Israel is to be a free state, where everyone will be free to follow his or her own path, or whether it is to be a theocracy," Milo said.

Milo, who said that he comes from a traditional family and attends synagogue on Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, asserted that Haredim are controlling more and more aspects of life in Israel.

The latest threat, he said, was to appoint a director-general for the Antiquities Authority who would make it virtually impossible to conduct archeological research in the country.

The new coalition, he said, would press for the passage of a basic law: Freedom of Religion, which would include the right for everyone to marry in either a religious or civil ceremony, or divorce the same way.

Milo said his cooperation with Burg does not mean that Burg is about to join his proposed centrist party, with which Milo intends to run for prime minister.

Burg said that the group intends to free the government from the clutches of the haredi parties. He added that he hopes to include within the coalition religious Zionists, groups from the Orthodox world and even Haredim.

However, no Orthodox group was represented at the organizing meeting.

New compensation plan

[Cont'd. from page 1]

One group is comprised of survivors who have been denied compensation because their annual income exceeded $16,000 (US) for a single person, or $21,000 for a married couple.

But for roughly 4,500 survivors around the world who meet this criteria when their government old-age or pension cheques are excluded, compensation now will be available.

The new agreement excludes U.S. Social Security payments from income tabulations for those aged 70 and over as of Jan. 1, 1999.

Ronen told *The CJN* prior to his departure for the Claims Conference meeting that he believes Canadian equivalents like Old Age Security, Canada Pension Plan and other government payouts will also be excluded from calculating incomes.

Ronen said part of the package is targeted primarily at needy survivors.

"But this is compensation. [It's] intended to show some decency on the part of Germany to all survivors," he said, adding he'll put pressure on the Conference to get Germany to compensate all eligible survivors, regardless of income.

The other group includes survivors who spent the war years in camps that were not in the original compensation agreement.

Survivors who were incarcerated in special camps in Austria; in forced labor camps on the Austro-Hungarian border; or in forced military labor battalions for Hungarian Jews on the Ukrainian front will now also be eligible to receive compensation.

An estimated 3,000 survivors worldwide fall into this category. According to Kurt Herzstein of URO's Toronto office, many Canadians will be eligible under this provision.

The German government will spend $25 million a year on pensions for these 7,500 survivors.

The most recent round of negotiations, which began in August 1997, stemmed from changes sought for those previously ineligible under Article 2 of the so-called Hardship Fund.

The Article 2 Fund criteria include a minimum of six months' imprisonment in a concentration camp, 18 months in a ghetto, or 18 months in hiding in "inhumane" conditions.

However, not all such sites were included in the original agreement.

Congress says the new package, although laudable in intent, contains much inequity.

"They're looking at reported incomes, not assets," Ronen explained. "That's not fair. There are many needy survivors who would still not qualify [under the terms]."

Ronen said the Canadian delegation will also raise its voice in an effort to accelerate claims.

"Survivors are anxious and angry and justifiably upset. Most of that is directed at the Claims Conference. [Emotions] are wrongly placed. It's the Germans who run the show," Ronen said.

With files from JTA

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CJN Rosh Hashanah Photo Contest

The CJN announces its fourth annual Rosh Hashanah photo contest. We are asking readers to submit their own original photographs either of Israel or on any Jewish theme in their community.

Anyone can enter except *CJN* employees or members of their families.

A maximum of three photos per entrant may be submitted. Please write your name, address and phone number on the back of each photo. We can only return the photos if you provide a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

You may mail or deliver your photos to: *The CJN* Rosh Hashanah Contest, The Canadian Jewish News, 1500 Don Mills Road, Suite 205, Toronto, Ont., M3B 3K4.

The contest closes at 3 p.m. on Friday, Aug. 28, 1998.

The judges will choose three photographs which, in their opinion, are the most expressive and evocative. These three photos will be published in *The CJN* Rosh Hashanah issue, Sept. 17, 1998. Each of the "winning" photographers will receive a cheque for $100.

We will undoubtedly receive many worthy submissions. But only three will be selected as the "winners." The decisions of the judges will be final. The odds of winning depend upon the number and the quality of submissions received.

Winning entrants will be notified by telephone before Shabbat on Sept. 4, 1998.

Along with these three photos, *The CJN* will also publish 10 photos from the Israel Experience Photo Contest sponsored by UIA Federations Canada, the Canada Israel Experience Centre and El Al Israel Airlines. Israel Experience participants aged 15 to 24 should contact the UIA office for details.

Any litigation respecting the conduct and awarding of a prize in this contest may be submitted to the Régie des Loteries et courses du Québec.

Italian community strives to resolve tensions

BY RUTH E. GRUBER
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

ROME — Italy's small, ancient and highly diversified Jewish community has been so rocked recently by internal tensions over who is a Jew and what is Judaism that some fear it could be split apart.

The crisis pitted increasingly militant religious traditionalists against the non-observant, and as such, mirrored trends evident throughout the Jewish world.

The 35,000-strong community, however, appears to have emerged from its policy-making congress this month with a renewed commitment to compromise that leaders hope will enable different religious trends and traditions to coexist under an umbrella of unity.

"Sometimes crises create their own antibodies," Tullia Zevi, the outgoing president of the Union of Italian Jewish Communities, said in an interview.

Francesco Spagnolo, director of a Jewish music study centre in Milan said, "There are too few of us to split up."

The quadrennial congress, which met here from June 21 to 23, elected a new governing board that is expected, at its July 13 meeting, to name Venice-based Amos Luzzatto to replace Zevi, who stepped down after an unprecedented four terms as president.

Luzzatto, editor of a Jewish scholarly review, appeals to a broad range of factions within the community.

He is a respected secular intellectual who, at the same time, has a profound knowledge of Jewish religious traditions and is descended from a prominent rabbinic family.

A focal point of the recent tensions among Italy's Jews was controversy over the conversion of young children of mixed marriages.

Italian Jewry is Orthodox. There are no Reform or Conservative congregations or practicing rabbis here. And, unlike the system of congregations in the United States, Italy, like other European countries, has a kehilah system. One joins the kehilah, or local community, not a congregation – and those not recognized as Jewish by the Orthodox rabbinate are excluded.

Just the same, most Italian Jews are not observant and even Orthodox Jews are traditionally highly acculturated, with a strong Italian identity. The rate of intermarriage is 50 percent or more.

Many intermarried families in Italy have raised their children as Jews, obtaining Orthodox conversions for them when they were infants or toddlers.

Last year, however, a rabbinical ruling decreed that small children could not be converted unless their non-Jewish mothers also were converted. Otherwise, they would be barred from attending Jewish schools.

After widespread debate and protests, the blanket ruling was relaxed to some extent, allowing each community with its rabbis to decide the issue on a case-by-case basis.

The conversion issue, however, reflected more widespread strains, based on mounting concern among rabbis and others that secular Jews had lost sight of what it meant to be Jewish.

"At root is a widespread and advanced loss of Jewish identity, in religious, family and social terms," Rabbi Giuseppe Laras, president of Italy's Rabbinical Assembly, told the Union's congress. Jewish continuity, he warned, was under threat.

"That which once seemed anomalous, illicit, dangerous and exceptional, today for many people no longer is so," he said.

In recent years, some younger people who returned to Orthodox observance became militant in criticizing Jews who were less stringent in their observance. These new Orthodox were in turn branded as "fundamentalists" by secular Jews.

Adding to the complications has been the Italian Jewish community's unique status in Europe, both for its antiquity and for the divergent elements within such small numbers.

Jews have lived in Rome for more than 2,000 years, making it the oldest continuous Jewish community outside the Holy Land.

"We lived in Rome long before Lubavitch existed and long before Polish Jews knew there was a Poland," said Franco Pavoncello, a board member of Rome's Jewish community.

Today, about 15,000 Jews live in Rome, and about 10,000 in Milan.

The rest live in a score of other towns and cities, mostly in northern Italy, in communities ranging from a small handful to about 1,000 people.

The Rome and Milan communities are comprised both of native Italian Jews and descendants of Jews expelled from Spain in 1492 – as well as immigrants who have arrived during the past 30 years.

One-third to one-half of Rome's Jews are Libyan Jews who fled after bloody anti-Jewish riots in 1967 following the Six-Day War. The Milan Jewish community consists of recent arrivals from more than two dozen countries, with the biggest immigrant group from Iran.

Many of these Jews maintain their own rites and often highly Orthodox lifestyles, which are quite different from the assimilated lifestyles of most Italian Jews.

This, too, has been a cause of friction.

Some Italian Jews have expressed the fear that the historic character of their community, with its tradition of integration, is under siege.

In an article published in April, the man who will soon head Italian Jewry made clear he felt that Italian Jews must learn to coexist in a flexible unity.

"There should be a dialogue among everyone," Luzzato wrote in a Jewish magazine. He appealed for a situation "where the rabbinate is not divided into opposing Orthodox and liberal, but is one sole entity, and is, with this, quite flexible."

The community, too, he wrote, should be one all-encompassing entity that will welcome "Jews who belong to the 'Orthodox' as well as 'non-Orthodox' currents, as long as halachic norms are respected."

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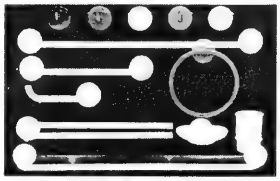

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Brothers create 'aggressive surf punk' band

By STACEY STEIN
Student Intern

TORONTO — Working professionally with a sibling might be a recipe for disaster for some people.

But in the case of bandmates Jason and Daniel Green, sibling tension is kept in check by their larger vision – Adam's Curse, a band the Green brothers started up three years ago.

Although Jason Green admits to some occasional tension between them, he says the two don't let the personal interfere with the professional.

"When you're forming a band with your sibling, you're always going to run into sibling friction," he says. "We have disagreements and most of the time we don't really see eye-to-eye on the little things, but we agree on the big concept, and we put aside our differences for the larger goal."

Jason, 29, and Daniel, 27, conceived the idea for the band together.

"We wanted to form a more aggressive band with a combination of punk and techno," says Jason. The brothers then recruited band members Daniel Maletich (lead guitar, vocals, songwriting, lyrics), Bret Ootes (DJ, vocals, lyrics) and Terry Riddel (drums). The final result: an "aggressive surf punk" band that has been steadily picking up momentum since its inception.

The band released a self-titled independent CD in April, and has been receiving airplay in England, Poland, Latvia, the Netherlands, Germany, Sweden and the United States, among other countries. Two of their songs, *j and d* and *Under Suspicion*, are also featured on the soundtrack of the film *The Contract*, which premiered at the 1998 Cannes Film Festival.

Although the past three years have been marked by several successes, the band isn't rushing to sign onto a label.

It's the old musician's dilemma – while signing onto a label means more money and more visibility, it also means signing off your independence and autonomy, according to the Greens.

"We're interested in getting our stuff out to a larger audience, but we want to do that on our own terms," says Jason. "We would talk to record companies, but they would need to understand that artistically we would have to control everything and that's not something that we're willing to compromise."

However, he is confident that the band is strong enough to stay independent.

"If a record company were to step into the picture, they would have to offer something really spectacular for us to actually go and sign on the dotted line," he says. "Because when you sign on the dotted line, you sign away part of your publishing and [when] the publishing goes, you lose control of the big picture."

For now, the band is working with a promotional company called Music Media Network, which has helped the band expand into other countries. They're currently looking at breaking into Spain and South America.

Jason is also acting as the band's manager for now, but that might change. "When things get busy enough, then we'll bring in a management company," he says. "I would love to concentrate on the songwriting, and I find that managing the band takes a bit of time out of songwriting."

Adam's Curse's live presentation style sets them apart from most other bands. The idea of blending film and music in their live performances can be traced to Daniel, a graduate of Ryerson Polytechnic University's film studies program.

"We have a cross between music and film at all times," says Jason. "It's really a predominant theme in what we're trying to do." The band has incorporated some of Daniel's film footage into their performances.

"It's a great way for us to present to the audience two things we're interested in at the same time," he says.

As for the band's enigmatic name, the source is a William Butler Yeats poem that struck a chord with the band. In *Adam's Curse*, Yeats muses upon the difficulty of making beautiful sounds.

"The message to us is that our craft is as valuable and as worthwhile as any other craft," says Jason. "Whether you're a high-level businessperson or whatever else, is valid, but also being a musician and struggling as an artist is something that should be respected as well.

"It just triggered something inside us emotionally because we do work very hard; and I think there is a tendency in society to look at artists and musicians as people who just lie around, when really the amount of effort and work that goes into building up something like this is huge."

You can check out Adam's Curse on Music Media Network's Web page [www.musicmedianetwork.com]. The band's hotline number is 905-764-1790.

Guidebooks help plan exciting summer holidays

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

With summer having arrived, thoughts turn to vacations. The following guidebooks, published by Lonely Planet and distributed by Raincoast Books, may help you plan your trip.

London, Europe's largest city, is exceedingly wordly, and *London* lets you explore it with a minimum of fuss and bother.

Unpretentious and funky, Lisbon leaves a lasting impression, and with *Lisbon* in hand, it's hard to go wrong.

Vibrant and seething, Cairo quickens the pulse. Sit down with *Cairo* and be tantalized.

To the average traveller, Romania and its neighbor, Moldova, are virtually terra incognita. Find out about them in *Romania & Moldova*.

Italy never ceases to amaze, and *Italy* expands on the obvious.

Goa, the former Portuguese enclave in India, has it all: fine beaches, colorful markets and lovely scenery. Read all about it in *Goa*.

If you're adventurous and strapped for money, *The Hitchhiker's Guide to Japan* may well be for you.

Should you be driving in North America, don't leave home without *National Geographic Road Atlas*, a compendium of detailed maps of Canada, all 50 U.S. states and Mexico.

High in the Arctic, Nunavut — Canada's newest territory as of April 1999 — has much to offer intrepid tourists, as does *The 1998 Nunavut Handbook*.

Rugged, remote and beautiful, the Queen Charlotte Islands in British Columbia come alive in *A Guide to the Queen Charlotte Islands*.

Another archipelago of islands worth considering lie in the emerald seas of the Caribbean. *Bahamas and the Turks & Caicos* provide the highlights.

Iran, with the largest Jewish community in the Middle East outside Israel, is intriguing but is usually bypassed because of its militant Islamic regime. If you're prepared to overlook this, and the government grants you a visa, *Iran* may fit the bill.

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Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

LITERARY PASSAGE: ALFRED KAZIN

Last October, when American writer **Alfred Kazin** walked on stage at the Harbourfront International Authors Festival, it was with the aid of a metal walker. However, although he seemed frail of body, it was obvious from the moment he began reading from his latest book *God And The American Writer* that no one could accuse him of being frail of mind.

A distinguished literary critic and intellectual, Kazin died last month in his apartment on the Upper West Side of Manhattan at the age of 83. His death came 56 years after his literary debut with *On Native Grounds*, a critically acclaimed study of American literature published in 1942. During his long career he wrote another 12 nonfiction books, including *New York Jew* and *A Walker in the City*, a keenly- observed study of Jewish immigrant life in New York City.

Alfred Kazin's "great gift was to write about novelists with the lyricism of a novelist," said his son Michael Kazin, a professor of history at American University. "He never stopped loving the writers he began loving."

In *God And The American Writer*, Kazin focused on a variety of 19th-century and early 20th-century literary figures such as **Herman Melville**, **Emily Dickenson**, **Walt Whitman**, **Harriet Beecher Stowe** and **William Faulkner**, showing how religion and morality played a far more intense role in literary discourse back then than they do today.

In the last year of his life Kazin was reportedly working on a related study involving the works of American Jewish authors in particular. If it is ever published posthumously either in whole or in part, it is certain to be a fascinating addition to an impressive and influential oeuvre.

* * *

Spanish Dream in the Park: A production of *Life's A Dream*, the Spanish masterpiece by **Pedro Calderon de la Barca** about time, love, honor, death and the illusory nature of existence, opens July 8 at 8 p.m. in the Barry Zukerman Amphitheatre in Earl Bales Park as part of the new Skylight Theatre summer season.

The play runs until Aug. 2. Admission free; suggested donation $5 per person. 416-392-3846.

* * *

Photo Exhibit: Them=Us: Photographic Journeys Across Our Cultural Boundaries, is an evocative photo exhibition featuring the work of photographers from across Canada. Hosted by the Toronto-based Harmony Movement, the show explores the various ways diverse cultural groups interact in communities across Canada.

Them=Us is on view July 13 to 24 at the Toronto City Hall Rotunda, 100 Queen St. W. (Weekdays 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.)

* * *

In the Spotlight: Ellen Seligman, the editorial director for fiction at the pre-eminent Canadian publishing house McClelland and Stewart, recently won the Libris Award for Editor of the Year at the Canadian Booksellers Association convention at Roy Thomson Hall in Toronto.

Although the CBA gives out numerous awards every year, this was the first time it has so honored an editor. To add to Seligman's triumph, M&S won the prize for Publisher of the Year.

Seligman's name is less well known to readers, perhaps, than the names of the many outstanding authors whose books she edits. The list includes **Margaret Atwood**, **Jane Urquhart**, **Margaret Gibson** and **Andre Alexis**, whose recent novel *Childhood* has won considerable acclaim.

Among the projects Seligman is currently engaged in is *Handwriting*, a book of new poems by **Michael Ondaatje**, his first since 1984.

Another is a new book, *Cinnamon Gardens*, by Toronto writer **Shym Selvadurai**.

She is also editing "a collection of short fiction by one of the most exciting new literary voices I've read in a long time. The stories are fantastic, actually."

She is referring to Montreal writer **Elyse Gasco**, who came to her attention two years ago upon winning a $10,000 Journey prize for her short story *Can You Wave Bye-Bye, Baby?* Gasco, who incidentally is Jewish, writes on the themes of the "often-intricate relationship between parent and child, adopted children and adoptive mothers," Seligman notes.

—Up Coming—

TORONTO — An exhibition of paintings by Hugh Sinclair is currently running at Gate 403, 403 Roncesvales Ave.

Described as "abstract expressionism", the 29 pieces are mostly around four feet by three feet, acrylic on canvas or acrylic on paper.

In abstract expressionism, Sinclair has found the art-form that attracts him the most, for it combined the elements with which he is most familiar, namely: form, color and texture. It enabled him to explore the use of those elements in the creation of mood, movement and strength.

Sinclair's exhibition runs until August 3 and is open until 5 p.m. on weekdays and all day on weekends.

***

The 37th annual Toronto Outdoor Art Exhibition runs at Toronto City Hall from July 10 to July 12.

Over 500 artists will be showing and selling their original works of art in 14 categories: painting, drawing, sculpture, jewelry, fibre, folk art, metal, glass, watercolor, orignal prints, photography, ceramics, wood and mixed media.

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3	Broadview & Gerrard (Kentucky Fried Chicken)				10:15AM	6:00PM
4	Bathurst & Steeles (Mac's Milk)	9:45AM	Miss. Golden Sq.Ctr. (Rear Entrance of Fuji Optical)	10:15AM	Miss. Chinese Ctr. (Rear Entrance of HK Bank) 10:45AM	6:00PM
5	Commerce Gate (505 Hwy 7 Second Cup)	10:15AM	Kennedy & Steeles N.E. Corner (Tripmate Tours)		10:45AM	6:00PM
	AFTERNOON					
6	Gerrard & Broadview	1:45PM	Spadina Chinatown Ctr.	2:15PM	Miss. Chinese Ctr. 2:45PM	9:00PM
7	Kennedy & Steeles N.E. Corner	2:15PM	Commerce Gate	2:30PM	Jane & Wilson 3:00PM	10:00PM
8	Kennedy & Steeles N.E. Corner	4:15PM	Gerrard & Broadview	4:45PM	Spadina Chinatown Ctr 5:15PM	12:00AM
	MIDNIGHT					
9	Kennedy & Steeles N.E. Corner	9:45PM	Spadina Chinatown Ctr.		10:15PM	5:00AM

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Travel, Arts & Business

Valley Song an elegant rebuke to apartheid

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — As a teenager in South Africa, Janese Kane didn't realize the harm being done by apartheid.

Time has come full circle, though, and Kane, a resident of Toronto for more than 30 years, has produced *Valley Song*, by South African playwright Athol Fugard, whose plays are an eloquent rebuke to apartheid.

What makes Kane jubilant, is that *Valley Song*, produced at Ford Studio Theatre in April by New Globe Theatre, of which she is artistic producer, has swept five Dora awards in the independent theatre category.

"I lost my voice I was screaming so loud when the awards were announced," she says.

She says candidly "that people don't go into theatre to make money."

Even *Valley Song* lost money after 37 performances, seven of them matinees for students and seniors.

Janese Kane

But the ins and outs of the business world don't phase Kane, who came to Canada when she was 18. After years as a performer in theatre, film and TV, she founded the Gibson Girl placement agency but recently decided to go back to the theatre.

Among the plays she has put on are *Shayna Maidel* and *Sight Unseen*.

Since the Dora awards, Kane has plunged into A Fringe Festival play, *This Hotel*, a co-production with the smaller Bananafish Company.

This Hotel, a surreal love story, was written by the Jewish actor, Alex Poch-Goldin, who appeared in *Angels in America* at Canadian Stage.

This Hotel is at the Gardiner Playhouse, 79A St. George St. from July 5 to July 12, at different times. Tickets are $8. For information call 534-5919.

"I am proud of my genuine lack of prejudice today," said Kane. "I'm glad that the laws in South Africa have been changed. As *Valley Song* illustrates, change is difficult to accept."

Among the awards garnered by *Valley Song*, were best performance by Les Carlson and Yanna McIntosh and best direction by Seana McKenna. It also won the prize as outstanding production.

It was the intense reaction of Kane's youngest daughter, Allison, in April 1996, to a production of *Valley Song* at the Toronto World Festival, featuring Athol Fugard himself, that convinced Kane to stage the play herself.

In preparation Kane visited the actual locale of *Valley Song* on a holiday with her family last year, met the people whom Fugard wrote about in a semi-autobiographical way, and talked to Fugard many times, in person, on the phone and by e-mail.

Kane is married to Dr. Nolan Kane, a cosmetic surgeon. They have another daughter Carolyn, 22, a student in fine arts at Concordia University. Allison, 19, is on a scholarship at New College, University of South Florida, Sarasota, and studies drama.

Kane, who is "past 50," served on Holy Blossom Temple's art committee.

San Diego is California's crown jewel

By LEWIS ERIC LACHTER
Special to The CJN

SAN DIEGO — California's crown jewel, San Diego, offers scenic splendor, innumerable sights to see and year-round weather (about 21C and sunny) that will delight you.

And throw in a very active Jewish community of over 70,000 in this sixth largest city in the United States.

There is a busy Jewish community centre (JCC) in the centrally located East County, a JCC in northern Encinitas and another one in La Jolla.

You will find lots of Judaic art in the area, two Anglo-Jewish newspapers and tons of great places to eat.

The Temple Beth Israel, the lovely old synagogue is part of the fascinating Heritage Park area near Old Town. Services are no longer conducted in the shul, but it is open free to visitors.

The three-hectare Heritage Park is dedicated to the preservation of San Diego's Victorian architecture. In addition to Beth Israel, you can visit an antique store, and a doll shop with a huge variety of dolls and costumes that will astound you. The park is a must for architecture lovers.

Balboa Park's over 400 hectares take some major time to cover, but it is well worth it. You'll see lovely trees, flowers and then come to the world-famous San Diego Zoo. The zoo occupies 40 hectares of the park. If you are interested in an amazing variety of animals, don't miss this sight.

Also in Balboa Park are the Museum of Man, Globe Theatre, San Diego Museum of Art and Model Railroad Museum for children of all ages. The place is so huge that you might want to start by stopping in at the visitors centre to get maps and answers to all your questions. By the way, San Diego County boasts over 90 different museums and 115 kilometres of gorgeous beaches.

One of my favorite outings in San Diego is driving across the long, graceful Coronado Bay Bridge to the island of Coronado. You'll see lots of shops and restaurants when you exit the bridge, but keep going until you reach the fantastic Del Coronado Hotel. Built in 1888, the hotel and resort is in great shape. Room rates are high, but you can have a drink or a low-price lunch on the property, and enjoy one of the world's outstanding man-made wonders.

In the village of La Jolla you will find great shops, a wide variety of art galleries and restaurants. Stop in at the 70-year-old pink (yes, it is painted a warm pink) Valencia Hotel for breakfast, lunch or dinner. It's not cheap, but well worth the price of the meal. Or have a drink in the famous Whaling Bar with its whale-ivory carvings and harpoons on the wall. Or just walk through the lobby and admire the furnishings and the outdoor gardens.

La Jolla is also a centre of oceanographic and medical research. It is the home of the Scripps Institute of Oceanography, an aquarium and the Jonas Salk Institute, one of the world's leading biological research organizations.

Heading back to San Diego, if you still have time and energy, take in Sea World, Wild Animal park or Old Town State Park, a restoration of the city's original Spanish settlement (and it's free).

For more information, write to the San Diego Visitors Bureau, 401 B Street, Suite 1400, San Diego, CA 92101. For Jewish-related information, write the United Jewish Federation, 4797 Mercury St., San Diego, CA 92111.

San Diego is a year round place to visit. You'll need a car in order to get around, but be sure to bring your walking shoes too.

Skylight Theatre hosts 'Spanish Hamlet' tragi-comedy

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO —A two-hour tragi-comedy described as the "Spanish Hamlet" is the feature attraction this summer at Skylight Theatre in the Barry Zukerman Amphitheatre in Earl Bales Park.

A Polish King's son, Sigusmind, is held prisoner in a cave by his father's edict based on a prophecy that Sigusmind would become a tyrant. After a series of setbacks, Sigusmind eventually becomes a wise ruler of his people.

Life is a Dream by Pedro Calderon De La Barca runs at Skylight in previews beginning July 2 and from July 8 to Aug. 2.

The action takes place during a period of strife between Poland and Russia. The "Spanish Hamlet" designation comes because of a tongue-lashing which Sigusmind gives to his father at one point.

The lead role of Sigusmind is played by Daniel Kash, son of Maureen Forester and Eugene Kash. A veteran of Stratford Festival, Kash has just completed a leading role in *The End of Civilization* by George Walker in his six-play Suburban Motel cycle.

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Guitar teacher helps students develop innate abilities

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — At 74, Eli Kassner still teaches at his own guitar academy and at the University of Toronto.

His schedule this year includes lecturing at an Amsterdam guitar festival in April, as well as teaching courses in Martinique and in Spain, where his daughter Danielle, also a guitarist, lives.

"I'm having fun. Why should I slow down?" he asks.

Kassner, the founder and artistic director of the Guitar Society of Toronto and the man who helped put classical guitar on the map in Canada, fell into his musical career by accident, he said recently in his Toronto home, surrounded by his artwork and musical memorabilia.

Growing up in an Orthodox Jewish family in Vienna, Kassner began his musical education on a quarter-sized violin his uncle bought him when he was four.

As a member of a synagogue choir, Kassner combined the interests of his father, a salesman and Jewish scholar, and his mother, a mezzo soprano who once had hopes of becoming an opera singer.

Although he disliked the violin, Kassner "fell in love with the guitar" after joining a Zionist youth group – Young Judaea – whose leader used to play and sing folk songs.

The group, and his father's tutelage in Hebrew language, saved Kassner from the Holocaust. In December 1939 Kassner, then 15, left Vienna on a middle-of-the-night train with several dozen Jewish teens bound for Palestine via Trieste, Italy. He took two suitcases and his guitar.

A shaliach from Palestine chose the group's biggest boys first to make the trip under the auspices of Youth Aliyah. Kassner, who is short in stature, was chosen because he was fluent in Hebrew, he recalls. His parents and a sister perished in the Holocaust.

Kassner remained in Israel until 1951, living on a succession of kibbutzim and serving in the Palmach.

Eventually he became a music and drama teacher at a youth village near Jerusalem.

In 1951, his brother – the only member of his immediate family to survive the war – urged Kassner to join him in Canada.

Guitarist Eli Kassner, seen in his Toronto studio, introduced Torontonians to classical guitar. **[Frances Kraft photo]**

"I went with the intention of studying painting and then returning, but for the first time in my life I felt like a free man, and so I decided after a few years I wanted to stay here."

An accomplished artist who had already begun to exhibit his work, Kassner took a job in a downtown music store to support himself and his young family.

His artwork, some dating back to his time in Israel, covers many walls in the home he shares with Ann, his English-born wife of over 30 years, his first marriage having ended in divorce.

The pictures feature recurring Jewish themes, although Kassner himself is not religious. In a defining moment in Trieste, he divested himself permanently of his tallit and tfillin.

Kassner's guitar career began when a customer heard him play a Bach gavotte and asked if he would give him lessons.

Kassner's childhood guitar lessons enabled him to progress on his own, an experience he claims is not unique. "At that time all guitarists were self-taught. There was no serious teaching going on anywhere in the world...practically every guitarist had to reinvent the art of guitar playing."

In 1959, after founding the Guitar Society two years earlier and having been invited to join the faculty of the Royal Conservatory of Music and the Faculty of Music at the University of Toronto, he attracted the attention of guitar master Andres Segovia, who invited Kassner to study with him in Spain.

The Guitar Society sponsored North America's first guitar festival, said Kassner. Over the years they sponsored numerous festivals, concerts and competitions. They also commissioned over 80 pieces of guitar music to help compensate for the dearth of contemporary guitar music.

Israel, Kassner noted, has an active guitar scene, producing "some very fine guitarists." He returned in 1989 for a 50-year reunion of his Youth Aliyah group.

In 1967, Kassner opened his own guitar academy. At one time, there were 500 students and 20 teachers. Now, Kassner, his wife Ann and four other teachers constitute the staff, working out of the second floor of the Kassners' home. Students can study classical, jazz or flamenco.

In the early '60s he played in the Stratford Festival stage orchestra, gave concerts and was heard on CBC radio and television, but he doesn't regret giving up his performing career to focus on teaching. "There comes a point where you can't do both. It was very difficult to make a living as a performer."

As a teacher, Kassner's philosophy is to help his students – among them internationally renowned guitarist Liona Boyd – develop their innate abilities. "I haven't tried to turn them into copies of myself."

A teacher's role, he says, is to inspire students and "maintain that inspiration until it becomes their own driving force, so they don't have to rely on me to inspire them."

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD ANSWERS

■	P	H	T	L	■	S	A	I	T	H	■	E G O
F	R	E	R	E	■	T	H	R	E	E	■	U R N
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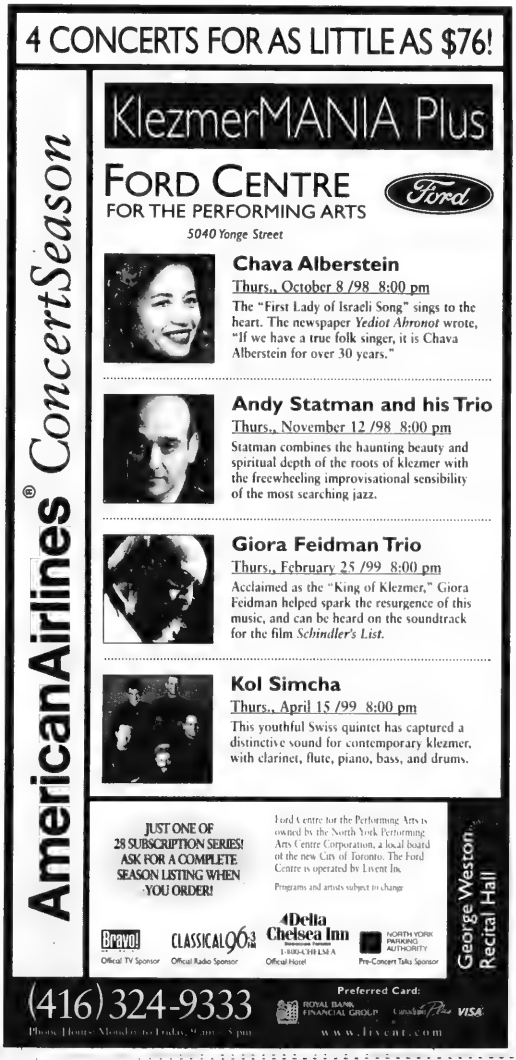
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Exercise viewed as essential for seniors' health

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — You should exercise more, not less, as you get older, says Beverley Burdeyney, a Toronto-based personal exercise coach.

"Health, vitality and long life are desirable goals and can be achieved with a commitment to oneself, in particular, a commitment to physical activity, which should be part of one's daily life."

Burdeyney, a senior who has lived and coped with spina bifida, a congenital defect of the spine, has many clients 50 and over.

She says having a normal, healthy lifestyle without fearing the aging process retards aging.

"Exercise helps you look and feel your best and allows you to achieve and maintain a healthier and more productive lifestyle. Fitness is a state of mind that affects your entire body," she says. "My motto is eat less and exercise more."

She says it has been proven that sensible nutrition along with exercise will lower your chances of having high blood pressure, cholesterol problems, diabetes, heart disease and obesity. It will also result in a reduction in osteoporosis and fractures, develop muscles for balance and stability, and minimize the pain of arthritis.

Beverley B. Burdeyney

Many habits of modern life do more to diminish health than improve it. When a problem occurs, such as back pain, people often turn to medications, which she cautions should be used for a very short time.

"The side effects of medication may cause other problems, whereas fitness helps prevent many of these problems before they occur."

Her formula for healthier aging incudes her three R's—rest, relaxation and relationships.

"And it is important to cultivate a sense of joy."

Sport activities, such as golf, can put stress on a particular part of the body. To minimize the risk of injuries, one must make time to learn about one's body and train it properly. She says that with a knowledgeable personal trainer who understands an aging body and recognizes your weak areas, a specific strengthening program can greatly improve your chances of remaining injury free while building stamina and a more flexible body.

"My motto is structure governs function. As a fitness coach, one of my first objectives is to help clients create their own dynamic central stability girdle, made up of the pelvis, abdomen and lower back." This, she says, can be compared to the foundation of a house. "If the foundation is strong and solid, then the building will be stable and stand erect."

Some basic stretch exercises she recommends are the pelvic tilt, single and double knees to the chest, head and neck stretch, and upper torso stretch. Regular walks, she says, are a crucial part of your health program.

With people living longer and spending more years in retirement, Burdeyney says, "retirement is only great if you have your health – mentally, physically and spiritually."

She recommends that you have a realistic "game plan" for your retirement. "If not, we know that early retirement can lead to boredom, unhappiness and even premature death. Life has to be lived. Life is a challenge. Life is a gift, so plan it well."

About Nutrition

By LISA WEINBERG

Q. I enjoy pickled herring, but can never find out how much fat or calories it contains.

A. One regular-sized piece of pickled herring contains 39 calories and 2.7 grams of fat. Herring is a fattier fish than many.

Q. Do you recommend taking a folic acid supplement prior to conception, and if so how much and how far in advance?

A. I would definitely recommend taking a folic acid supplement prior to conception, but this is probably something you should discuss with your doctor. Folic acid has been shown to reduce the incidence of neural tube defects. Normally, I would advocate trying to get nutrients from food before turning to a supplement. In the case of folic acid, however, this can be difficult to achieve.

I usually suggest a supplement of one milligram of folic acid daily starting approximately three months before trying to conceive. This could include 1½ cantaloupes along with 1¼ cups of spinach or broccoli, daily. You can see how this volume is quite a challenge to consume.

Q. We tend to barbecue a lot of hot dogs. What is the average calories and fat in a beef hot dog?

A. The fat and calories in a beef hot dog will vary greatly depending on the size and composition. An average small beef hot dog (57 grams) contains 180 calories and 16 grams of fat.

Lisa Weinberg is a registered dietitian/nutritionist, specializing in pediatric and adult nutrition in Toronto. If you have any nutrition questions send them to The CJN.

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There will be no issue of the CJN for the week of July 23/98

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RYBAK REALTY LTD.
(416) 787-7151

1ST AD! CEDARVALE GEM!
Immaculate, bung., 2 bdrm., 2 baths, mutual. dr., gar., $224,900.
Call NAT or MILLIE
Coldwell Banker Pinnacle R.E.
485-2299

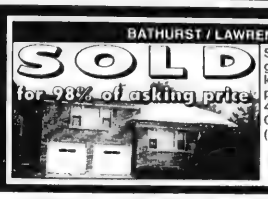
TRIPLEX-BATHURST MANOR
2x3, 1x2 Bdrms., Place shows beautifully. Ensuite washrooms, balconies, dble. gar., Many extras. Owner occupied. Must see to appreciate it!
Call (416) 633-0544

Forgot about your hidden treasures?
WANT TO SELL THEM?
CALL TANYA AT
(416) 391-1836
FOR ADVERTISING RATES
CJN Classifieds Really Work!

5 HOUSES FOR SALE

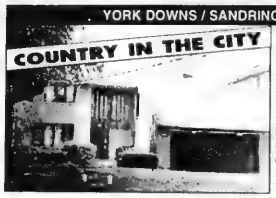
DAVID EICHORN REALTY LIMITED 787-1712

BATHURST / LAWRENCE



Spacious ranch bungalow on 60 x 117 ft. lot, plans & permits approved for brand new 4,500 sq. ft. home. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712. SOLD

YORK DOWNS / SANDRINGHAM



Prestigious serene setting! Custom spacious family home: 5 bdrms., 4 baths, family room, ideal for entertaining, sauna, 2 separate zones for heating & central air, 60 x 188 ft. lot (irreg.), only $629,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / LAWRENCE — EXCLUSIVE
3 bdrm. bung. on 50 ft. lot, east side of Bathurst, sep. entry to in-law suite, only $339,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

CLANTON PARK — LOVELY QUIET STREET!
3 bedroom home, 50 ft. frontage, separate entry to in-law suite, only $259,000. Call Esther Rubenstein (416) 787-1712.

CLANTON PARK AREA — STUNNING 3 BEDROOM!
Renovated + decorated, on 70 x 115 ft. lot (irr.), gleaming hardwood floors, thermopane windows, newer furnace and A/C, only $269,000! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

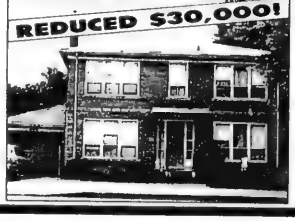
BATHURST / GLENCAIRN
40 x 133 ft. lot in desirable central location, close to TTC, shops, schools ++, detached brick 2 bedroom bungalow presently on property, only $249,900. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / PRUE — SPACIOUS 5 + 1 BDRM. SIDE-

Prestigious location! Fam. room, hrdwd. floors, gorgeous 50 x 125 ft. lot, close to park, quiet street, only $499,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / GLENCAIRN — BRAND NEW CUSTOM HOME!
Prime location, close to many luxury new homes, approx. 3400 sq. ft. of luxury, 5 bedrooms, family room, library, loaded with upgrades, dream maple kitchen, granite & hardwood floors ++, only $679,000. Call Richard Cash (416) 787-1712.

AVENUE ROAD / LAWRENCE



Renovated & decorated! 3 bdrm., 2 storey, breakfast room walk-out to deck & garden, prof. finished basement, gleaming hardwood floors, hot location! Asking $339,000! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST-WILSON
Stunning custom built home, home & gardens decor, 5 bedrooms, main floor laundry, library, finished bsmt. with apt. for income if desired, stucco, interlock and much more! **Must Be Seen. Asking $579,900** Call Michael Harari at (416) 717-2204

BATHURST MANOR - ONE OF A KIND SIDESPLIT
Mega-sidesplit on huge 65 x 130 lot. Nestled between best streets of The Manor, 3 bdrms.,cathedral ceiling for entire main floor, finished basement with apartment, bright & spacious, great for entertaining! **Asking $388,800** Call Michael Harari at (416) 717-2204

REDUCED! - "SPRING GATE BLVD"
Large executive home, 4 bedrooms, finished basement with sep. entrance, family room and library in main floor, backs onto Arnold! **Asking $489,900** Call Michael Harari at (416) 717-2204

CLANTON PARK SIDESPLIT - "A BEAUTY"
Updated 4 level home, 3 bedrooms, finished basement, A-1 area, updated windows, updated bathrooms, updated furnace & air conditioning, updated roof & much more. **Asking only $349,900** Call Michael Harari at (416) 717-2204

2 HOMES ON REGINA AVE. - LIVE, RENT, BUILD!
40 & 42 Regina, 1½ blocks west of Bathurst, asking $229,900 & $239,900, 40'x132', homes are in good condition, plans included. **Call Michael Harari for more info at (416) 717-2204**

SEIDMAN REAL ESTATE LIMITED REALTOR 633-7373

YONGE STEELES $284,800
2 storey semi, 4 bdrms., 3 bths., den, fam. rm., fireplace, w/out to patio, huge liv. & din., mod. kit., fin. bsmnt., gar., move-in cond., A-1 Buy, don't miss!

• • •

WILMINGTON BLUE FOREST
4 bdrm., den, fam. rm., huge liv. & din., fin. w/o bsmnt., ravine lot. SOLD

• • •

TRI-PLEX WILSON BATHURST
2-3 bedrooms + 1-1 bedroom, garages, balconys., occupy 1 + good income.

• • •

ALLEN RD. SHEPPARD
$249,900 - 2 storey, 4 bdrm., 2 bths., mod. kit., 5 appls., 50'x150' lot, rec. rm., gar., steps to subway.

• • •

BATHURST MANOR
3 bdrm., bth. ens., fam. rm., L-shape liv. & din., rec. rm. + extra bdrm., dble gar., steps to all!

A. & D. SEIDMAN 633-7373

30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE

Neptune Dr., 2 bdr., good price 663-9464, 785-1797, 665-0404

30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE

Bathurst/Steeles - Primrose 1 2 bdrm., 1½ bths., 5 appl., en-suite stor., pkg., locker, balcony w/great view, sec., pool, sauna, tennis, etc. $175K or best offer.

Call 416-739-0105. Please leave message - All calls will be returned.

55 ACCOMMODATION WANTED

York University MA student, male, n/smkr., seeks clean, quiet accommodations starting August 1. Call 905-707-7921.

60 SHARED ACCOMMODATION

Wanted: Roommate to share 2 bdrm. apt., non-smkr., $450/mo. Yonge/Lawr. David 483-3642.

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

Bath./Glencairn - new furn.1 bdrm. bsmt. apt., sep. entr., full kit., bth., n/smkr., n/pets. Avail. immed. Call 416-787-4154.

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

BATHURST WILSON

NEWLY DECORATED SPACIOUS 1, 2 & 3 BDRMS.

- Large balconies
- Central air conditioning and heating
- Hardwood Floors
- Sunken living rooms
- Surveillance cameras and card access system
- Outdoor swimming pool
- Close to conveniences and TTC
- Underground parking available

CONVENIENT NORTH YORK LOCATION

125 Neptune Dr. (416) 787-7171

BATHURST/LAWRENCE
1 bedroom, newly renovated, 3 appliances. $825.00 and up.
416-789-5629 – Super

BATHURST-SHEPPARD
Very lg. 1, 2, 3 Bedrms., ample closets, some 1½ baths & 2 balc., roof, laundry, ravine setting, pool, ind. pkg., 6 apts. per flr. From $850.
960-3238 - Bus.
631-9377 or 631-0388 - Super

ON A CLEAR OR CLOUDY DAY YOU CAN ADVERTISE!
CALL TANYA AT (416) 391-1836
FOR ADVERTISING RATES
CJN Classifieds Really Work!

110 COTTAGE FOR RENT

Lake Simcoe, lakefront estate, Beaverton area,lux. 4 bed. Sandy beach. Sunsets. Tennis. Seas./mo, 226-0009, 749-6600.

125 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE

Lands of the President, West Palm Bch. 3 bdr., 3 bth. twnhse in lux. gated community. Next to pool & walking distance to golf club. Excellent cond. with lots of extras. $145,000 US. 203-322-9792 evenings after 6:00 pm.

135 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT

ANBER MOVERS
(LOCAL MOVING)
SPECIALIST IN:
TORONTO ↔ VANCOUVER
NEW YORK ↔ FLORIDA
(514) 735-8148
1-800-561-MOVE

160 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR RENT

Jerusalem - near Mt. Scopus, 3 room lux. flat, patio garden, marvelous view. Oct./98 for 1 year. Call 416-221-3540 or Jerusalem 972-2-581-4475. Email: aryeh.shimron@mail.gsi.gov.il

230 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

This is a small ad with a **BIG OPPORTUNITY**. Call Susan 416-410-1715/905-826-9949

232 BUSINESS FOR SALE

New start in Northern Ontario
Gain financial independence by owning your own business. Well known variety store for sale in the mining community; South Porcupine just outside Timmins. Owner continuously operated for 60 years now ready to retire. Your opportunity: Install lottery machine & watch the customers line up. 2 stry. bldg. with store on 1st flr. Live rent free in 3 bdr. apt. on 2nd flr, incl. kit., liv/din. rm., 3 pce. bth., hall & veranda. Store is 21x54 ft. long with bsmt & attic. Bldg. stands on lge. downtown lot, (75x94 ft.), with dble. gar. & smaller rear gar. Entire property only $90,000; Inventory & fixtures etc. by negotiation. For more info call: 416-221-9636, 1-705-235-4701.

240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Customer Service With a Capital C
We are looking for a special person to add to our team:
*A constant willingness tc provide that little extra for our customers.
*A healthy amount of enthusiasm and a positive attitude.
*An initiator and doer.
*Strong organizational skills.
*Computer literacy with word processing and spread sheet programs.
If you have these traits and like a fast paced environment, please fax résumé to:
Sales &Marketing Manager
Fax: 416-789-5475

Enthusiastic creative, Hebrew teacher req'd. Sun. mornings & Wed. afternoons for downtown school, beginning Sept. 1998. Successful classroom experience & teacher training req'd. Reply to DJCS, 750 Spadina Ave, Toronto, M5S 2J2 or fax 416-924-0442, include refs.

Vice President of Finance
Growing international company looking for aggressive, independent hands on manager to oversee and co-ordinate all financial functions. CA required. Fax résumé to 905-660-4918.

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

NEED A NANNY?
• No Fee to Employer
APPLE DOMESTICS
(416) 730-0127

GOLDEN CARE LTD.
There's *no place* like HOME!
Live-in & live-out Caregivers & Nannies. Staff training in safety, appropriate behaviour and even Jewish cooking! On-going contact with you after placement.
LOW RATES WITH THE BEST PERSONAL SERVICE
Honey Hecker
665-1435, 665-4229

Frustrated by trying to find a suitable nanny? Let us help you. We have dependable, caring nannies who are thoroughly qualified, personally interviewed & pre-screened. All refs. are checked. Some are CPR trained. Low finders fee.
Wee Care Placement Agency
416-789-3070

High quality house cleaning. Call Dora, 736-1179.

Home cleaning. Introductory special offer including all cleaning products. 2 people will clean for $15/hour. Fully insured. 7 days/wk. *Call Sharon* 783-8068

Lady will take care of kids in your home. Exper., refs. Call Liana, 416-631-0399.

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

EC Access Employ. Agency
Filipino owned.
Nannies/ Hskprs/Companions.
Call **905-475-2518**

Nannies, live-in/out, full/part-time, in-home elderly care, FT, PT, RN's, nurses aides, cleaning. Bonded,refs. **416-630-0674** or **416-224-9907. #1 Domestic.**

Nannies/caregivers for elderly & disabled seek live-in or out jobs. Exp. w/refs. 905-677-4580

Organize your closets starting at only $40. Call 416-223-3817

Solid, exp. Polish cleaning person for houses. 416-699-3265.

Warm,honest, nanny seeks position with kids/elderly 235-2749

255 DOMESTIC HELP WANTED

Babysitter req'd for wkdys, p/t, exp.,Thornhill 905-886-8267

Bath./Eglinton, F/T live-in or out, housework & 2 kids, exp. w/18 month old, willing to work flex. hours, legal, non/smoker, excellent English 905-628-1954

Livein caregiver/housekeeper req'd. for bright senior Jewish lady who lives at Bath./Steeles. Must be exp., honest, respectful, caring. Refs. 905-889-9504

257 HEALTHCARE AVAILABLE

Affordable nursing grad to care for senior, car & refs. 667-7117

260 BUSINESS PERSONALS

BPT INC, a clear out sale on engagements, please call Ruth Friedman at 905-731-5204.

260 BUSINESS PERSONALS

Jewish Singles Registry, over 1600 members. Website, www.total.net/~jsreg. 483-4151

264 SOCIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

MARTHA COHEN would like to thank all her family and friends for all their kindness and good wishes during her recent illness.

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

*** CJN Boxes for Personal Companions Wanted ads are valid for 30 (thirty) days only (from 1st publication date). Replies must be received within this time frame in order to be forwarded to the correct CJN Box #.**

Seeking my beshert! I am an adventurous, creative, passionate, kind & spirited divorced Jewish female, no kids, 41, tall. You are a single or divorced Jewish male, prof., 5'11"+, 38-48, with or without kids. I am seeking a long term relationship, placing value in friendship, mutual respect and building a solid foundation with someone. Reply to CJN Box # 7055.

SJF, 37, 5'7", frequents Bal Harbour/Aventura, successful prof., (M.ED.) seeks marriage minded SJM 5'8" +, 34 - 53, Dr., lawyer, etc. CJN Box # 7069.

Big hearted, 23 yr. old SJM, 5'8", 150 lbs, physically fit, looking for his big hearted 18-25 SJF soul mate. CJN Box # 7065

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

DJF 40, attractive, petite, brown hair, green eyes, warm & caring enjoys movies, dining out seeks an attractive, honest & sincere, professional man, 40-48 who loves kids. Please include a recent picture. CJN Box # 7063.

Jewish lady, classy, divorced, early 40's, blonde, attractive, 1 adult son, dreams about love. Reply to CJN Box # 7067.

CLASSIFIED ADS/ SERVICE DIRECTORY ADS
·CUSTOMER SERVICE·

The CJN requires that advertisers check their advertisement upon publication, as *The CJN* will not be responsible for more than one incorrect insertion, and there shall be no liability for non-insertion of any advertisement. Liability for errors in advertisements is limited to the amount paid for the space occupying the error. All copy is subject to the approval of the management of *The CJN*. *The CJN* reserves the right to classify all advertisements.

Service Directory & Classified Ad Deadlines are Wednesday, 8 days previous to the issue, by 4 pm.

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

Confidentially yours! Call Mr. Cupid. Gents join free.**782-7592**

SJM Downsview 38 5'5" never married Shomer Shabbat handsome warm caring friendly funny smart and serious seeks SJF for marriage and family. Photo optional. Reply: CJN Box 7064.

Replying to a Companion ad with a CJN Box Number?

Address your mail to:

The Canadian Jewish News
1500 Don Mills Rd.
Suite 205
North York, Ontario
M3B 3K4
Box #

330 OBITUARIES

FRANKEL, Ruth - at Toronto General Hospital on Friday, June 26, 1998. Ruthie passed away from a sudden illness. Beloved wife to Cantor Samuel Frankel. Dear sister to Sam (Sonny) and Sarita Walerstein. Loving mother & mother in-law to Esther & Eddie Langer, Naomi & David Tal, Allen & Francine Frankel. Adored Boobie to Ruby, Ari, Mira, Ariel, Tamar, Ronen, Atira & Rachel. Devoted friend to all. Donations to Shaarei Tzedek Hospital Foundation would be appreciated.

330 OBITUARIES

SERVING THE JEWISH COMMUNITY FOR OVER THREE GENERATIONS

IZENBERG GOLDBERG
Monuments
3173 BATHURST ST.
(416) 787-0319

KOCH, Sam - on June 17, 1998, late of 429 Walmer Rd.
ADDISON, Ethel - on June 18, 1998.
GREENER, Fred - on June 18, 1998, late of 54 Samuel Oster Ave.
MIETKIEWICZ, Lola - on June 22, 1998, late of 131 Torresdale Ave.
BENAMOU, Michel - on June 23, 1998, late of 454 Patricia Ave.
LEWIS, Shirley Honie - on June 23, 1998.
LINER, Zinovi - on June 23, 1998, late of 4266 Bathurst St.
SHAPERO, Joseph - on June 23, 1998, late of 101 Brighton Ave.
GELFAND, Alexander - on June 25, 1998, late of 131 Torresdale Ave.
SPIEGEL, Magdalena - on June 25, 1998.
ABRAMS, Arnold - on June 26, 1998, late of 131 Beecroft Rd.

Steeles Memorial Chapel

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

To **Listen** & **Respond** To Ads call **1-900-451-4552** ***Ext.#*** **65**
The cost of the 900# is only $2.29 per minute

To Place Your **FREE** Ad call **905-276-6167** ***Ext.#*** **65**

The Meeting Place

Brought to you by the Canadian Jewish News

Women seeking Men

YOUNG AT HEART
Professional attractive widow, late 50's, petite, sincere, kind, enjoy movies, dining, dancing, outdoor activities, animal lover, music, looking for gentleman 58-63, nonsmoker, well established, secure, kind & caring. Ad# 1316

COMPANIONSHIP
Jewish lady, 33, single, warm, sensitive, caring, sincere, enjoy music, long walks, dining & dancing, seeking gentleman for companionship, possible relationship. Ad# 1406

CLASSY LADY
Divorced white female, 130lbs., petite, 5'4", one child, blonde hair, hazel eyes, enjoy hockey, music, cowboy boots & blue jeans, looking for male 37 or older with similar interests. Ad# 1327

FRIENDSHIP
Slim, fit & active Jewish lady, Belgian descent, enjoy travelling, dancing, seeking male, 60-74 with similar interests. Ad# 1402

VERY ROMANTIC
Single lady, 27, Jewish, 5'8", short brown hair, brown eyes, nonsmoker, nondrinker, enjoy sports, very outgoing, movies, dining & dancing, seeking Jewish gentleman, 27-36 for serious relationship. Ad# 1291

LONG TERM RELATIONSHIP
Attractive, single Jewish lady, green eyes, petite, enjoy travelling, swimming, kind, sincere, trustworthy, seeking loving male, Jewish, 35+. Ad# 1298

FRIENDSHIP
Jewish lady, late 50's, widow, attractive, fun to be with, seeking gentleman, down to earth, stable, good conversation. Ad# 1309

FRIENDSHIP FIRST
Attractive Jewish lady, 5'4", dark hair, hazel eyes, professional, enjoy travelling, movies, theatre, bowling, camping, cooking, gardening, seeking gentleman, 30-43 with similar interests. Ad# 1302

DOWN TO EARTH
Jewish female, 27, outgoing, honest, caring, down to earth, enjoy working out, sports, movies, theatre, seeking a Jewish male, 24-35 who is romantic, sincere, ambitious. Ad# 1023

LONG TERM RELATIONSHIP
Young lady, kind, sensitive, strong sense of humour, seeking gentleman, 27-39, 5'8" or taller, would prefer Jewish with no dependents who enjoys music, sports, & sharing good times. Ad# 1271

SEEK ESTABLISHED GENTLEMAN
Single female, 50, nice shape, blue eyes, open minded & kind, like sports & music, seeking an established gentleman over 45. Ad# 1308

LIKE SCRABBLE
Petite, 40+ Jewish lady, raven hair & dark brown eyes, seeking an attractive, unattached, nonsmoker with integrity, I like singing, movies, scrabble, walking, dining out & fireplaces in winter. Ad# 1286

LIFE PARTNER
Jewish lady, 38, petite, nonsmoker, very down to earth, sincere, caring, seeking Jewish gentleman, 35-42 who enjoys oldies music, bingo, dining & dancing. Ad# 1311

FINANCIALLY SECURE
Single Jewish female, attractive, tall & trim, financially secure, seeking a male, 55+ who is presentable, non-smoker & loves to laugh. Ad# 1341

LIKE TO WORK & PLAY
Single female, 30, brunette, like nature, exercising & travel, seeking someone who is fun & adventurous & also stable & serious. Ad# 1292

LOYAL & CUDDLY
Attractive, caring female, blonde, fit, loyal, cuddly, like movies, animals, children, dining out & walking, seeking someone between 45-60 who is nice, honest, down to earth & a nonsmoker. Ad# 1259

LASTING RELATIONSHIP
Single Jewish female, 50, employed, caring, sincere, super personality, seeking male, 45-50. Ad# 1266

ROMANTIC AT HEART
Single lady, attractive, kind, passionate, poetic, intense, creative, enjoy reading, theatre, poetry, seeking gentleman who is a good conversationalist, intellectually stimulating, to share romantic moments. Ad# 1267

RADIANT SMILE
Attractive, slim, fit, petite Jewish lady, soft brown hair & brown eyes, I've been told that I'm cute, sexy & young looking for my 47 years, I have a radiant smile & enjoy dancing, seeking a man who is young at heart. Ad# 1279

LIKE TO CUDDLE
Very smart female, 40's, like to exercise, movies, concerts, cuddling, looking for an educated, nonsmoker who is kind, has high integrity & traditional values to share my life with. Ad# 1213

WARM & FIT
Attractive, warm & fit Jewish woman, who likes long walks & good conversation, looking for a nonsmoker, over 50 & has a zest for life,in good physical shape & good sense of humour. Ad# 1214

KIND HEARTED
Single female, 5'5", red hair & hazel eyes, kind hearted, attractive & like many things including, dancing, picnics, movies & golf. Ad# 1215

LONG TERM RELATIONSHIP
Single professional lady, nonsmoker, Jewish, very sincere, honest, down to earth, seeking gentleman, 37-45, with good sense of humour, kind & nonsmoker. Ad# 1263

SUMMER ROMANCE
Single Jewish lady, brown hair, green eyes, very down to earth, enjoy travelling, long walks, theatre, reading, seeking gentleman, 48-58, Jewish, compassionate, sense of humour. Ad# 1282

YOUNG AT HEART
Single lady, 51, young, separated, professional, honest, sincere, very kind, seeking dark skinned gentleman, 35-50 for the sweet romance of the summer. Ad# 1283

LONG TERM RELATIONSHIP
Classy, charming, affectionate, Jewish lady, professional, very down to earth, enjoy movies, theatre, long walks, seeking gentleman, 48-58, Jewish, kind, honest. Ad# 1239

Men seeking Women

MARRIAGE MINDED
Gentleman, 70, widower, sincere, trustworthy, kind, seeking lady up to 65 years for possible future relationship. Ad# 1318

PLAYFUL
Single white Jewish male, no dependents, 175 lbs., blonde hair, blue eyes, fit, secure, well educated, seeking lady, slim, attractive, under 40 years. Ad# 1319

BRIGHT BLUE EYES
Gentleman, 50's, caring, romantic, handsome, slim, blue eyes, brown hair, good sense of humour, seeking lady, age & religion not important, attractive, should look good in jeans. Ad# 1322

DINING & DANCING
Gentleman, 33, 6', brown hair, green eyes, well established, financially secure, enjoy travelling, dining, dancing, movies, seeking a Jewish female, 28-34, 5'5" or taller, slim, attractive, well read with strong sense of humour. Ad# 1307

SIMILAR INTERESTS
Single male, 45, 5'8", conservative looking, enjoy dancing & collecting art & antiques, seeking female of any build with similar interests. Ad# 1314

TRADITIONAL & KIND
Traditional, down to earth Jewish man, good sense of humour, fun to be with, healthy, good looking, kind & easy to get along with. I seek someone for a relationship, maybe marriage. Ad# 1265

LIKE AUCTIONS IN THE COUNTRY
Single male, 45, still have all of my black hair, I like art auctions, car drives & antique auctions in the country. I'm not choosy & children are OK. Ad# 1264

MOVIES & DINING OUT
Single Jewish male, 40, short brown hair & brown eyes, work out with weights, like movies, dining out, sports & walks, seeking a Jewish lady, 34-45 with similar interests. Ad# 1272

PROFESSIONAL & FIT
Divorced, sincere, handsome & fit professional man, originally from Eastern Europe, enjoy movies, dancing, biking & computers, seeking someone under 40 who is kind, caring, slim, attractive for lasting relationship. Ad# 1273

HARD WORKING
Jewish gentleman, late 40's, hard working & successful, like quiet times, movies, music, travelling. Ad# 1278

SEEK OUTGOING GIRL
Single male, 18, looking for a single girl who is outgoing, likes shopping & is not afraid to accept presents. Ad# 1330

ECLECTIC INTERESTS
Easy going professional man, brown hair & eyes, 6'2", 170 lbs., have a good sense of humour, seeking someone romantic & unattached. Ad# 1323

BE MY SUNSHINE
Tall, handsome male, 40, originally from Montreal, enjoy outdoor activities, good sense of humour, seeking slim, kind, honest lady for relationship. Ad# 1244

SUMMER ROMANCE
Gentleman, kind, sincere, very quiet & a bit shy, seeking lady to make my summer special. Ad# 1249

LET'S TALK
Gentleman, early 40's, handsome, fit, creative, enjoy sports & other outdoor activities, seeking lady, early 30's, attractive, sincere, intelligent. Ad# 1250

HAND IN HAND
Gentleman, outgoing, fun loving, enjoy movies, dining & dancing, good conversation, long walks & the romance of life, seeking lady who is trustworthy, honest, sincere, kind. Ad# 1011

MARRIAGE MINDED
Gentleman, tall thin, 70, American Jewish, warm, cultured, well travelled, handsome, sincere, trustworthy, seeking marriage minded lady under 65, affectionate, soft, slim, very feminine, sincere & kind. Ad# 1240

COFFEE & SMILES
Single male, 18, brown hair, green eyes, enjoy dining, dancing, shopping, working out, seeking young lady with very outgoing personality, terrific sense of humour, attractive with a zest for life. Ad# 1241

LONG TERM RELATIONSHIP
Single Jewish gentleman, 37, 5'8", 200, many interests, seeking lady to share the sunshine of love & life. Ad# 1243

CONSERVATIVE MALE
Single male, 5'8", conservative looking, buy, sell & analyze stocks, despite my accomplishments I don't take myself too seriously as you will see when you hear my ad.Ad# 1255

SEMI RETIRED
Single male, 69, well established, very athletic, looking for sincere, honest, caring, female for friendship, possible relationship.Ad# 1034

HAVE NO BAGGAGE
Jewish male, 41, attractive, honest, kind, affectionate, brown hair & eyes, nonsmoker, enjoy movies, dancing, seeking Jewish female, 32-42,petite, attractive. Ad# 1277

Questions ???
416-236-6644

330 OBITUARIES

BENJAMIN'S LANDMARK MONUMENTS
ALL MONUMENTS ARE NOT CREATED EQUAL
BENJAMIN'S LANDMARK MONUMENTS
3429 Bathurst (corner of Melrose)
(416) 780-0635

335 UNVEILING

Yad Vashem Monuments
Because the most important name on a monument is that of your loved one
(not the manufacturer)
3687 Bathurst St.
416-782-8995
Personalizing Memorials For Over 20 Years

TO PLACE AN UNVEILING NOTICE PLEASE CALL AT LEAST 14 DAYS PRIOR TO THE DATE OF THE UNVEILING

338 SHIVA CATERING

KING SOLOMON'S CATERING
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• DELI PLATTERS
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• LIGHT LUNCHES
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Features

'Typical kibbutz' served as front for hidden munitions factory

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

REHOVOT — It looked like a typical kibbutz.

It had a dining hall, living quarters, a chicken coop, cow barn and vegetable garden. It even had a bakery and laundry, which served not only the kibbutz, but nearby communities as well, including Rek Maternity Hospital and the local British police force.

But the apparently normal scene was just a facade for the Ayalon Institute, whose real purpose was to produce ammunition and weapons for the struggle against the British rule over Palestine.

The sole purpose of the kibbutz, in fact, was to hide the munitions factory, which was built seven metres (three stories) underground, and was covered by four metres of dirt. The reason it had to be so deep was that the British had invented very effective mine detectors, which could find metals up to about two metres underground.

Entry to the secret factory was through the laundry and the bakery. In the laundry, for instance, one of the washing machines could be moved out of the way, to reveal a steep staircase down to the 250-square-metre plant.

The tennis court-sized plant held 25 pieces of machinery, smuggled out of Poland, and was staffed by 20 people, as well as eight munitions experts.

For security reasons, only those directly involved in the production of munitions knew what was going on, and worked in the laundry or bakery or in security. The rest of the kibbutz members went on with their daily lives, ignoring, as did the British, the many who came and went.

Members went on with daily lives

(A guide told the story of an unknowing laundry worker who suddenly was confronted with a group of people coming, apparently, out of the floor. She promptly, and understandably, fainted.)

The Palmach, and later the Haganah, got the blueprints for the Sten gun, a new kind of weapon. The Ayalon Institute made ammunition for those guns.

The institute was most active between December 1947 and April 1948, just before the state was established. After that, war materiel was imported from Czechoslovakia and Israel Military Industries took over the local production.

In 1987, the Ayalon Institute was declared a national site. In October 1987, the Ayalon Institute Museum was opened.

A visitor to the site begins the tour in the museum where there is a film describing the history of the institute. There are also exhibits that show the manufacturing process.

Guided tours of the site include the restored laundry and bakery. Tourists can watch the secret entrances being opened, and make their way down the steep steps to the plant.

Outside there is a compound filled with clotheslines hung with washing, just as it would have been in 1947.

The museum is between Nes Ziona and Rehovot, off the highway between Rehovot and Rishon Lezion.

Visiting hours are Sunday through Thursday, 8:30 to 4 p.m.; Friday, 8:30 to noon, and Saturday 9 am until 4 p.m.

Leila Speisman visited Israel on the United Israel Appeal of Canada Mission of Discovery, marking Israel at 50.

'We can play a very real role in Israel'

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

When I was offered the chance to accompany the United Israel Appeal (UIA) Mission of Discovery that would take me to Israel for the 50th anniversary celebrations, my first thought was of all the difficulties I would have to overcome.

There was, however, one overriding reason to go: Israel was marking 50 years as a modern state. And that would never happen again.

I'm glad I went. The experience of visiting a country where being Jewish is natural, where the flag over government buildings has a Magen David, where problems of national concern are discussed in the language of the Bible, where keeping kosher is not much of a difficulty, and where people are celebrating its 50th birthday, is mind-boggling.

Rabbi Berel Wein, a noted historian and speaker, once described Israel as a place "where our grandfathers would have walked barefoot across Europe to get to." And, he added accurately, we take it for granted.

We take it so much for granted that even such a splendid occasion couldn't hide the very real problems that the country faces.

One expects to see horrific traffic jams on a two-day holiday (Israel marks Yom Hazikaron, memorial day, the day before Yom Ha'atzmaut). One is not even really surprised at heavy security every place.

Security at Ramat Gan stadium, where the major celebration was held, was more than heavy. Not only were attendees' purses and bags searched, but cameras were opened, partly taken apart, and a sample picture taken, just to make quite sure that they really were cameras.

The long lines that resulted gave people time to discuss seriously whether the cherry-picker overlooking the stadium was for the media, for security, for sharpshooters – or for picking cherries.

What I found painful was the bitter divide between the Orthodox and the secular. Few Haredim were visible at the various events, although the *kippah srugah*, the knitted yarmulke of the religious Zionists, was much in evidence.

The secular could be heard insisting there were no Orthodox at any of the celebrations, and the Orthodox were heard complaining that God was left out of the event.

The most publicized evidence of this hostility centred around the Batsheva Dancers' scheduled appearance at the Ramat Gam celebration.

The Batsheva Dancers, one of Israel's foremost dance companies, planned to perform a number in which they would strip to their underwear. The Orthodox objected vociferously, and after frenzied negotiations that continued through the early part of the program, the dancers were told that that dance was unacceptable. The group ostentatiously walked out of the stage area.

No one comes out very positively in the situation. Why did the Batsheva Dancers choose a dance that would be sure to offend a particular group? Why didn't the organizers realize what would happen? Why didn't people realize that such a performance might be inappropriate for what was, after all, an international event?

And why didn't the Orthodox, who mostly stayed away anyway, not realize that objecting so strongly would only make them appear foolish and divisive?

It seems almost trite to refer to the Arab-Israeli question, but that is, after all, one of the biggest difficulties Israel has had to deal with for over 50 years.

We were on a hilltop facing Har Choma, the proposed housing development that is one of the major reasons for the stagnation of the peace process. The two solitudes, Arab activist and right-wing settler, came together – physically if not spiritually.

The Arab, a post-graduate chemistry student at the Hebrew University, spoke bitterly about the humiliation of being searched every time he crossed a Jewish security barricade.

"Why is it acceptable for the Israelis to complain that they need more room for housing, but not for us? My family has lived here for generations," he said.

The settler countered that nobody questioned the Arabs' right to live in Israel, but that Israelis need to feel they won't be in physical danger, in the land promised to them in the Bible.

Ironically, the only point of agreement between the two was their opinion of Yasser Arafat. The settler insisted that he didn't trust the Palestinian leader. The Palestinian shot back, "Who said I do?"

The saddest moment was when the settler, responding to a question from one of the mission participants, said that even if the Arabs fulfilled every promise made during the peace process, he would not trust them. To which the Palestinian, obviously not surprised, asked, "So why should we make any effort at all?"

That is not to say that there were no positive experiences. I was struck by the fact that at the official two minutes of remembrance on Yom Hazikaron when the shrill scream of the air raid sirens pierced the Israeli air, everything went from the cacophany of the regular city life to absolute stillness.

Everything stopped – the buses, the cars, people walking. People got out of their cars to stand in silent respect, others left their offices and shops. The most haunting had to be the young people, obviously either close to army age or just past it, standing with eyes closed, heads dow and fingers nervously twisting.

Other things struck me: the blue jackets of participants of the March of the Living; the leader of the Mission of Discovery blessing his daughter on Friday night; the feeling of camaraderie; Yad Lakashish, a senior citizens centre sponsored by Keren Hayesod; the dinner at Darna Moroccan restaurant, where all the furnishings were brought from Morocco; the Russian olim at Ben-Gurion airport, apprehensively facing their new lives.

Most of all, knowing that through UIA, we in the Diaspora can play a very real role in the exciting adventure that is Israel.

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Barrie Colts' Michael Henrich (in white) fends off defenceman Kyle Flaxey of Owen Sound Platers in a game earlier this season.

Oilers take Henrich in first round of draft

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Toronto-area teenager Michael Henrich has taken an important step en route to joining a rather exclusive – some would call it "tiny" – club of Jewish players in the National Hockey League.

Henrich was drafted in the first round, 13th overall, by the Edmonton Oilers, making him the highest-drafted Jewish player ever.

If he sticks with the Oilers after training camp in September, he will become only the fifth Jewish player in the league. Others who have acknowledged their Jewish roots include Toronto's Mathieu Schneider, Florida's David Nemirovsky, Calgary's Ronnie Stern and Chicago's Steve Dubinsky.

A 6-foot-3, 190-pound right-winger, Henrich had been rated by NHL Central Scouting as the fifth best prospect in North America, but on draft day "his stock fell" somewhat, in the word of TSN commentator Bob McKenzie. With organizations drafting to fill a specific role, teams like Toronto passed on him to take a run at other prospects.

"I kind of anticipated I'd go a little earlier," Henrich admits, "but I didn't fit" with the other teams. "I was rated high, but obviously that meant nothing."

Henrich said he thought Nashville, with the third pick, or Toronto, with the eighth, might draft him, but regardless of the outcome, "it feels pretty good, although the time leading up to [the selection] was nerve-racking."

Michael Henrich

"Wherever you're drafted, you're the team's number 1 pick," he said.

Kevin Prendergast, Edmonton's director of player personnel, said the Oilers' had rated Henrich fourth overall, one behind Nikolai Antropov, the Leafs' top pick.

"Michael's a big, strong kid who can skate and score goals," he said.

Last year with the Barrie Colts, playing on a line with star centre Daniel Tkaczuk, Henrich bulged the twine with 41 goals and was considered an offensive threat. He won MVP honors for the losing team in the Bobby Orr-Don Cherry-coached Prospects Game at Maple Leaf Gardens.

With his size, Henrich has the potential to become that rare commodity coveted by NHL teams – a power forward who can score. Prendergast said that in Henrich's case, the Oilers will probably stick to their policy of allowing young players to return to junior hockey to develop.

"If he comes in and stands on his head, we'll consider [leaving him with the NHL team]... But it's a huge step going to the NHL."

Prendergast said Henrich has to continue to improve his skating and get quicker, since the NHL game is so fast.

That's not a knock against Henrich, who is only 18. It's only a question of his maturing and getting stronger, Prendergast added.

Henrich joins Michael Riesen, last year's first draft pick from Switzerland, as the Oilers' best young prospects on right wing, Prendergast said. "They have to come to camp and show they belong here. There are no free rides."

For Henrich, the amateur draft in Buffalo was the highlight of his hockey career. "When you're young, your dream is to be in the NHL. Now, I'm a step closer," he said.

Accompanied by his agents Mike Barnett and Eddie Mio of the IMG group, Henrich and other prospects travelled to Buffalo a couple of days before the draft. His parents, Jim and Frankie, along with 50 or 60 relatives, friends and well-wishers, comprised a pretty substantial Henrich cheering section.

After Henrich was drafted, McKenzie told a national television audience that the Thornhill native is one of the few Jewish players in the NHL and that he sees himself as a role model for other young Jews.

Henrich wouldn't have put it quite that way. "There are a lot of kids in hockey who are Jewish and whose parents want them to continue their educations and not go into sports where they can get beat up," he said. "I'd like to go out there and play and if people see me as a role model, that's great."

Last summer, Henrich was part of a high-powered lineup of Canadian athletes who won the gold medal in hockey at the Maccabiah Games in Israel. That team was coached by Jacques Demers of the Tampa Bay Lightning,who was impressed by Henrich's work ethic and intensity.

Prior to joining the Colts as a first-round pick in the Ontario Hockey League draft, Henrich starred for Wexford Raiders Midgets. He is also a former student at the Har Zion Hebrew School.

Once he's established in Edmonton, Henrich said, he would be glad to accept invitations from the Jewish community to participate in their events. One advantage of being drafted to the Alberta team is that he's only a few hours away from his aunt and uncle, Steve and Kim Henrich, who live in Calgary, he said.

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The Inside Back

ספרותנו

מאת: יעל זליגר

מביאליק עד אטלס

בכרונולוגיה היצירתית של כתיבת שירי ילדים ניתן להצביע על כמה נושאי-יסוד: שירי טבע, שירי ערש, שירי אופי, שירי משחק ושעשועים, שירי חג ומועד ושירי חוויה. וכך למשל, אם מעיין בקובץ של ח.נ. ביאליק שירים ופזמונות לילדים (הוצאת דביר, תל-אביב,תשט"ו) נמצא שירים שמהותם בתופעות מן הטבע, שירים של שעשוע לילד, שירי ערש, שירי חוויה מעולם הילד ושירים המוקדשים למסורת היהודית. מאז ועד היום, בהמשך התפתחות השירה העברית לילדים, נגלה שאף אצל סופרים ידועים כעמיר-פינקרפלד, ילן-שטקליס, זאב, וגולדברג יש מיגוון נושאים. לא כן בשירי דור הגל החדש. בקרב הסופרים החדשנים, יש צימצום בנושאי השירה לילדים. השמש, הירח, הגן והברכה נעלמים משירתם של גפן, בנימין ואטלס. חל גם שינוי במעמדם של שירי הערש ושירי תג ומועד. וכן, המסר הדידקטי בשירי העבר משתנה לחלוטין, במאמץ ליצור קירבה לעולם הילד.

הניתוח החשוואתי,הסגנוני-לשוני מורכב עוד יותר. מצד אחד, התפיסה (ביאליק) המצדדת בלשון ספרותית גבוהה ומליצית ומצד שני התביעה 'לרדתי ללשונו הטבעית של הילד (אטלס). הסגנון המליצי שואב רבות מן המקורות; 'מעבר לימי (ביאליק) כגאמר "מי יעלה לנו השמימה ויקחה לנו...ונעשנה, ולא מעבר לים היא..." משוררי דור ההמשך השתחררו מלקסיקון המקורות הביאלקי ולשון השירה הותאמה יותר ויותר לדפוסי הדיבור של הילד ויותר מכל הרחיק יהודה אטלס לכת בכיוון זה. לשונו של ביאליק, בדברו אל הילד, רווייה הייתה במילות התנ"ך והתלמוד; אטלס פנה לרובד הסלנג הישראלי על השיבושים הסמנטיים והלשוניים. (בא לי פתאום... מתכנן עליו... והכי מהכול... אניאלא יודע... שלוק... אמא חושבת שהכי העיקר...)

הבעייתיות בשיר המודרני היא כמובן איך לא להיות שיר אך בעצם כן להיות שיר (אחרי הכל, אפילו אטלס, בנוסחן ופיש-נחשון משאירים את החריזה והריתמוס.)

ומכאן, לספרם החדש של יהודה אטלס ודני קרמן, סימן שאני גדול, הד ארצי, ספריית מעריב.

את דרכם היצירתית המשותפת החלו אטלס וקרמן בשנת 1977. מי מאתנו אינו זוכר את "החלונות" של קרמן שהקיפו כל שיר של אטלס בספר הידוע והילד הזה הוא אני ושנועדו לתת לקורא תחושת עיר מלחיצה. גם בספרם החדש, לרעיונות המובאים במלים (אטלס) יש המחשה ציורית (קרמן). בעצם, הפעם דני קרמן העניק לכל שיר שני איורים; בכל עמוד מופיעה שורה שאטלס כותב ובה "סימן" שהילד כבר גדול, וברקע איור גדול בשחור-לבן שבו הילד מצוייר כפי שהיה "פעם" ועד איור צבעוני, שבו הילד כבר "גדול" (נניח עוד כחצי שנה או שנה...)

האתגרים המובאים מחיי הילדים רגיים ומגוונים וכמובן, חלקם משעשעים. הסיטואציות אמינות ומוכרות לכל ילד ולכל הורה.

ובכן הנה כמה מהסימנים "שאני גדול"...

"כשאני כבר לא מתביש לדבר עם אנשים שאני לא מכיר"; כשאני ישן כל הלילה - וקם בבקר יבש"; "כשאני עולה במדרגות - בלי להחזיק במעקה"; "כשאני יותר מלטף ת'יחתולה ופחות מושך לה בזנב"; "כשהצבע בזמן הציור, כבר לא בורח לי מהקוי"; "כשאני פחות אומר 'לא רוצה' ויותר שואל 'למה?'"; "כשאני מתחיל לאהוב יותר חבוקים ופחות נשוקים"; "כשאני נשאר, לפעמים, לישון אצל ילד שאני מכיר"; "כשאני לא רץ תכף להתלונן, כשמישהו צובט לי"; "כשאני מתחיל לאהוב את ל'יג בעומר יותר משאת תג-פורים"; "כשאני יודע שאבא ואמא אוהבים אותי, גם כשהם כועסים."

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GRILLED CHICKEN WITH BLACK BEAN MANGO SALSA
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6 tblsp. olive oil
1/4 cup white wine vinegar
1 1/2 tblsp. grated ginger
1/2 tblsp. coriander
1/2 tblsp. cumin
1 1/2 tblsp. Dijon mustard
fresh ground black pepper to taste
6 skinless, boneless chicken breasts

Blend all ingredients. Place chicken in baking dish; pour all but 2 tblsp. marinade over chicken pieces. Refrigerate chicken and reserved marinade (separately) until ready to cook.

Salsa:
4 cups canned black beans
1 clove garlic minced
3 tblsp. lime juice
1/2 cup chopped red onion
3 diced ripe mangoes
1 cup finely chopped fresh pineapple
1/4 tsp. hot red pepper
salt to taste
1/2 cup washed, chopped fresh cilantro

Remove chicken from marinade and discard leftover marinade in dish. Grill chicken, basting with reserved marinade. Combine all salsa ingredients and mix well. Spread salsa on serving platter and arrange the chicken on top. Decorate with sprigs of cilantro.

About families

Dear Susan,

I was the proud owner of a new car when a burglar decided to steal my airbags and stereo system. Getting this car was a big deal, because after considerable internal struggle, I gave myself permission to buy a luxury car. I now have second thoughts about the wisdom of the decision. Was I wrong to indulge myself, and how can I feel safe again?

Dear Reader,

Being the victim of theft is wrenching enough, but being victimized so shortly after making such a difficult purchase decision is doubly upsetting. Let's deal with each of your issues in turn.

We tend to believe we somehow control everything that happens to us. It is the root of all superstition, and it is most evident when something bad happens after we make a decision about which we feel somewhat guilty or ambivalent.

It is altogether human to feel that being burglarized was somehow the result your having made a bad decision, or that you are being punished for indulging yourself.

It is normal, but it is also completely wrong. Because expensive cars get into fewer accidents, parts for them can be valuable. Thieves therefore burglarize cars like yours to sell the parts to repair shops at a premium. Their decision to burglarize your car had nothing to do with your decision to buy it.

As for your safety concerns, a theft is a violation and it is natural as a result to see the world as more dangerous than it really is. Any victim of theft will feel a heightened sense of insecurity. The world is no more dangerous than before the burglary, but it certainly feels as if it is.

There are some practical steps you can take to safeguard your car. You may want to ask your dealer about available security features. Get an alarm system and keep the volume turned up. Leave your car in a locked garage if possible, and try to park in secure places. You may also want to speak with neighbors and local police about how you can protect yourself against crime in your community.

This is all useful, but it is still natural to feel more fearful now. As long as you understand the source of your feelings, you can protect yourself against becoming overwhelmed by them. Your guilt and fears will dissipate with time.

In the meantime, enjoy your new car.

Susan Leventhal is a family, marital and individual therapist, who has been practising for more than 19 years.

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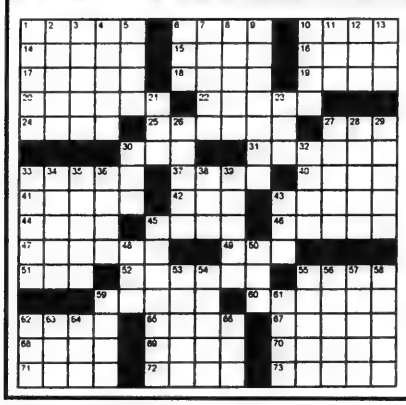


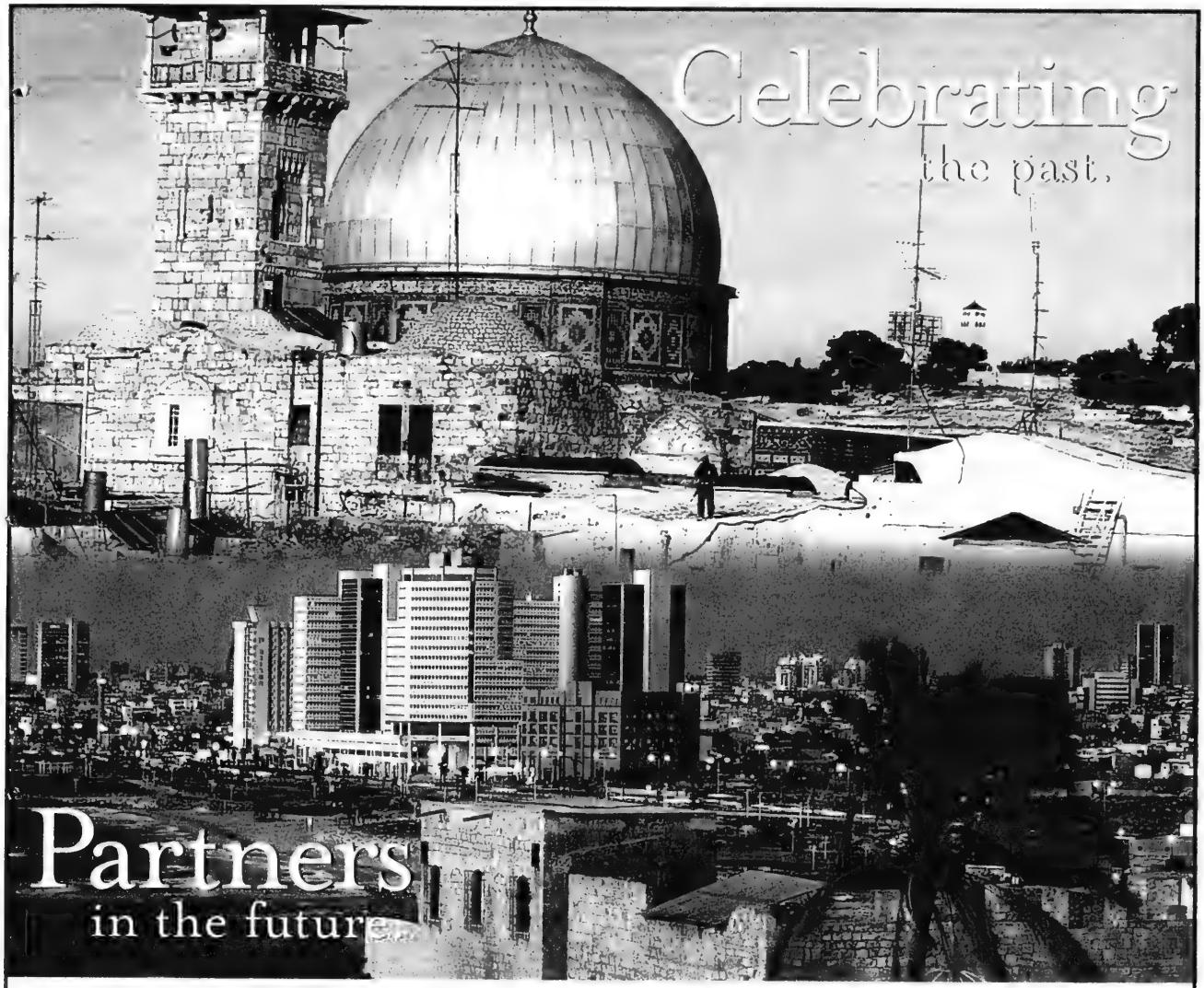
Across

1. Staff
6. Put on Tefilin
10. Composer in the 30's
14. Abram's refuge
15. Part for Peerce
16. King of Judah
17. Yippie Hoffman
18. Curl
19. Bigot's forte
20. Shlufedik (Eng.)
22. in Goray, Singer
24. Shepherd's watch
25. Queen of Shushan
27. Ein gedi
30. Travel club
31. Used his tuches
33. K'tonton
37. Hebrew letters
40. Crest
41. Gabriel and Uriel headgear
42. Top for Gottex
43. Havdalah box
44. Byzantine and Messianic
45. Like the Red Sea?
46. "Lou Grant" star
47. Human
49. Israeli shipping line
51. Supply with Uzis
52. Delilah's dear
55. Emulated Spitz
59. Houdini's act
60. Rabbi Meir
62. 2,101
65. Reform Judaism Org.
67. Comic Kaye
68. Seder plate item
69. "The New Colossus", poetess
70. Bandleader Shaw
71. Transmitted
72. Mount Hermon sometimes?
73. Tightwad

Down

1. Sound of Kristallnacht
2. Seder locale
3. Hatikvah poet
4. Wept
5. Observe Sabbath
6. Jerusalem to Ashkelon (dir.)
7. Prepare Seder bone
8. Duke of Edom
9. Dorothy Parker
10. Actress Madeline
11. Mother (Heb.)
12. Age
13. Haifa to Eilat (dir.)
21. Affirmative
23. Exist
26. Murray lesson
27. Writer Gertrude
28. Shalom
29. JPSA founder, Cyrus
30. King and Arkin
32. Egyptian snakes
33. Prayer starts, "Hear O"
34. Seder bitters
35. Shofar blast
36. Ten tribes?
38. Moe Berg stat
39. Seder bread
43. Writer Levenson
45. Passover perils
48. Yoelson
50. Sopher need
53. Where Zaide went?
54. Fool (Yid.)
55. Puppeteer Lewis
56. Needs
57. "__ Hall" Allen film
58. Mobster Lansky
59. Glove for Johnny Kling
61. Sixth day creation
62. Title for Golda
63. Baseball Berg
64. Jonathan Pollard?
66. Container

These puzzles are the work of Kathi Handler of Waterbury, Connecticut.
(Last week's answers are on page 31.)



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This Week

National

Stay positive: In the Jewish singles scene, there are many ways to meet 'perfect' mate. *Page 3*

Groups express disappointment with Canada's vote in the UN. *Page 5*

On Campus

New projects keep Jewish Campus Services busy over the summer. *Page 24*

Arts

Haunting dreams form the basis of Sandra Silberzweig's swirly, twirly paintings. *Page 28*

Sports

Jewish boxing pioneer inducted into Hall of Fame. *Page 38*

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MAKING A POINT IN KNESSET

This progression of photos shows an emotional Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu as he responds to a heckler last week in the Knesset during his first address on the peace process in almost eight months. Netanyahu was forced to address the full Knesset plenum after the opposition invoked the procedure of obtaining 40 members' signatures compelling him to do so. *[Isranet photos]*

Alleged war criminal named

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A St. Catharines man is facing deportation for allegedly lying to Canadian authorities about his membership in the Austrian Nazi party and in two stormtroop units.

Ludwig Nebel, 88, is alleged to have commanded troops that imprisoned between 200 and 250 Jewish civilians in a barn in Stanislau, Poland and to have turned over the prisoners to the Gestapo the next day. "It is highly probable that these civilians were sent to their deaths in Belzec death camp," government authorities allege.

According to documents released last week by the Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration, Nebel was a gendarme/police officer in Austria when he joined the Nazi Party and the stormtroop Sturmabteilung (SA) on Dec. 1, 1933. At the time membership in those organizations was illegal. On January 1, 1938, Nebel resigned from the SA and joined the Allgemeine-SS, again when it was illegal to do so.

Nebel subsequently "collaborated with the Nazi occupation forces by volunteering for and obtaining the positions of gendarmerie-hauptmannschaftsfuhrer (lieutenant) first in Warsaw and commencing September 1941, in the Stanislau District of Galicia, remaining in this post until 1944.

"While gendarmerie-hauptmannschaftsfuhrer in Stanislau, [Nebel] commanded a 'resettlement action' in the town of Sambor in the Drohobycz District of Galicia" during which the Jewish civilians were imprisoned and turned over to the Gestapo.

Federal authorities allege Nebel, who is not a citizen of Canada, "failed to disclose his membership in the Nazi Party" and his collaboration with Nazi forces. By doing so, he averted further inquiries "which would have led to to his application [to come and remain in Canada] being denied."

Nebel is the 15th man to face deportation for allegedly lying about his wartime role in the Nazi genocide in Europe. He joins Josef Nemsila and Antanas Kenstavicius as alleged war criminals who moved to Canada but who never obtained Canadian citizenship. The

Continued on page 22

Israel will not draft yeshiva students

By GIL SEDAN
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — The Knesset last week defeated two bills aimed at imposing a military draft on haredi yeshiva students.

Military deferments for yeshiva students have become a highly charged issue in the deepening rift between Israel's secular and observant populations.

The deferments were first granted in the early 1950s under the government of David Ben-Gurion. At the time, it applied to some 500 yeshiva students. There are now some 28,000 men between the ages of 18 and 41 who have been granted exemptions after claiming that their only occupation is yeshiva studies.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, whose coalition depends on the support of the religious parties, had opposed the bills, one of which was submitted by opposition leader Ehud Barak.

The bills were defeated as a

Continued on page 26

ON VACATION

Please note there will be no issue of The CJN on July 23. We will resume publication July 30.

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New IDF Chief of Staff takes over — please see page 25

The News in Brief

CANADA

New Funding Plan

CALGARY — A new formula for distributing money raised through the UJA campaign among local agencies has received mixed reviews from communal leaders.

The plan, approved last month, calls for a funding base of nearly $1.35 million for the next three years.

While the plan has been hailed as a step in the right direction, some say it falls short of meeting agencies' requests for stable funding.

Borwein Honored

TORONTO — Bessie Borwein of London, Ont., was awarded the Ontario Medal for Good Citizenship at a recent Queen's Park ceremony.

Borwein, a retired professor at the University of Western Ontario, is a former president of the London branch of the National Council of Jewish Women.

ISRAEL

Canadians Honored

JERUSALEM — Three Canadians were among 45 Jewish leaders from around the world honored here recently with the inaugural Yakir award from Keren Hayesod.

Former Israeli prime ministers Shimon Peres and Yitzhak Shamir were among the award recipients.

The Canadian honorees were Jonathan Berkovitz of Vancouver, Dr. Gerry Halbert of Toronto and Neri Bloomfield of Montreal.

Netanyahu Must Act

JERUSALEM — Two Israeli Cabinet members said it was time for Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to break the impasse in the Middle East peace process. In separate statements, Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai and Trade Minister Natan Sharansky said Netanyahu must decide on an American plan calling for Israel to withdraw from a further 13 percent of the West Bank.

Ties Deepening

JERUSALEM — On an official state visit to Israel, Turkish Foreign Minister Ismail Cem said Turkey has "no intention of sacrificing" its relations with Israel because of pressure from Arab states. The visit is intended to reflect the deepening ties between the two countries.

WORLD

Swiss Call For Boycott

BERN — A right-wing party in Switzerland has called for an immediate boycott of "American and Jewish goods, restaurants and travel destinations."

The request prompted a criminal investigation of Swiss Democratic party leader Rudolf Keller, who called for the boycott.

Shul Rededicated

MOSCOW — The mayor of Moscow, Yuri Luzhkov, joined hundreds of the city's Jews at last week's rededication of a synagogue that was bombed in May. The Marina Roscha Synagogue has been renovated with funds provided by the city of Moscow, local businessmen, foreign communities and hundreds of Muscovites "eager to help with their $2 or $3," according to Berel Lazar, the Lubavitch synagogue's rabbi.

Two people were injured in the presumed neo-Nazi attack, which caused an estimated $100,000 in damage.

Carlos Hires Papon Lawyer

NEW YORK — Carlos, the international terrorist who attacked Jewish targets in the 1970s, has hired the lawyer who represented Vichy collaborator Maurice Papon in the former French official's recent trial.

Athletes Remembered

SYDNEY — Hundreds packed Sydney's Central Synagogue last week for a memorial service to mark the first anniversary of the death of four Australian athletes at last summer's Maccabiah Games.

Community leaders repeated their call for a full Knesset inquiry into the circumstances surrounding the collapse of the bridge leading into the Ramat Gan stadium during the opening ceremonies.

Will Recognize State

PARIS — French leaders plan to recognize a Palestinian state if one is declared at the end of the interim agreement period between Israel and the Palestinians, according to *Ha'aretz* correspondents. *Ha'aretz* said French President Jacques Chirac and Prime Minister Lionel Jospin have agreed to recognize Palestinian statehood in May 1999.

Death Threats Received

GENEVA — Officials at the Israeli Embassy in Switzerland are being targeted by death threats. Police said they would launch an investigation. Members of the Swiss Jewish community have feared an anti-Semitic backlash stemming from the impasse in negotiations between Swiss banks and international Jewish groups for a settlement of Holocaust-era claims.

Reform Rabbis Angry

NEW YORK — The Reform movement's Central Conference of American Rabbis sent Netanyahu a sharply worded letter "demanding" that his government remove proposed conversion legislation from the Knesset agenda.

Israel Honors Non-Jewish Poles

KRAKOW — The Israeli embassy in Warsaw has honored more than 20 non-Jewish Poles for their work to preserve and protect sites of Jewish heritage.

The individuals recognized, who live in towns and cities across the country, were honored for such actions as restoring and documenting abandoned Jewish cemeteries, writing books and pamphlets on local Jewish history, and working to establish Jewish museums.

Israel's ambassador to Poland, Yigal Antebi, handed out framed certificates of appreciation and books about Israel to the honorees at a ceremony here last week, at the conclusion of this city's annual Festival of Jewish Culture.

Among those honored was Janusz Makuch, who founded the Krakow festival in 1988.

The ceremony was well-covered in the Polish media.

But a recent incident showed another face of post-communist Poland. A new memorial to Jewish Holocaust victims in the Polish city of Rzeszow was defaced by anti-Semitic graffiti. City officials have begun to clean the monument.

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In search of the 'perfect' Jewish mate

By STACEY STEIN
Student Intern

'If you sit around doing nothing, you're never going to meet anybody'

TORONTO — Mark Lowenstein (a pseudonym) says he has been on countless dates.

When you ask how many, he sits back in his chair and sighs. "A lot," he says.

Listing of Jewish services *see page 16*

Lowenstein, 36, knows the Jewish singles scene well. Although he has been in a happy relationship for several months, he has been through fix-ups, singles dances and Jewish dating services. He had 30 dates from one dating network alone, he says.

Lowenstein met his current girlfriend through the Jewish Singles Registry.

"It's easy to meet someone, but it's difficult to meet someone special," he says. "Unfortunately, you have to kiss a lot of frogs before finding a princess."

Lowenstein's experiences reflect those of other Jewish singles. Finding a compatible partner within your own culture can be a frustrating process, fraught with disappointment and heartache. There can also be added pressure – both self-imposed and from others – to marry and start a family.

But even though finding the right person can be a long and emotionally draining experience, those who are connected to the Jewish singles scene say it is important to stay positive.

In the Jewish singles scene, there are different kinds of activities for people with varied interests.

"The problem is that being Jewish in itself is not enough of a common bond," says Josh Morris, 38. He adds that going to the wrong event can make someone feel that they're somehow "outside the group of Jews" and they don't fit in.

"There are a lot of different groups," says Morris. "For example, if you're an artsy, well-read kind of cultural person, and you go to a Jewish party at the Berlin discotheque, you're probably not going to find what you want…but you may have something in common with Jews that you could meet another way."

Jewish singles events and services include dating networks that serve a Jewish clientele, such as the Jewish Singles Registry and Soulmates Worldwide Jewish Matchmakers. Or there are singles dances like the Darren, Mark and Ari Present parties, which target the younger crowd.

Some singles feel it is less threatening and more enjoyable to attend educational events such as lectures or Shabbat dinners featuring guest speakers, which offer a chance to meet people and learn more about Judaism or other subjects. Kolel: A centre for liberal Jewish learning offers these kinds of events.

Other events and groups include sports clubs for Jewish singles, and a group where singles convene to play board and card games (Games Jewish Singles Play, led by Mollie Rothman).

Rabbi Elyse Goldstein

But dances and dating services are not for everyone. "At the dances, all it is, is the way you look. You can't really talk to a person," says Morris.

Dating services are particularly attractive to people who work long hours and don't have time to get out to events.

Ruth Friedman, owner of Bringing People Together, says that lawyers and other professionals turn to her because they don't have time to meet people.

Referring to some of her male clientele, she says, "They work from morning to night and they don't have the time to find the right girl, so they come to me and say, 'Here's your $450; find me a wife,' and I find them a wife."

Shayla Gunter, 31, has been active in the singles community for about eight to 10 years. She says that apathy and negativity are widespread in the Jewish singles community.

"A lot of people sit around and wait to be fixed up and then they complain that they're single," says Gunter. "If you sit around doing nothing, you're never going to meet anybody.

"If I had to name the one thing that is most detrimental to singles, it's that there's so much negativity out there," she says. Admitting that sometimes she's guilty of this herself, she says, "People go to events with scowls on their faces or act aloof."

Gunter says that she and one other girl from her group of university friends are the only ones who aren't married.

"We've said we've got to meet some single people so we won't feel so left out, because it does put big pressure on you when you see all of your friends getting married," she says.

Rabbi Elyse Goldstein, director of Kolel, has been active in organizing cultural singles events for several years. She says Jewish culture is not conducive to being single.

"It's difficult to be single in a community that's very child and family centred," Rabbi Goldstein says. "Judaism is particularly family oriented. It's hard to do the holidays on your own. It makes it particularly lonely to be Jewish and single."

Morris says there's a lot of pressure for Jews to marry other Jews because of the community's fear of assimilation.

"There' a lot of pressure to keep the generation going," says Morris. "The Holocaust is also on people's minds and there's a saying about giving Hitler a victory in the bedroom that he didn't have in the concentration camps. When you hear that and it's on your mind, you feel this incredible heavy pressure to keep the Jewish people going and you don't even really know why."

But pressures to meet someone Jewish sometimes become less significant when Jewish singles can't meet anyone within their own culture.

"If you're not meeting anyone, that's where assimilation and intermarriage come from," says Rob Singer, owner of the Jewish Singles Registry in Toronto. "You'll then try other ways to meet and go to other outlets."

Hamilton native Jodi Miller, 28, has been living in Toronto for 2½ years. She is having trouble integrating into the Jewish community. She says she finds it hard to meet and make friends with other Jews, let alone forge an intimate relationship.

Miller, who describes herself as an "alternative" and "artsy" type of person, says, "Nobody does that much outreach for the people who aren't mainstream, and the people who are mainstream don't really need it."

Miller says she has not been successful in meeting Jewish people, and she now thinks that she should not limit herself to looking for a Jewish partner.

"If I met a nice guy and he wasn't Jewish, then I would date him because I'm lonely and I'm not sure right now if there is a Jewish guy out there for me," says Miller.

However, Miller says she's not sure whether she would marry a non-Jew.

"The thought of it kind of breaks my heart," she says. "But the other thought is that maybe that's my bashert, maybe that's just what's meant to be."

While these kinds of sentiments may be becoming more common, some singles point to the whole process as a learning experience and urge others not to give up.

"I used to always wonder when people used to say, 'You just know when you meet the right person,' and now I know," Lowenstein says.

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From the editor's desk

A lightning rod

Israel, more specifically, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, catches most of the blame in the western media for the stalemate in the peace process. Editorial writers seldom restrain themselves when condemning the policies of the Netanyahu government, or conversely, when avoiding condemning the policies of the Palestinian Authority.

The fact that many editorial writers in Israel also severely criticize Netanyahu provides a sort of moral "cover" for western editorialists who appear to delight in writing one-sided and heavily unbalanced opinions against Israel.

Canadians are quite familiar with this editorial approach towards Israel as published, for example, in the pages of Canada's largest daily, the *Toronto Star*, or the national newspaper, the *Globe and Mail*. *The CJN* has, in the past, occasionally pointed out this phenomenon by actually dissecting unfair editorials or articles that have appeared in those publications.

Whether Netanyahu deserves to be criticized is not the issue. Even if we assume, for argument's sake, that some criticism is justified, the lack of criticism by the western media of the Palestinian leadership is glaring.

A case in point occurred merely two weeks ago.

The subject was Jerusalem. Israel had decided to expand Jerusalem's municipal boundaries. The merits of that decision are still being hotly debated among Israelis, let alone among Palestinians. To many Israelis the decision seemed less a political statement about the future of Jerusalem than an attempt to increase the city's municipal tax base, or as some have also alleged, an attempt to ease the way for commercial and residential developers through the regulatory red tape maze.

Yasser Arafat's response however, was outrageous, a clear violation of his commitment to refrain from expressing "hostile propaganda against Israel." Consider the following excerpt of an interview he gave to Al-Jezira television:

"Arafat: The issue of Jerusalem is not just a Palestinian issue. It is a Palestinian, Arab, Islamic and Christian issue.

Q: Can one also say that it is Jewish?

Arafat: No... they consider Hebron to be holier than Jerusalem.

Q: More than the Western Wall?

Arafat: More than the Western Wall ...until now, all the excavations... have failed to prove the location of the Temple... For the sake of Jerusalem, we are tightening our belts to save money for the struggle against this Satan, the Satan of money, the Satan of influence, the Satan of discord, the Satan of the robbery which the government is attempting to commit."

I have seen no editorial comment on this statement by the chairman of the PLO. And yet, such pronouncements go to the very heart of the peace process for Israelis: Arafat's reliability and the nature of the desire for peace on the part of Palestinians.

In discussing Israel, the subject of the peace process is a lightning rod that attracts such live, white-hot electricity that the ensuing discussions usually flare up, even among friends, into fiery storms of accusation and acrimony.

Is the PLO trustworthy? Is Arafat trustworthy? Is Netanyahu deliberately sabotaging the Oslo accords? Do not the accords deserve to be sabotaged? How much territorial concession to the Palestinians is too much? Isn't any territorial concession too much? And so on.

Each question is valid and splinters off into numerous other valid questions. But due to the frequently charged atmosphere of the discussion, these many splintered questions almost always evolve into an angry, emotional exchange of sharp-edged, opinionated shards that cut rather than inform.

The issue of religious pluralism notwithstanding, no subject has been written about more, analyzed more, debated more, or argued-over more in Israel than the peace process.

This is not surprising given the nature of political discourse in Israel, the fierce ideological loyalties that characterize virtually all political institutions there, and the fact that the subject of the peace process does indeed deal with, in the words of Dennis Prager, ultimate issues.

But even midst the different ideologies and the sharp-tongued, divisive debating, two principles are acknowledged as being widely agreed upon by the vast majority of Israelis:

- The peace process must not end.
- But it must lead to security for Israel, even as it leads to self-government for the Palestinians.

Of course, more questions fall out from the second principle. For example: What constitutes true security? What is the maximum form of self-government for the Palestinians compatible with security for Israel? What is the minimum form of self-government acceptable to the Palestinians? Can Israel's maximum be reconciled with the Palestinians' minimum? And so on... again.

The questions are many and they are all valid.

We are all disappointed that the peace process is stagnating and appears to be at a potentially dangerous stalemate. Indeed, we all fear the spiral of distrust, accusation, recrimination, and the possibility of a descent into violence.

But anyone who condemns only Israel as being responsible for the stalemate simply ignores the truth. For any relationship to flourish, however, and especially one so tenuous as the foundering lines between Israelis and Palestinians, it must be built upon truth. *MBD*

Israel's Jubilee 50 — *from the archives*

LEARNING AN ANCIENT/NEW LANGUAGE

Olim prior to their departure for Israel study Hebrew at the Archipova synagogue in Moscow, May 1990.

[Keren Hayesod – UIA Communications photo]

* * *

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Greater Toronto Area

Canada slammed for backing UN resolution

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Canada is in danger of undermining its own credibility as a Mideast facilitator with its support of the July 7 resolution in the United Nations upgrading the status of the Palestinian delegation.

The accusation came last week from the Canada-Israel Committee (CIC), which expressed its "disapproval" at Canada's support of the resolution.

The vote giving Palestinians additional rights at the UN violates the spirit of the Oslo accords, charged CIC national chair Brian Morris in a statement.

Canada was among 124 nations that supported the resolution giving the UN's Palestinian delegation additional privileges as an observer. Only the Pacific Ocean nations of Micronesia and the Marshall Islands joined the United States and Israel to oppose the resolution. Ten countries abstained.

The proposal, sponsored by 22 mostly Arab states, was introduced last December, but deferred for further study. It does not grant Palestinians voting rights or the power to nominate candidates for UN posts.

But it does allow the Palestinian delegation to participate in the General Assembly's sessions and debates, co-sponsor resolutions related to the Middle East, and occupy six seats in the General Assembly chamber in front of Switzerland and the Vatican, two states with observer status.

Canada voted for the resolution "because we believe that it will permit the Palestinian delegation to better participate in the work of the United Nations," Robert Fowler, Canada's ambassador to the UN, explained in a statement.

Canada's support of the resolution does not change its policy on Palestinian statehood, Fowler added. It's been Canada's position that statehood is a matter to be determined through direct, bilateral negotiations between Israel and the Palestinians.

The CIC feels Canada's traditional evenhandedness on the Middle East may now be compromised.

The Oslo accords are premised on Israel and the Palestinians working out their differences through direct, bilateral negotiations. By passing this resolution before the conclusion of those negotiations, the UN is in danger of "prejudging a critical dimension of the Olso process," the CIC says.

And by "rewarding" the Palestinians with new privileges, at a time when the Palestinian Authority has not lived up to provisions in the peace accords, the UN is sending the wrong signal and is "undermining" its ability to act constructively, the CIC adds.

In a statement, B'nai Brith Canada (BBC) president Dr. Lawrence Hart said his organization is "very disappointed" with the resolution.

"In conferring these privileges, the UN has once again made clear the outcome which it seeks to the peace process and its commitment to undermine the principle of bilateral negotiations as stipulated in the Oslo accords," BBC added.

In Israel, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said of the resolution: "They achieved certain improvements, which are far from what they had wanted."

Israel's ambassador to the United Nations, Dore Gold, called the resolution's passage an "empty success" for the Palestinians.

In last December's original draft, the Palestinians had pushed for an upgraded status closer to statehood.

Gold credited pressure from the United States and the European Union, which this time voted for the resolution, in curtailing some of the Palestinians' demands.

He stressed that the Palestinian delegation retains its status as an observer mission, which was first granted to the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) in 1974.

The PLO's status was changed in 1988 when the General Assembly voted to designate the PLO as "Palestine."

"There has been a change in small technicalities," Gold said, "and that's all."

Among the privileges the Palestinians had sought but did not get was the right to sponsor draft resolutions on their own.

– With files from JTA

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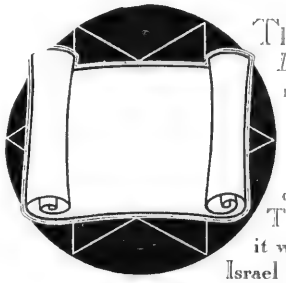

The Community is invited to visit *Lawrence Square* and to add their personal message to the State of Israel on their 50th Anniversary. A special display, in the form of a giant scroll, will be set up in the mall and visitors can simply sign in or write a brief note of good wishes. The scroll will be moved to the CNE where it will be presented to the Consul General of Israel in Toronto in the *Israel at Fifty* Pavilion.

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Yachad allows young abled, disabled to mix and mingle

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

Yachad adviser Shmuel Stern, left, and Yachad member Racheli Feinstat enjoy participating in events like volleyball.

TORONTO — Don't call Shoshie Lockshin a Yachad volunteer. The 17-year-old Ulpanat Orot student is *active* in Yachad, a division of National Conference of Synagogue Youth (NCSY) that integrates developmentally disabled young people with their non-disabled counterparts.

Lockshin and Odelia Benabou – an OAC student at York Mills Collegiate Institute – are as much a part of the program as members with disabilities, explained Galya Ouanounou, Yachad's program coordinator, in an interview at her home.

Benabou, who learned of Yachad through NCSY's Hebrew Culture Club at her school, is Yachad's high school coordinator. "I was so impressed with what Yachad does, I thought I'd like to help out," she said.

For programs like barbeques, bowling, Chanukah parties and Shabbatons, there are usually 20 to 45 people, half of whom are disabled, said Ouanounou. University-age students act as advisers.

On Wednesday nights, a Jewish educational program is held at NCSY. A number of Lockshin's fellow students at Ulpana take part on a rotating basis in one-on-one or small group learning.

"We discuss holidays that are coming up," said Lockshin. "We might discuss a certain mitzvah together. Everyone's on really different levels.

"I get a lot out of it. I'm learning how to interact with different people. It increases one's sensitivity to all kinds of people. And you're also having a lot of fun. It's not just for [the developmentally disabled participants]. It's for you too. It can be a very enriching experience."

Adviser Shmuel Stern, a 21-year-old psychology student at York University, became involved with Yachad in preparation for a job as a camp counsellor for children with special needs.

At first he felt awkward around the disabled participants, but he soon found that "really they're just people like everyone else."

One of the reasons disabled members are so excited about the program, said Ouanounou, is that they want to have "regular" (non-disabled) friends.

Racheli Feinstat, 11, shyly admitted how much she likes Stern, and said that even if he has a girlfriend, they can still be friends. Racheli is in a class for developmentally delayed children at Wilshire Elementary School in Thornhill.

She is in the junior Yachad program, which began only in the past year. The more established senior program serves members from ages 16 to 35. NCSY itself is geared to high school students.

For the Feinstat family, Yachad plays a special role, explained Racheli's mother Dvorah. It is "a good social opportunity and link to Judaism," filling a gap created when an Orthodox student like Racheli attends public school with a majority of non-Orthodox peers. (Non-kosher parties, for example, pose a problem.)

Yachad provides a positive Jewish environment, noted Dvorah. Racheli is very enthusiastic about it, her mother said.

"More people should go," said Racheli.

Although Yachad, NCSY and the New York-based National Jewish Council for the Disabled (of which Yachad in the United States is a division) fall under the umbrella of the Orthodox Union, most of the people in Yachad are not Orthodox, said Ouanounou.

Yarchi Kallah planned

TORONTO — Emunah Women of Toronto is joining Nishmat in organizing the fourth annual Yarchei Kallah.

The three-day program of intensive Torah study is designed for women of all educational backgrounds, levels and ages.

Each day's study will consist of two sessions during which participants prepare source material in partnered (chavrutah) study. This is followed by a seminar led by Rabbanit Chana Henkin, founder and director of Nishmat, the Jerusalem Centre for Advanced Jewish Study for Women. All texts are provided in English and Hebrew.

This year's topic is Faith in a Time of Suffering: The Book of Daniel and Writings from The Holocaust.

On July 29, at Or Chaim, there will be a lecture for men and women on The Song of Songs.

"As interesting as the previous Yarchei Kallahs were, I think that this one is going to be the absolute best," Henkin says.

She founded Nishmat eight years ago as a centre for Jewish learning that placed no limits on women's study of Jewish texts.

Today, it has over 400 students including Russians and Ethiopians, studying from beginners to advanced levels.

The program will be held at Or Chaim Yeshiva, 159 Almore Dr., July 28 to 30.

For more information, call Emunah Women, 636-0036, Esther Sacknowitz, 789-4883 or Rebecca Rotenberg Nadler, 488-8502.

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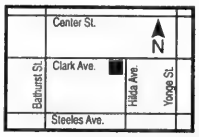

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Auschwitz convent issue not dead yet: CJC

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Jews must resist the efforts being made by supporters of Carmelite Nuns in Poland to restore a convent at Auschwitz. Jews must also resist attempts to prevent the removal of a cross from a nearby burial pit that contains the remains of Jewish victims.

These warnings came from Nate Leipciger, chair of the Canadian Jewish Congress' (CJC) Holocaust Remembrance Committee and a former inmate of Auschwitz-Birkenau. He visited the notorious camp in February with the March of the Living, and saw a sign demanding the relocation of the convent to the former camp.

"The Polish government and the Catholic Church are quite firm that this issue has been resolved. However, there are some groups that do not accept the relocation as a resolved issue," Leipciger's report said.

The convent was erected on the perimeter of the infamous camp in the early 1980s, and was the scene of protests by Jews in 1989. It was ordered moved by the Polish government upon an agreement with the World Jewish Congress (WJC) after a lengthy dispute between the WJC and the Carmelite Order.

Leipciger told the meeting that "a group known as the Defenders of the Friars and Sisters of Auschwitz have put up signs in Polish and English which read: 'We have entrusted this site of our sisters' and brothers' martyrdom to the care and prayers of the Carmelite Nuns. Let us pray for the return of the Carmelite Nuns to their convent that they had to leave. Allow them – at this very place – to say their prayers for reconciliation between the Jewish and Polish people for saving mankind from the threat of another tragedy.'"

Leipciger, who is the CJC delegate to the International Council on Auschwitz, also advised the meeting that the Carmelite Nuns have decided to transfer to the Polish government the property just outside the camp on which the former convent stood. He characterized this development as positive.

But still left unanswered was the question of when, and if, the State Museum of Auschwitz will be given ownership and jurisdiction over the property, he said.

This is important, he explained, because a cross and its accompanying 14 stations (corresponding to the number of stations along the route Jesus is said to have followed to Calvary) are still located at the site of a burial pit on the grounds of the former convent that includes the remains of many Jewish as well as Polish victims.

NOI leader criticized

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Spokespeople for the Anglican and United churches have added their voices to those criticizing Nation of Islam leader Don Muhammad for remarks they say encourage discord and bigotry.

"I was distressed to learn of anti-Semitic and homophobic statements recently attributed to Mr. Muhammad of the Nation of Islam (NOI) congregation of Toronto," said Right Rev. Joachim Fricker of the Anglican Church of Canada.

"Canadians are trying to build a society in which all of its members are accorded respect and dignity. Inflammatory remarks such as these can only serve to encourage the racists and bigots among us and strain relations between different groups in our community," said Rev. Fricker, who was speaking on behalf of Toronto Anglican bishops.

"We are saddened by comments attributed to a NOI minister," said United Church spokespeople Rev. Peter Wyatt and Rev. Bruce Gregersen in a joint statement. "We do not believe that any group should seek its place in our society by denigrating or defaming other groups. In particular, we deplore the assertions reportedly made by Don Muhammad that Jews enrich themselves through funding the wars of the nations and that it is doubtful whether six million Jews died in the Holocaust. Such statements fuel the fires of anti-Semitism and in doing so, they undermine the confidence and peace of Jewish people in Canada."

The comments came in the wake of a request by Canadian Jewish Congress that the churches address remarks reportedly made by Muhammad before 50 supporters in the NOI's new midtown mosque. Congress has also urged the Toronto police hate crimes unit to charge Muhammad with promoting hate.

Muhammad's speech was originally reported in *NOW*, a weekly news and entertainment publication. *NOW* reported that Muhammad questioned the Holocaust, said rich Jews promote wars to enrich themselves and suggested that gay TV star Ellen DeGeneres represents part of the danger facing black people.

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Ominous warnings

The General Security Service of Israel (GSS), acronymically known in Israel as the Shin Bet, annually publishes an assessment of internal threats to the the country's security. Most of the document is not disclosed to the public. Indeed it is not even disclosed to the full cabinet, but rather only to the prime minister and to top security officials.

There are reports that this year for the first time ever, the GSS has issued a warning against the possibility of violence against individuals and public institutions at the hands of Jewish extremists.

Writing in *Ha'aretz*, Ze'ev Schiff noted starkly and ominously: "The GSS mentions a possibility that extremist groups within Israeli society are liable to engage in grave acts of violence, including the use of firearms. Armed clashes are liable to develop between extremist elements and the government of Israel, and also between various groups within Israel. The report is not alluding to a civil war, but rather the possibility of armed violence taking place within Israeli society. All of this is related to, or stems from, various developments in the diplomatic process and the rift within Israeli society that is liable to result from it."

Schiff's report of the GSS assessment cannot be dismissed as alarmist; although it must indeed be seen as terribly alarming.

The peace process, or in Schiff 's words, the "diplomatic process," must inevitably require further territorial compromise by Israel if it is to result in a true, long-lasting peace.

When it arrives, that day will be bittersweet for the entire people. It will stir hopes and anxieties in the deepest part of the national soul. For most, it will be a cause for celebration; for some it will be a cause for mourning. But for everyone, it will be a day that tests national values and the collective moral will to move forward as a free, democratic, united people towards a purpose and a destiny ordained by God, articulated by our ancient prophets and affirmed time and again by the heroic efforts of modern visionaries and idealistic pioneers.

When that historic day arrives, will the forces opposed to territorial compromise submit to the rule of law? Or will they seek exemption from the collective national will and from the law's reach. Will they claim allegiance only to a "higher" law, only to a "higher" authority?

We have already witnessed the horrible examples of individuals seeking such an exemption, previously unimaginable but now, sadly, no longer so.

Almost four years ago on the pavement of Tel Aviv on a Saturday night, Yigal Amir slaughtered the prime minister of Israel. Before him, there was Baruch Goldstein.

There are other examples, less extreme thus far, of this attitude of exemption. Threats have already been uttered by some people against any attempt to return settlements in the territories.

Schiff writes about it in the following way in his report in *Ha'aretz:* "The next withdrawal, more so than the previous withdrawals, is liable to be even more painful because it will cut away at the living flesh of the Israeli settlements. Some will become isolated and will be at risk in the event that the conflict with the Palestinians is not resolved. If the negotiations continue and the sides reach the permanent settlement phase, Israel will have to decide which settlements to uproot and transfer, or... to leave, in territory controlled by the Palestinians."

Then, there is the matter of Jerusalem. This, of course, will be the most difficult of all difficulties in the final negotiations.

"If a prime minister was once killed for this reason," Schiff notes, [to prevent an agreement with the Palestinians that includes territorial compromise], it seems fairly obvious that the danger is still with us, perhaps in an even more virulent strain. This is the background to the recent evaluation by the Shin Bet."

We must do our utmost, all of us in the Diaspora as well as in Israel to ensure that "the danger within us" never materializes.

WISDOM OF THE AGES
"To pull a friend out of the mud, don't hesitate to get dirty."
Baal Shem Tov

Dry Bones

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Reader describes another incident

After reading Guest Voices (*CJN*, July 2), I was reminded of an incident on a crowded bus during the rush hour.

A man insisted on a free ride. He and the driver were arguing and the passengers became impatient. Another passenger produced a ticket. I heard him say to the driver, "You Jew."

As he passed me, I asked him why he called the driver a Jew. He looked at me and asked, "Are you one of them?"

My answer was, "I am proud to be one of them."

A man behind me told him to apologize. "This is a lady," he said.

I was grateful to have the freedom to maintain my dignity.

I was the only Jew in the bus and I had no hesitation to speak out.

Mollie Posen
Toronto

Says Congress offers knee-jerk reaction

With a knee-jerk reaction (to statements made by the Nation of Islam), a spokesperson for the Canadian Jewish Congress has risen to the bait, with the usual verbal fertilizer about "being taken by surprise," hate crime legislation and "destroying important links fostered between Jews and blacks."

Ah, the joys of multiculturalism ... and the trials of unsolicited patrons of "visible and vulnerable" minority groups.

N. Roth
Toronto

Beth Tzedec co-sponsored visit of Israeli veterans

Each year, a different synagogue co-sponsors the visit of disabled Israeli veterans, together with Beit Halochem Canada (*CJN*, June 25). This year's visit was co-sponsored by Beth Tzedec Synagogue which donated half of the funds for the visit and was responsible for working with Beit Halochem Canada in the planning and implementation of the two-week visit, as well as providing several host and co-host families and many volunteers.

It was a great honor and privilege to be the hosting synagogue this year and to be given the opportunity to spend two weeks with an incredible group of men.

Ruth Margles
Irving Green
Beth Tzedec Co-Chairs

Edy Braun deserves credit for action at U of T

Re: article on the *New Edition* incident (*CJN*, June 25).

I believe it is important to give kudos to Edy Braun. Braun is credited with discovering the article and posting it on the Internet. He was also the first to begin sending the article to Jewish organizations.

Were it not for Braun's efforts, the Jewish community would have never learned of the virulently anti-Semitic article in *New Edition.*

Mandy Primack
Toronto

Feels anger against abuse of children and parents

Re: Guest Voices (*CJN*, July 2) by Sidura Ludwig.

I was very moved and upset by Ludwig's account of her experience witnessing an incident of child abuse on the subway. I commend her for her sensitivity and bravery in handling the situation.

As a retired social worker, mother, grandmother and concerned citizen, I am constantly observing incidents of child abuse in my daily routine in the city, in the supermarkets, on the streets, in the subway – everywhere. I rarely intervene because I am old and feel that it would be counter-productive to challenge someone's behavior.

But I feel very sad and very frustrated that I am so helpless and my heart bleeds for the children as well as the parents. It is not easy being a parent, especially if one is poor, unemployed, single, abused, which I am sure most of these abusive parents are. Our system certainly fails these people miserably. However I am heartened by the Ludwigs of this world who try to do something to help. Keep it up!

Zelda Harris
Toronto

Correction

The CJN *substituted unwillingly for unwittingly in Susan Steinberg's letter, "A Different View of Spirituality Conference" (CJN, June 25). We apologize for the error.*

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures. Letters sent by E-Mail must also include the sender's municipal address.

Perspectives

Seymour Mayne: a modernist bard

By TIBOR KRAUSZ

For Seymour Mayne, crossing the street used to be a risky business, and even today it continues to carry more than the usual hazard. Yet, it wasn't cars he had to fear most, but – of all things – an onslaught of rhymes, cadences and phrases. Come a poetic seizure, he might veer off the sidewalk and risk being run over. Now, with a notebook always at hand, he will carry the poem across the road, jot it down and be on his way again, safe and sound.

"Once a poem came at me, I didn't realize I was walking across the street until I saw a car bearing down on me. It was a choice of either completing the poem or saving my life. I decided to do the proper Jewish thing: save my life first and finish the poem afterwards. I may have lost a line or two, though," he laughs.

Mayne is one of Canada's pre-eminent contemporary Jewish poets, who also doubles as translator, editor and critic. Though he is still in his early 50s, his career spans four decades and his literary legacy contains over 40 volumes of verse and prose, including *The Impossible Promised Land* (1981), *Children of Abel* (1986), and *The Song of Moses* (1995). He has just published *Dragon Trees*, a chap-book of new poems, and he is poised to add another collection, *Carbon Filter: Poems in Dedication*, to his literary credits.

As an editor, Mayne's portfolio contains numerous translations and a dozen anthologies, including *Essential Words* (1985), a definitive anthology of Canadian Jewish poetry.

"Poetry, like bread, is for everyone," read the words in a poster on Mayne's office door at the University of Ottawa, where he has been a professor of literature since 1973. Hugging the walls in his office from floor to ceiling are book-laden shelves, with titles on English verse rubbing volumes of Jewish poetry and prose – ancient, medieval, modern.

This kaleidoscope of influences fits well into Mayne's melange of poetic themes. Mayne is your modernist bard of the great Jewish epic. No aspect of Jewish history and life seems to leave his creative nerve untouched. The patriarchs, the Judean Desert, the Great Synagogue of medieval Toledo, the use of male gender in references to God – you name it.

"To me [being Jewish] is just as natural as breathing, and just as writers from other backgrounds write about their experience, I write about my own. My experience includes the Torah, the Sabbath, the misplacing of my tallit in the Yom Kippur service," says Mayne, who sports a grizzled beard, has the delicate hands of a pen-wielder, and looks the part of litterateur to perfection: calm, collected, contemplative.

Yet he sees the sum of Jewish history as greater than its parts and professes to live out his Jewishness as a personal as well as a collective experience. His verse interlaces the scriptural past with the present, emphasizing a sense of ethno-religious continuity that resonates through the ages and finds an echo in Jewish lives today.

His Bible-inspired dramatic monologues find their sea legs in the cyclic patterns of Jewish life. Take the poem *Down Here* from *The Song of Moses*. The Israelites take to worshipping the Golden Calf "down here," even as Moses receives the Ten Commandments up on Mount Sinai. "We needed something to hold aloft against the desert night," justifies the narrator, himself a fallen, the people's choice of palpable Baal over the invisible God with contemporary implications written all over the lines.

In writing poetry, however, Mayne sets out to convey, not messages ("If you have a message, don't write poems. Send a telegraph."), but impressions, and lots. His style is the improvisation of design and Mayne exerts intense control over his verse. His poems' sustained kinetic energy has their images leap off the page, montaging the black-and-white two-dimensional world of words with the three-dimensional realm of sensations relayed in technicolor. Mayne attributes his penchant for vivid poetic imagery to his onetime dalliances with painting and drawing. That, and his background.

Seymour Mayne

Mayne's formative years were a petri dish of Montreal Jewish Canadiana, circa 1960. Born in 1944 to eastern European immigrant parents, he grew up in Montreal's predominantly Jewish Cartier neighborhood. The Yiddish he heard spoken everywhere, he says, had a melodic richness that filled him very early on with a restless desire to write. He wrote his first poem before his bar mitzvah, drawing on themes in his Haftorah from the Book of Jeremiah, and the pen-happy poet has knocked off "a poem or two" daily ever since. Mayne writes not for posterity but for immediate use.

"The key thing I hope to have achieved [as a poet] is to take the elements of my Jewish identity and religious life and point out that Judaism is not something exotic and mysterious. Even if you think and write Jewish, you need not feel ghettoized in content to remain part of the cultural mainstream."

Mayne is an impassioned apologist for Jewish literature – Jewish, not for its author, but for its content. Jewish literature should help anchor Diaspora Jews adrift in their heritage to their roots, acting as a line of defence against a perceived sea change of assimilation, Mayne contends.

"If more artists and writers were more literate as Jews, it would not only make their own art richer, but also perhaps help Jews understand themselves and the nature of their experience better through finding in poems or novels a reflection of their own concerns and struggles," he says.

Yet Mayne has the same concerns as his less Jewishly-conscious counterparts in the Diaspora. The increasing radicalization of Israeli politics is one. "In classic Zionist ideology, Israel is supposed, not only to represent a return to power from powerlessness, but also to act as the spiritual centre of the Jewish world. But for Israel to become the centre, it must do so for all Jews and must remain open to the plurality of visions in Judaism.

"I don't think Herzl or Ben-Gurion ever had in mind a time when we're asking the question not only who is a Jew but who will be a rabbi," he says.

Diversity enriches life, and in his own observance Mayne practises the plurality he preaches: he belongs to an egalitarian Conservative, a liberal Orthodox and a chassidic Orthodox synagogue. "But I don't like the labels," he asserts. "I don't believe I'd have to be exclusively one or the other, or that ritual observance is the only yardstick for measuring one's Jewish identity. There are other ethical dimensions that define the form and content of your life and are no less important in the full gamut of being a Jew than keeping the Sabbath."

While in Israel, not even the unobservant need justify being Jewish beyond living there, but in the Diaspora, Jews have to make an effort to stay ethnically afloat, he says. But the situation may not get as bad as some predict, he believes. "We Jews are surprising people because no sooner do we sound the alarm that doom is around the corner through assimilation and intermarriage than we change course. We're an inventive people and I hope that whatever is ahead for us will in the long run lead to a renewed interest in Judaism, not to further assimilation," he says.

Though he has many inspirations in the Diaspora, Mayne's own ultimate muse is Jerusalem, where he keeps returning as if home. Two years in Jerusalem starting in 1979, and Mayne emerged a changed poet: he roamed the city and taught, wrote, communed with the prophets of old, and thought. Out of that relationship with the City of David have evolved many of his most intimate eulogies and more than half of his poems over the past two decades.

"As Isaac Bashevis Singer said, the moment you step off the plane in Tel Aviv, you feel the need to write. Israel for me is a place where I can pick poems off the trees. And Jerusalem especially has this tremendous cultural and human energy, with thousands of stories to be told and being told there every day.

Partly because of his affinity to Jerusalem, Israeli critic Shmuel Shatal calls Mayne "the Canadian Jewish Israeli poet," placing his work within the context of contemporary Hebrew literature. Mayne has four selections of poems out in Hebrew, and his forthcoming fifth collection, *City of the Hidden*, translated by senior Israeli poet Moshe Dor, is slated to hit storeshelves in Israel later this year.

Besides Hebrew, Mayne's verse has been translated into Polish, Russian, Yiddish and a handful of other languages. He has in turn translated poetry by Jewish authors from Hebrew, Russian and Polish, and his renderings from the Yiddish of poems by Abraham Sutzkever, Rachel Korn and Melech Ravitch have fetched him an American Literary Translators Association Award.

But Mayne's efforts at propagating Jewish literature in Canada don't end at translations. He has also helped establish a series of periodicals (including *Parchment*, a national journal of contemporary Jewish writing) and printing presses in Vancouver, Montreal and Oakville to propagate the works of new talents and forgotten authors.

Tibor Krausz is a writer living in Ottawa.

THE CHILDREN OF ABEL

The children of Abel -
where are they?

His children's children?
great-great grandchildren?

All under a simple stone
Forgotten for millennia

And crying out
on nights like this –
the clamour of their
innumerable voices
amplifying and growing
unbearably louder and louder

The children of Abel –
where are they?

by Seymour Mayne

Opinions

Much ado about Weizman

By Shira Herzog in Toronto

What was it about President Ezer Weizman that rubbed Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu the wrong way two weeks ago? In the view of many on both the left and right, Weizman's blatant criticism of Netanyahu's handling of the peace talks with the Palestinians, and more importantly, his public call for early elections, crossed a red line both personally and professionally.

There has been no love lost between the two men for some time. On several occasions in the two years since Netanyahu's election, Weizman has been critical of the government's pace and positions on the peace issue. In one of his more colorful comments a few months ago, Weizman urged U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright to "bang Netanyahu's and Arafat's heads together" in order to break the stalemate.

This time, Weizman felt betrayed after Netanyahu had promised an imminent statement on the redeployment in early June. Since then, Weizman said, nothing had happened, and to make matters worse, Netanyahu had not returned his phone calls. A few days before his public call for early elections, Weizman told a visiting delegation from the Labor party that the "hope has been removed from the peace process."

Like all Israeli presidents, Weizman has worked hard to earn the respect of all sectors. His support for peace with Israel's Arab neighbors has been consistent, dating back to the mid-'70s and the aftermath of the Yom Kippur War. Along with Moshe Dayan, he supported the Camp David accords, and he later resigned from the Begin government in protest over the lack of progress in the autonomy negotiations. While Weizman was elected president as the "Labor" candidate (presidential candidates are put forward by the parties and elected by the Knesset), his political career has been checkered, and has been marked by a commitment to the peace process rather than a consistent partisan position. In fact, his only cabinet posts were in the Begin government.

Indeed, in his first term as president, it was Weizman who urged the Rabin government to slow down the pace of talks with the Palestinians after the first wave of suicide bombings that caused the deaths of scores of Israelis. At the time, Rabin felt undermined by the president, and the Likud opposition supported Weizman's criticism of the elected government.

Some observers believe that Weizman is no more than a barometer of the people's knee-jerk, emotional reaction at any given moment, but others see his comments as a deeper reflection of the vox populi – the people's voice. After all, Weizman is an extremely popular president. He has gained enormous support through his consistent support of families who have lost loved ones in action or terrorist attacks, and has visited every family so affected during his term.

Weizman's comments should not be dismissed, since they probably do reflect an existing undercurrent in public opinion. But the more significant debate is over the role of the president vis-à-vis the executive branch – the prime minister and his government. Israel's president is officially the head of state, but the powers of the office are limited and the president is barred from intervening in political matters.

In the past, before direct elections of the prime minister were instituted, the president played a key role in the aftermath of a national election, when it was up to him to offer a chance at forming – and leading– a government to the leader of the party most likely to do so. With Labor and Likud running at a virtual draw in the 1980s, then president Chaim Herzog played a critical role in the formation of the two national unity governments. In the new system, the president's role is diminished, and Weizman has looked for other ways to maintain his influence and voice as a political alter-ego.

But even with limited powers, the moral sway of the office is substantive. At the height of the current controversy, former president Yitzhak Navon recalled his dilemma in 1982, when it was clear to him, after the Lebanon War, that prime minister Menachem Begin was no longer functioning. Navon hesitated to go public out of respect for Begin's privacy, but in retrospect, he isn't sure that he made the right decision. One year later, Begin ultimately resigned, but the country had been without a functioning prime minister for nearly a year.

Weizman is erratic and mercurial, and shoots from the hip. His outspoken, sometimes abrasive manner has often alienated Israeli and Jewish audiences. But the reaction this time was big because he actually did overstep accepted boundaries. Had Weizman refrained from calling for early elections, Netanyahu himself might not have been any more forgiving, but others, including voices in the opposition, would have been supportive. The call for early elections crossed a professional, if not constitutional line, thereby generating a negative reaction across the board.

Although the two men agreed to disagree in private in the future, the feud is far from over. Like so many situations in politics, the mix of personal pride and policy disagreements is potent and often damaging.

Survey and controversy

By Morton Weinfeld in Montreal

Most readers of this column have heard the famous figure of 52 percent for the mixed marriage rate of American Jews who married between 1985 and 1990. That ominous figure was derived from the data collected in the 1990 National Jewish Population Survey (NJPS) in the United States. It provided the impetus for a myriad of continuity programs throughout North American Jewish communities. American Jews were seemingly on the way to extinction.

After awhile, a number of scholars, led by sociologist Steven M. Cohen, protested that the figure was too high. They argued simply that the percentage was calculated for a population that already included a large number of people of partial Jewish descent, many of whom may have been totally assimilated and in fact not really Jews. Calculating a mixed marriage rate for such a group would inevitably yield a higher percentage. Cohen argued that focusing on people who were or identified themselves (not their ancestry) as Jews would yield an estimate of 41 percent – still high, but perhaps less threatening.

The debate among researchers spilled over into the pages of the popular Jewish press, and included some ad hominem articles in the pages of *Moment* magazine. Feelings were ruffled, and these tensions have not died down fully. Yet plans are moving forward to launch the new National Jewish Population Survey for the year 2000.

According to a report in the *Forward*, the total of the new survey project will be $3.6 million, and this is in American dollars! Now this figure is clearly a maximal one, used, I am sure, to help with fundraising. It includes far more than the field work costs of collecting the information from several thousand American Jews, chosen randomly. It includes, I presume, salaries and other infrastructural costs paid by the Council of Jewish Federations, sponsor of the survey. I am sure it includes consulting costs of years of preparatory work before the survey and also years of analysis once the data are collected.

Still, any way you slice it, it is a fair piece of change for collecting data for one national survey and commissioning extensive analyses of the data. Is it worth it? If not, then the figure of $3.6 million risks being etched into the American Jewish psyche as strongly as the 52 percent figure was 10 years earlier. Only this time, it might signify waste, rather than possibly useful information.

In one sense, American Jews have little choice if they want national benchmark data about trends in Jewish life. The American census provides no useful information about Jews, unlike the situation in Canada where Jews are included in both the religious and ethnic origin questions. One problem for the Americans is that the sample size of a survey may be insufficient to capture the peculiar characteristics of Jewish communities in different cities or regions, or of different subgroups within a very diverse Jewish community.

The data will likely be of little use for planning purposes for most Jewish communities. In any case, these often sponsor their own local surveys. It is interesting to know how trends in Denver or Boston, for example, may compare with national trends. And patterns of geographic mobility from national data can illuminate emerging national problems (such as Jewish seniors moving to Florida). But most decisions about Jewish life will be made on the local level with mainly local data.

It is also not clear if the sampling design will lead to a sufficiently large subsample of some subgroups who may be of interest for all sorts of policy purposes: the ultra-Orthodox, Jewish immigrants from Israel or the Soviet Union, single parents, gays and lesbians, or "Jews by choice." It is within these sorts of subgroups that many challenging questions relating to the Jewish future can be addressed. And national surveys cannot yield the needed, often sensitive, information. (By the way, the Canadian census has similar limitations in the analysis of some of these cultural or lifestyle groups.)

One last point: The 1990 NJPS revealed some interesting differences between the American and Canadian Jewish communities. One was the way in which American analyses ignored the role of Jewish languages. I do not know if the 1990 survey questions at all about knowledge and use of Yiddish and Hebrew. But these items were not at all discussed in the initial publications and analyses of the American data. They were just not considered as particularly important. One hopes that the designers of the NJPS 2000 give the analysis of Jewish languages the attention it deserves.

You were strangers once in land of Egypt

By Rabbi Gunther Plaut in Toronto

I am about to celebrate a bar mitzvah of sorts. Thirteen years ago, it was my privilege to present the Canadian government with a report on how the admission of refugees to Canada could be made fairer, quicker and cheaper. The report received a goodly amount of publicity at the time, and not surprisingly some Jewish people let me know what they thought about it. Even now, so many years afterwards, I remember the shock that I experienced.

These people were Jews, members of the very people who for many decades had difficulty getting into Canada. Yet what I heard in their letters commenting on my report were the same words that others had used about us: "Don't let these people in. They don't fit in our country, they come with a foreign culture and they will take jobs away from good Canadians." At one time all Jews were "them," "the others," and now some of us apply the same epithets to refugees running for their lives. In those days it was the bureaucracy as much as the elected government that did the dirty work – by design, by neglect, by not caring. Unfortunately, these same sentiments exist today as well. Now it is people from Africa and Asia primarily who have difficulty getting their status approved. One man of Turkish background has been here for 10 years without having his case decided. His life meanwhile is in limbo, he cannot work, he cannot do the things that would be of benefit to this country, he is in effect a non-person living nowhere, but existing right next door nonetheless.

In a recent article in the magazine *Refugee Update*, the renowned refugee activist, Dr. Mary Jo Leddy, writes this about him: "There are hundreds, probably thousands of people like him – refugees who have not been rejected by Canada but who have not really been accepted. Refugees who have escaped the hellish realities of their own countries are nevertheless denied the possibility of living fully in Canada. Their lives are put on hold for years as they wait for their "landed" papers.

"Without these papers they cannot enrol in universities or colleges or take any significant training. Classified as "temporary" workers, they are placed at the bottom of any job application process. They cannot even start their own business or take out a bank loan. Many live in anguish knowing that they cannot bring their spouses or children to this country until they are "landed." The waiting can go on for years, and in the process, a whole underclass of people is being created – people separated from their families, vulnerable to exploitation by unscrupulous landlords or employers, young people without any future. The social cost of these people and for the country is enormous. Instead of helping to stand on their own and make a contribution to this country, we have hobbled these refugees, crippled their hope."

Prejudice is an illness that besets us, not the refugees. They have no choice, but we can adjust our habits, our speech and our practices to our true ideals. Says the Torah: "You shall love the stranger, for you were strangers once in the land of Egypt."

The Kirshner File

Anatomy of Germany's anti-Nazi movement

Fifty-four years ago in July, a powerful bomb ripped through Adolf Hitler's headquarters in East Prussia, killing and

By Sheldon Kirshner

maiming several of his colleagues but leaving him practically unscathed.

The attempted assassination, the 15th against Hitler since his accession to power in 1933, was the work of a loose alliance of conservative army officers and civilians. Their mailed fist was Claus Schenk von Stauffenberg, a top-ranking officer who planted the bomb.

The group to which he belonged was part of an amorphous resistance movement whose acolytes differed greatly in their social origins and political orientation.

During the formative years of National Socialism, the resistance was dominated by leftists. But as time went on, only three groups, composed mainly of conservatives and a smattering of socialists, were able to develop a strategy that posed a genuine threat to Hitler, claims Joachim Fest in *Plotting Hitler's Death: The Story of the German Resistance* (Fitzhenry & Whiteside), one of the best books on the subject.

These groups crystallized around Carl Goerdeler, the former mayor of Leipzig; the Kreisau Circle, led by Count Helmuth von Moltke; and elements in the armed forces. They attracted former trade union leaders, businessmen, lawyers, state bureaucrats and church officials, and enjoyed the tacit support of some important people, including Admiral Wilhelm Canaris, head of military intelligence.

Fest, an expert on Hitler and the Nazi era, ascribes their failure to a number of factors. The resistance was fractured into small circles and cells, and it lacked a widely acknowledged central figure whose authority and confidence could draw together all its strands.

The secret police was efficient and brutal, and Hitler had a psychological hold over the majority of Germans. By 1944, the masses had lost much of their faith in, and admiration of, Hitler. Yet they clung to the fatalistic belief that their destiny was bound up with his. As well, the shrill propaganda of the last months of the war, plus the fear of the advancing Red Army, drove them into Hitler's embrace.

There is more. The German penchant for deference to authority played a role, as did the perception that the resistance was betraying the fatherland in its hour of duress. And some Germans believed that the aristocratic members of the resistance were simply trying to win back their privileges, positions and influence.

The Allies, in Fest's words, "simply closed their eyes" to the resisters. If the Allies had even periodically encouraged them, a wedge might have been driven between the Nazi government and the population.

Fest claims that the resistance grew as it became clear that Hitler was leading Germany into armed conflict. Yet World War II was seen as an enormous setback to their cause. The will to resist appeared to evaporate under the impact of the deep, irrational feelings of loyalty that the outbreak of war usually arouses.

As for the failure of the July 1944 conspiracy to murder Hitler, Fest cites such factors as insufficient planning, blind trust in the chain of command and poor coordination among the participants. The bungled uprising not only lacked drive, but the staff officers who had planned it did not have proven commanders at their disposal.

It is also worth noting that not a single officer who had no prior knowledge of the 1944 plot decided to join the rebels on the spur of the moment. Criticism of Hitler and his government had been rampant in the army due to massacres of civilians and battlefield defeats in Eastern Europe. But when the crunch came, the silence was deafening.

The plotters, including Stauffenberg, were animated by a variety of motives. In their interrogations or in their testimony before the People's Court, they emphasized the elimination of civil rights, the arbitrary, dictatorial style of the government and the assault on the churches.

Some of the accused conspirators mentioned the persecution of the Jews as the primary motive for their opposition. One of them, Henning von Treskow, originally an admirer of National Socialism, had witnessed the mass shooting of Polish Jews, and this atrocity jolted him into the belated realization that the "excesses" of the Nazi regime were in fact a true expression of its evil nature.

As Fest suggests, a repugnance of anti-Semitism was not necessarily a reason for opposing Hitler. Arthur Nebe, a senior SS officer, found his way into resistance circles in the late 1930s. Yet later on, he commanded the Einsatzgruppe B, a mobile killing unit which decimated hundreds of thousands of Jews. Unfortunately, Fest does not elaborate upon Nebe's seemingly unfathomable convictions.

By Fest's reckoning, the rebels

Claus Schenk von Stauffenberg

most torn by their dissension were, in the main, motivated by nationalist concerns.

Their dilemma, he writes, stemmed not only from the fact that Hitler shared their nationalism, but that for a while his achievements mirrored their desires. They glowed as Germany annexed Austria and triumphed over France, yet voiced fear of the future. Ulrich von Hassell, the former ambassador to Italy, was such a dissenter. "There is no doubt that if this system emerges victorious, Germany and Europe are headed for terrible times," he wrote in 1940. "But if Germany is defeated, the consequences are simply unimaginable."

Stauffenberg shared this ambivalence, as McGill University historian Peter Hoffmann observes in *Stauffenberg: A Family History, 1905-1944* (Cambridge University Press), a competent account of one of the chief plotters.

Until about 1938, he approved of Hitler's anti-Semitic weltanschauung. One assumes that his support for these policies was tempered by his brother's marriage to Melitta Schiller, whose Russian Jewish grandfather had converted to Christianity at the age of 18.

Stauffenberg seems to have undergone a transformation in 1942, when he was informed of the systematic murder of Jews in the Soviet Union. Upon hearing this news from an officer who had served in the German embassy in Moscow, Stauffenberg said that such crimes were intolerable and that Hitler must be removed.

As the war lurched on, Stauffenberg's disgust with the regime deepened. " I am engaged in treason against the government," he declared. " But those people are committing treason against the country."

Arrested after the abysmal collapse of the 1944 plot, Stauffenberg and his fellow officers were mercilessly interrogated before being executed.

Judging by the comments of the SS officer who witnessed the interrogations, they were clearly disenchanted with the regime."The complete inner alienation from the ideas of National Socialism which characterized the men of the reactionary conspiratorial circle expresses itself above all in their position on the Jewish question," he wrote. "They cling to the liberal position of granting to the Jews in principle the same status as to every German."

In actuality, the brutalization of the Jews did not necessarily prick the conscience of the plotters. But, as Hoffmann intimates, it was a factor in their final and irrevocable disillusionment and breach with Nazi Germany.

Jewish Life

In all the dreams, the hopes, the prophecies, the promises ... I believe." (Ze'ev Jabotinsky)

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Rabbinic Reflections

Kosher criticism has its place

By RABBI CHARLES FREUNDLICH

One of my favorite stories deals with the art of criticism. Once, a Jewish grandmother was walking hand-in-hand along the seashore with her 2-year-old grandson. The little boy was dressed in a sailor suit with hat and tie. Suddenly, the sky became cloudy and the waters became turbulent. A giant wave snatched the little boy from his grandmother and took him out to sea. The grandmother was terrified, but soon began to cry and pray, pleading with God to save her little grandson.

So passionately did she pray that the angels stirred and asked God to perform a miracle. The skies became blue, the water became calm and a slow wave brought the little boy back to shore. The grandmother's eyes filled with tears of joy; she grabbed the little boy and hugged him. Then she put him down and looked to the heavens and cried, "Where's his hat?"

It seems that even God can't please everyone and is subject to criticism. And criticism is very hurtful and makes a person feel small and rejected.

Yet the Torah mandates that we not hate our neighbor in our hearts, but rebuke our neighbor. Nor should we nurture any resentment or seek revenge, but rather love our neighbor as ourselves.

However, rebuking our neighbor and dispensing with resentment require us to criticize – to speak our hearts rather than bear a grudge.

How can we love our neighbor without hurting them with criticism?

It seems to me that "kosher criticism," the kind that the Torah requires, has two ingredients.

First, you must love the person to whom you offer criticism. Without love, criticism invites defensiveness and a negative reaction. Without love, all criticism is destructive. With love, criticism may be constructive and healthy.

Secondly, criticism must include a viable solution that can correct the situation. Criticizing an event that took place or a situation that is uncorrectable, is worthless and negative.'

The most negative of criticism is correcting a person in front of others – even when the person is wrong. No one wants to lose face, especially in public.

It's best not to offer criticism unless it's a major issue of life and death. Critical people create toxic relationships and perfectionist parents are the most toxic to their children.

The most loved people and the most effective parents are often those who are so accepting of their loved ones that there is little to criticize.

But if the situation calls for criticism it's best that it be "kosher" – offered with love and a practical solution.

Rabbi Freundlich is the spiritual leader of Beth Torah Congregation in Toronto.

Your neighbor's blood

By RABBI CHAIM STEINMETZ

On May 16 in Chicago, 15-year-old Christopher Sercye was shot twice in the chest while playing basketball.

Comparative Law

His friends brought him to a ramp 35 feet away from the hospital emergency room. The friends and two police officers asked the emergency room personnel to come out and bring Sercye inside. They refused, citing hospital policy that prevented them from leaving the facility. While precious time elapsed, the police went out to drag the dying boy inside. Sercye was pronounced dead an hour later.

What is astounding is that the emergency room personnel did not violate any laws! In most of the United States, there is no obligation to help someone in danger. (Chicago is now considering adopting a "good Samaritan" law, which would require bystanders to provide help to victims of crimes and accidents.)

In Jewish law, there is a biblical obligation to save lives. The biblical verse, "You may not stand idly by your neighbor's blood" (Leviticus 19:15), is understood by the Talmud to be an obligation to save people from danger (Sanhedrin 73a).

However, it is necessary to define the parameters of this obligation. Does the bystander have to endanger himself to save the victim? Does the bystander have to spend money to save the victim's life?

The Talmud (Bava Metzia 62a) discusses the case of two people who are travelling in the desert and only one of them has sufficient water to survive. Ben Petura is of the opinion that it is better that they divide the water and both die, rather than have one watch the death of the other. Rabbi Akiva is of the opinion that "your life comes first," that the owner of the water must save his life first, even if the other person will die. Rabbi Akiva's opinion has become the halachic consensus.

While it is clear that one may not sacrifice one's life to save the life of another, there is some debate as to whether there is an obligation to save lives when it will endanger the bystander. The Hagahot Maimoni (Rotzeach 1:14) is of the opinion that it is obligatory for the bystander to place himself in uncertain danger in order to save the victim from certain danger. Others argue that it is forbidden to do so, and that the principle of "your life comes first" applies to uncertain danger as well (Radvaz in Pitchei Teshuva YD 157:15).

Based on this opinion, some authorities forbid a donor to give a kidney to a dying patient if it will place the donor in some danger (Tzitz Eliezer 13:101; Minchat Yitzchak 6:103).

Rabbi Moshe Feinstein takes a middle point of view. It is not obligatory to place yourself in a situation of questionable danger to save another person's life; however, you may choose to take this risk in order to save a life. Therefore, he rules it is permitted to donate kidneys, even if there is some danger to the donor. (YD 2:174)

What about spending money? The Talmud (Sanhedrin 73a) requires the bystander to spend money in order to save lives. If the victim has money, he must repay those who save him (Rosh Sanhedrin 8:1). However, the bystander has an obligation to spend money even when the victim cannot repay.

The Chofetz Chaim rules that the bystander is obligated to spend all of his money (Ahavat Chesed 2:20). One reason he gives is that when the Rabbi Akiva states that "your life comes first," it implies that only your life comes first; your money does not.

Rabbi Yoseph Shalom Elyashev disagrees, and says that the bystander does not have to give more than one-fifth of his wealth to save a life (Quoted in Nishmat Avraham V, CM 426:1). He interprets Rabbi Akiva's statement differently, and argues that Jewish sources consider a loss of wealth as a partial "death." Therefore, the donor would not be obligated to impoverish himself to save the lives of others.

Christopher Sercye died while others stood by because there was no law obligating them to help him. Unlike American law, Halachah requires bystanders to expend time, money and effort to save someone in danger, and does not allow them to ignore someone who is 35 feet away.

Rabbi Steinmetz is the spiritual leader of Tifereth Beth David Jerusalem in Montreal.

Jewish Life

Books

By Bernard Baskin

The Arabs' dream palace

***The Dream Palace of the Arabs*, by Fouad Ajami (Random House, $36)**

In 1994, Naguib Manfouz, Egyptian Nobel laureate in literature, was paralyzed in his writing hand by a stab wound to his neck. The blow was struck by a religious extremist who opposed the elderly writer's liberal and secularist ideas.

When Israel invaded Lebanon in 1982 Khalil Hawl, a gifted but troubled poet committed suicide. The long years of bitter factional strife in his beloved country and the supremacy of Israel dashed any hopes he had for Lebanon's future.

In 1997, a young Jordanian soldier, opposed to peace with Israel opened fire on a group of young Israeli schoolgirls on a tourist trip to the Jordan Valley. He killed seven of them before his rifle jammed. A saddened King Hussein of Jordan apologized and made condolence calls on the bereaved families. But when a court sentenced the murderer to 25 years in prison, more than a thousand university students in Amman demonstrated on his behalf.

The author, a native of Lebanon and professor of Middle Eastern Studies at Johns Hopkins University, makes use of the incidents indicated above – and the creative work of a variety of Arab poets and writers – to present a personal journey into the kind of society – intellectual, political and social – that Arabs, such as himself, inherited after World War II.

Ajami is disappointed and despairing. He laments that the Arab intellectual class that at one time sought the establishment of democratic secular regimes and the assertion of western values have been overwhelmed by nationalistic fervor, religious messianism and political intransigence.

In four well-crafted essays the author describes how Arab dreams and visions, unrealistic expectations and poetic illusions were smashed against harsh external realities.

Such salient events as Israel's rout of the Arab armies in 1967, the rise of the rich and corrupt oil states of the Gulf in the '70s, '80s and '90s, the brutal dictatorships in Syria, Iraq, Lybia and Sudan and the spread of Muslim fundamentalism from Iran to Algeria spelled the end of pan-Arabic nationalism. The dream of an Arab renaissance collapsed in ruins.

Egypt, the largest and potentially the most promising of the Arab nations has gone downhill. "At the heart of Egyptian life there lies a terrible sense of disappointment. The pride of modern Egypt has been far greater than its accomplishments. For all the graces of this land and for all the long struggle of its modernizers, that gap between Egypt's sense of itself and its performance is impossible to ignore: the poverty of the underclass; the bleak political landscape that allows a military officer to monopolize political power and diminish all would-be rivals in the civil society; the sectarian strife between Muslim and Copt; state of its cultural and educational life."

In the book's final essay the author addresses the question of the Arab intellectual encounter with Zionism. Some recognize the need to make peace with Israel and even acknowledge the legitimacy of the Jewish claim to land. Most of the others, however, cling to their hatred of Israel "with something approaching desperation."

Understandably, the candid author is not popular in the Islamic world. But this work will interest anyone seeking a fuller understanding of the realities of modern Arab life.

Surfing through Europe

By MARK MIETKIEWICZ

Last week, we began our virtual tour of the Jewish Museums of Europe. If you still haven't satisfied your wanderlust, here are some more Jewish sites well worth a visit on the World Wide Web.

The Austrian Jewish Museum of Eisenstadt offers a generous site in both German and English **[http://www.oejudmus.or.at/oejudmus/]**.

Housed within the museum is Samson Wertheimer's former private synagogue, one of the few synagogues in the German-speaking areas of Europe that was not destroyed on Kristallnacht or during the Holocaust.

According to the site, in 1921 the Jewish community of Eisenstadt was the only community under Jewish administration in the Republic of Austria. Two Jewish families live in Eisenstadt now.

While in Austria, you can also check out the Jüdisches Museum der Stadt Wien **[http://www.jmw.at/]** and the Jüdischen Museums Hohenems **[http://www2.vol.at/jmh/]**. These sites are in German only.

The Jewish Museum, London's Museum of Jewish Life maintains a large online exhibition about Yiddish Theatre in London. It traces the evolution of Yiddish theatre in London from the 1883 arrival of Jacob P. Adler and his Russian Jewish Operatic Company in 1883 through its heyday, decline and the present **[http://www.ort.org/jewmusm/]**.

Stockholm's Judiska Museet **[http://www.telemuseum.se/Stockholmsmuseer/Sthlmmus.eng.ijj.html#24]** outlines the growth of the Jewish community starting in 1775, the year in which the first Swedish Jew, Aaron Isaac, was given permission to settle in Sweden.

Before you embark on any trip, real or virtual, make sure you pay a visit to the Jewish Museums Forum **[http://www.jewishmuseums.com]**. This is a marvelous site which has an extensive list of Jewish museums in the United States and worldwide. I was surprised to find out that there are dozens of travelling Jewish exhibits available for rental **[http://www.jewishmuseums.com/jetssub.htm]**.

Here are two of them: Edward Serotta has created a photo exhibit about Sarajevo's Jews, describing how they turned their synagogue into one of the most effective aid agencies in the war-ravaged city. This exhibit can be rented for $2,000 plus shipping and insurance.

And the Jewish Theological Seminary's has created a fascinating travelling exhibit on The Jew As Other: A Century of English Caricature, 1730-1830 **[http://www.jtsa.edu/library/exhib/jewoth/]**.

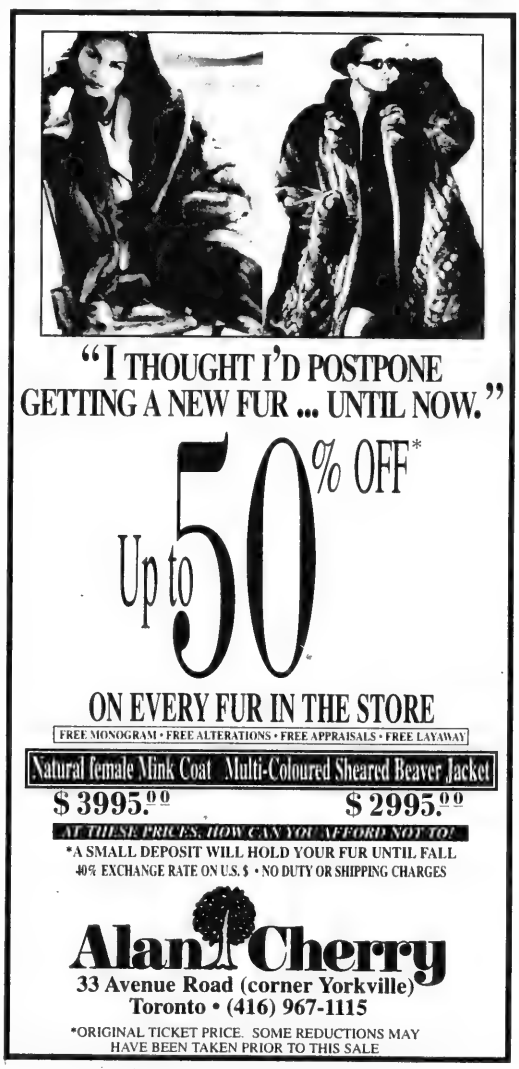
I also enjoyed issues of the Jewish Heritage Report **[http://www.jewishmuseums.com/jhr.shtml]**. I was intrigued by articles on such topics as the wall paintings that have been discovered in the former synagogue of Ziar nad Hronom in Central Slovakia or how city planning officials in Rangoon, Myanmar (Burma) have agreed not to relocate the city's only Jewish cemetery in order to construct a shopping centre on that site.

Ironically, the Jewish Museums Forum Internet site has lost its funding from The National Foundation for Jewish Culture **[http://www.jewishculture.org]**. Unless a new sponsor is found, the Forum Web site may not be in operation after July 31. That would be a great pity.

Next time, we conclude our European travels with journeys to Ireland, Lithuania and the Netherlands.

* * *

Mark Mietkiewicz is a television producer in Toronto with an interest in the Internet. He can be reached at [mdm@inforamp.net].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Jewish Life

Catholic Church still unwilling to accept responsibility

By STANLEY TAUBE

The recent failure of the Vatican to condemn its wartime pope, Pius XII, means that the Roman Catholic Church is still unwilling to fully accept its moral failure during the Holocaust.

Guest Voices

Some writers have suggested that history is being too hard on that particular pope. For example, in the March 30 issue of *Newsweek*, columnist Kenneth L. Woodward ended his apologia for Pius XII by concluding: "It's time to lay off this pope."

Such articles conveniently focus on some positive actions that took place during the Holocaust. However, to properly assess the role of Pope Pius XII during the Nazi period in general, and during the Holocaust in particular, surely we must examine the extensive negative conduct of the pope as well as his positive acts.

After the end of World War I, and many years before his election as pope in 1939, Pius XII had been papal nuncio in Germany. He was present during the Communist upheavals in that country and he witnessed firsthand the anti-religious bias of Bolshevism. Accordingly, he developed strong sympathies towards right-wing regimes (such as those of Mussolini in Italy, Hitler in Germany and Franco in Spain) that were strongly anti-Communist. It was the old adage that "the enemy of my enemy is my friend."

Very early in the Nazi regime, which came to power on Jan. 30, 1933, the Vatican began bending over backwards to make an accommodation with Hitler. And Cardinal Eugenio Pacelli, as he was known before being elected pope, was at the forefront of these efforts. As early as March 1933, the Vatican reversed its earlier ban on Catholics becoming members of the Nazi party. On July 20, 1933, the Vatican signed a concordat with the Nazi government. This gave respectability and moral recognition to the Nazis at a time when the international community had grave doubts about Hitler and his movement. And all the while, the vestiges of democracy and decency were being destroyed in Germany – political parties, state and local governments, labor unions, the free press.

The Vatican was clearly trying to protect its own turf amidst the chaos. Cardinal Pacelli, who by this time was papal secretary of state, was essentially in charge of all dealings with the Nazis.

As the 1930s progressed, Nazi brutality and anti-Semitism increased dramatically, concentration camps were built, Jews were excluded from all facets of public life and lawlessness ran rampant in Germany. Yet throughout this period, very little dissent was heard from the Vatican. Cardinal Pacelli was principally involved in the Vatican's decision to provide mid-19th century birth records to the Nazis. Such records were not readily available elsewhere. This facilitated the murderous program of hunting down anyone who had even remote Jewish ancestry.

During the night of Nov. 9-10, 1938, the infamous *Kristallnacht*, when Jewish stores were looted, synagogues burned, and thousands of Jews arrested and sent to concentration camps, hardly a word of protest was heard from the Vatican.

On July 7, 1939, soon after he was elected pope, Pius XII ordered the lifting of the Vatican ban on the French Fascist movement, Action Française. He was willing to be silent as horrors were perpetrated, but he had no hesitation in actively promoting right-wing movements that were opposed to Communism.

Then, with the advent of war, the mass destruction of European Jewry accelerated rapidly. There is little doubt that the Vatican – and Pope Pius XII – were made aware early on of the extermination of the Jews. Catholic officers serving in the German army in Poland and Russia passed on the information to various bishops and officials in the Catholic hierarchy. They undoubtedly related it to the Vatican. Yet, there was virtual silence from the Vatican and from Pius XII. There were some very general statements about good conduct and morals, but nothing specific involving the brutal destruction of millions of Jews.

The pope preferred to play it safe. He was also obsessed with appearing neutral, since there were Catholics on both sides in the war. Even when over 1,000 Roman Jews were rounded up on Oct. 18, 1943, under the very eyes of the Vatican and sent to Auschwitz, Pius XII said nothing. It was a complete abdication of moral leadership by the Vatican, led by a weak pope.

However, in order to put Pius XII's role into full perspective, we have to ask – what could Pius XII have done? Some argue that if Pius XII had spoken up openly and forcefully in condemning Nazi atrocities, it would have made things worse for the Jews. But when six million Jews are being tortured, starved and gassed to death, how much worse could it have become for them?

Open Catholic opposition to the Holocaust might well have brought retribution to the Catholic Church by the Nazis. But where is it written that being decent and moral must be easy and without pain? Did Jesus not set the ultimate example for opposition to a cruel state?

Certainly, there were individual priests and bishops who spoke out against the Nazis. One example was Provost Bernhard Lichtenberg of Berlin, who paid for his brave actions with his life in 1943 while being transported to Dachau. And there were many individual efforts to help victims of Nazi brutality. However, these were generally the exceptions.

But imagine a public denunciation by the pope himself in 1942 or 1943 attacking the atrocities and threatening excommunication of the perpetrators! This would have sent shockwaves throughout the world. It would have given the lie to Nazi attempts to cover up the Holocaust. It would have stiffened the resolve of those opposed to Hitler and his regime. It would have encouraged many more non-Jews to help their Jewish brethren by providing refuge and other forms of assistance. It would have cast doubt in the minds of hundreds of thousands of Catholics in the Axis armed forces as to the conduct of the war.

It is not a question of whether Pope Pius XII could have had a profound effect. It is only a question of the magnitude of that effect.

Pope Pius XII failed in his most important role as pope – exerting the moral leadership of the Roman Catholic Church at a time of world crisis. If history is to be accurately dealt with and the horrors of the Holocaust never repeated, the actions of this pope must be strongly condemned.

Stanley Taube is a lawyer in Toronto. He holds a master's degree in political science from the University of Toronto, was a special lecturer in political science, and has studied the Nazi era extensively.

STUDENT EXHIBIT

The grade 8 students of USDS, Bathurst campus, recently created precious Israel boxes for the Israel at 50 exhibit at the Beth Tzedec Reuben and Helene Dennis Museum. Seen here at the exhibit is (from left) Samara Schnurbach, Lauren Babbin, Jessica Pollock, Alisa Minden, Fern Goldstein, Matthew Brown and David Himmel..

MINYANIM IN THE GTA
WEEK OF JULY 17-JULY 24/'98

Synagogue	Address & Tel.	Fri. Night	Shabbat	Sun. A.M.	Daily A.M.	Daily P.M.
Adath Sholom (C)	864 Sheppard Ave. W. (416) 635-0131	----------	9:00 AM	9:00 AM	8:00 AM	----------
Agudath Israel (O)	129 McGillivray Ave. (416) 789-5514	8:17 PM	7:30 AM & 8:45 AM	7:00, 7:30 8:00, 8:30	Mon. Thurs. 6:25, 6:50, 7:15 Tues. Wed. Fri. 6:30, 6:55	8:35 PM
Anshe Minsk (O)	10-12 St. Andrews St. (416) 595-5723	8:45 PM	9:15 AM	9:15 AM	7:30 AM	----------
Beth Jacob (O)	147 Overbrook Pl. (416) 638-5955	7:15 PM	9:00 AM	8:00 AM	6:40 AM & 7:30 AM	8:40 PM
Beth Radom (C)	18 Reiner Rd. (416) 636-3451	8:30 PM	8:45 AM	9:00 AM	8:00 AM	8:30 PM
Beth Sholom (C)	1445 Eglinton Ave. W. (416) 783-6103	6:00 PM	8:45 AM	8:30 AM	7:30 AM & 9:00 AM	6:00 PM
B'nai Torah (O)	465 Patricia Ave. (416) 226-3700	7:10 PM & 8:40 PM	7:30 AM & 8:45 AM	7:00 AM & 8:00 AM	Mon. Thurs. 6:20, 6:45, 7:10 Tues. Wed. Fri. 6:30, 7:00, 7:20	8:45 PM
Holy Blossom (R)	1950 Bathurst St. (416) 789-3291	6:00 PM	10:30 AM	9:00 AM	----------	6:00 PM
Temple Emanu-El (R)	120 Old Colony Rd. (416) 449-3880	6:30 PM	9:30 AM	8:30 AM	7:30 AM	----------

This is not a comprehensive listing of the synagogues in the Greater Toronto area. The information is provided by the Vaad Harabonim of Toronto and the Toronto Board of Rabbis. The Vaad and the Board will periodically revise the listings.

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Greater Toronto Area

Jewish singles programs, groups help to find your bashert

By STACEY STEIN
Student Intern

TORONTO — There are many services, programs and organizations available to help in the quest to find your bashert.

Dating Services

The **Jewish Singles Registry**, owned by Rob Singer – About 1,600 people have joined the registry since it was founded in 1992. For a fee, clients submit a profile and photo of themselves, which can be accessed by other registered members. Clients can also peruse Singer's database to find people they are interested in meeting. Singer says the registry yields about one engagement per month.

Evelyn Potok's **Soulmates Worldwide Jewish Matchmakers** – This is a dating service with a spiritual bent, Potok says. "I ask for God's assistance in matchmaking." The service, which she started about 10 years ago, has members in the United States and Israel as well as Canada. Clients fill out a profile of themselves, but do not submit photos. Potok's clientele is entered on a computer database through which she finds two singles she thinks are compatible. She then calls the female and if approval is given, she calls the man and hopes a date will be set up.

Bringing People Together, started by Ruth Friedman in 1990 – Friedman spends about an hour and a half interviewing each potential client. She asks them questions and shows them pictures of other people in her file system, which contains about 1,500 photos. If the person decides to join after the interview, a $450 fee allows the client to choose up to 26 people. Friedman's engagement rate is at least two per month, she says.

Singles Dances

Mark and Ari Present, started by Mark Brodkin and Ari Huber about 10 years ago – The organization, now run by Darren Budd, organizes Jewish singles parties at different venues in the city. Budd throws eight to 10 parties a year, with attendance between 1,200 and 1,400. The biggest and most well-attended event of the year is the Matzo Ball party, held on Christmas eve.

Meeting Through Sports

Sid Dorfman's **Metro Toronto Sports** – Activities are offered to bring together sports-oriented young people. In the summer, Dorfman organizes co-ed baseball teams, with about 300 people playing. The leagues are comprised mainly of singles, and Dorfman says the organization is "basically Jewish."

Earl Tucker's **Adventure Network** – This is another sports club catering to singles, with a focus on the Jewish community. The group is involved with outdoor adventure sports such as hiking, cycling and skiing. Tucker's group has attracted a diverse range of people, including participants from France and Israel.

Educational and other programs

Kolel: A centre for liberal Jewish learning – Kolel incorporates Jewish education into its singles programming. Kolel also hosts an annual dinner for singles on Dec. 24 that features a guest speaker. Rabbi Elyse Goldstein, director of Kolel, is starting a new series, planned for October – "a hip, Sunday night coffeehouse lecture series for young people." It will target the 25 to 35-year-olds, not necessarily single.

Premier Jewish Singles run by David Miller and Roxanne Weisman – Travel programs in exotic venues are offered as a unique way to meet other singles and see new places around the world such as Alaska, Panama or Costa Rica.

Games Jewish Singles Play started by Mollie Rothman – The non-profit program (there's a $5 charge) runs once every two months at Beth Torah synagogue. Jewish singles play board games and card games such as Trivial Pursuit, bingo and bridge.

Oasis special events for singles, recently started as an alternative way for singles to meet – Oasis organizes workshops that focus on education and interaction. Guest speakers introduce different topics and participants are broken up into discussion groups. The group plans to hold one to two workshops per month at Above and Beyond, a massive complex that simulates being outdoors.

The Beth David Jewish single parents group, started by Marla Kleinberg and Eva Iszo – The group meets on the last Thursday of every month to hear guest speakers on various topics. Kleinberg says the group was started by "two young widows who wanted to meet other single parents, but didn't want to go to the dances." The group is aimed at single parents with younger children and teenagers.

Meet Your Match, recently started by Beth Radom Congregation – This is a discreet, personalized service to help introduce Jewish men and women of all ages.

Yiddish concert draws over 1,000

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The young members of the Shadowland Theatre posted signs in Yiddish saying "Love Health and Beauty." And intertwined with the signs was a golden paper chain symbolizing the link between the Diaspora and Israel's 50th anniversary.

The golden chain set the tone for the recent 16th annual Yiddish concert in the sanctuary at Adath Israel Congregation, where the concert was moved from Earl Bales Park because of inclement weather.

The young people and actor Howard Jerome got the concert underway in a novel fashion, asking the audience of 1,000 to sing along with transliterated Yiddish: "Efnt dem toier, efnt im breyt" (Open the door, open it wide) was the opening line of the lyrics, a plea for everyone to learn a Yiddish song.

Shadowland Theatre had the transliteration written out on huge scrolls for the audience.

This was hardly over when down the aisle of the sanctuary came the Flying Bulgar Klezmer Band led by David Buchbinder and blowing up a storm.

Informality was the keynote as the band and soloists Stella Walker and David Wall sang Yiddish songs, old and new, happy and soulful, supported by the stellar musicians of the band, Sasha Luiminksy, Bob Stevenson, Daniel Barnes, and Andrew Downie. Clarinetist Stevenson was outstanding.

One number flowed into another with few introductions. In fact, things were so informal that after the intermission, Buchbinder said the concert would begin again as soon as they found their drummer!

Ethel Cooper, chair of the Yiddish Committee of UJA Federation, pleaded with the large audience to support teaching of Yiddish, which she described as "the foundation of Ashkenaz culture in Toronto."

Yiddish was termed a "treasure chest" and "vibrant element" of culture for all ages, by Joseph Steiner, UJA Federation president.

"We are proud of what our Yiddish committee is doing," he said, paying tribute to the work of retiring staffer Sylvia Lustgarten and the committee's new director, Adam Fuerstenberg.

The concert was co-sponsored by Ashkenaz, which will hold its next big festival Aug. 30 to Sept. 1, 1999.

שישאר בינינו

גידי קורן וחברים

לא סמים:

בקנדה, כמו גם ברוב מדינות המערב, קיים אבסורד משפטי ומעשי בעניין זכויותיו של העובר לעומת זכויותיה של האם ההרה. מאחר והפלות מותרות באופן חוקי - קבע החוק שהעובר איננו "בן אדם" עדיין, משום שאם היה "בן אדם" - הרי שהפלה היתה הופכת למעשה רצח. אוקיי, עד עכשיו עוד אפשר לסבול, אבל כאן מתחיל הבלגן האמיתי: לפני כשנה ציווה שופט במניטובה על אשה מכורת סמים שהיתה בהריון ללכת לטיפול רפואי כדי למנוע נזק לעובר. מה עשתה האשה? במקום ללכת לטיפול, היא הלכה לבית המשפט העליון וטענה שפסק הדין איננו חוקי, כי העובר איננו בן אדם ואין לו, לכן, זכויות. בית המשפט העליון נאלץ להסכים איתה והיא המשיכה לקחת סמים כל ההריון.

בצפון קרוליינה בארצות הברית, לעומת זאת, הביאו לבית המשפט שתי נשים בטענה שהן פוגעות בעובר ע"י שימוש בקוקאין. הן נידונו ל-8 שנות מאסר! לפני שבועות מספר הן ערערו בבית המשפט העליון אך הערעור שלהן נדחה! כלומר, האמריקנים החליטו להפריד בין הזכות להפלות לבין הזכות להזיק לעובר שנשאר בחיים. פסק הדין האמריקני מועט מצד אחד, כי הוא דן למאסר נשים מכורות סמים שהן בעצם מאוד חולות. לא ברור לי מדוע מחלתן (ההתמכרות לסמים) שונה מסרטן או מחלת לב! האם שמעתם ששולחים מישהו למאסר על זה שיש לו סרטן? בצד החיובי, לעומת זאת, בהחלטתו ההיא בית המשפט העליון בארה"ב שאין לאשה הרה זכות לפגוע בעובר שלה ולגרום לו נזק בלתי הפיך לכל החיים. קשה להאמין שהאמריקנים יוכלו לשלוח לבית סוהר את עשרת האחוזים של הנשים ההרות שמשתמשות באלכוהול ובסמים. אם יעשו כן- הם יצטרכו לדון ארבע מאות אלף נשים כל שנה! בקיצור - בלגן רציני, שהפתרון שלו לא יבוא דרך המשטרה ובתי המשפט, אלא על ידי מערכות חינוך וברואות משופרות.

"כל התקוות"- עמוס עוז:

אחת הטענות הקשות כלפי סופרים, אמנים ושאר אנשי רוח היא שהם אינם מעורבים בענייני היומיום, ולא תורמים ממש לשינוי החברה והמדינה. בקיצור: הם יושבים במגדל שן ומשמיעים הצהרות שמנותקות ממה שקורה בחיים האמיתיים. עמוס עוז הוא ללא ספק חריג בחבורה הזו. לצד הצלחתו הבינלאומית כסופר הוא טורח להשמיע את דעותיו על מה שקורה בישראל. בעיני רבים הוא הנציג המשמעותי ביותר של ישראל השפויה, הבלתי כוחנית, המאוזנת, שמבינה שלמרות כל הקשיים מוכרחים למצוא דרכי דו קיום בין יהודים וערבים כמו גם בין חילוניים ודתיים. ממש בימים אלה, במסגרת שנת החמישים, יצא הספר "כל התקוות - מחשבות על זהות ישראלית" שמסכם חלק מהרצאותיו, כמו גם רבים מראיונותיו בעיתונות בטלביזיה וברדיו. כדי לעשות לכם חשק, הינה לקט קצר של ציטוטים מדבריו של עוז:

"ישראל: לא עם, לא מדינה, לא חברה, אלא אוסף של נימוקים. כמעט שישה מליון אזרחים פה - שישה מליון ראשי ממשלה, אם לא שישה מליון נביאים, משיחים, מושיעים, כל אחד ואחת עם נוסחה אישית לגאולה בשלושה מהלכים"

"דיאלוג רוחני בין 'עגלה מלאה' לבין 'עגלה ריקה' לא יתכן. רק מי שמוכן להכיר בכך שתרבות ישראל עשויה כמה וכמה עגלות מלאות הוא בן שיח". "כבר מזמן לא מדובר על שתי טרגדיות נפרדות, ישראלית ופלסטינית, כי אם על טרגדיה אחת אשר כולנו תקועים בה. או שנצא ממנה יחד, בפשרה נבונה ומכאיבה, או שנמות בה יחד".

SHMOOZIN
"Kosher dining seems to be going upscale and diverse."
"Our community now has a kosher Italian restaurant and a couple of kosher Chinese food places."
"And soon a restaurant featuring kosher French cuisine will be opening."
"Now, if we could only get someone to open a good old-fashioned kosher Jewish deli!"
GLICK

Greater Toronto Area

Products kosher to the COR

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

This is one of a series of articles on recent developments in kashruth in the GTA. The series appears periodically.

TORONTO — From French pâtés and cookies, to artichoke bottoms, to exotic pastas, **Kosher City Plus** offers over 2,000 kosher items in its new 3,000 square foot premises.

Owner Jimmy Kadoch says that the entire store is under the supervision of COR – bakery items, groceries, and freezer stock. He researches kosher products from all over the world, and imports many products not available in other stores.

Kosher City Plus has a large selection of kosher cheese, including Brie, goat cheese and kashkeval. There is an olive bar ("the only kosher one in the city") and Kadoch plans to begin an ice-cream shop, completely Cholov Yisroel or pareve.

It is a one-stop shop, including quality vegetables, health foods, fresh poultry, frozen pizza, and its own packaged products.

Free delivery is available with a minimum purchase, and customers may fax orders, to 782-4685. A catalogue is planned as well.

Hallmarks of the store are personal service, good prices, no-limit specials, and friendly staff. "We treat customers like family – we even know many of their names," he said. "It is an old fashioned way of shopping for the nineties."

The **No Frills** supermarket on Centre Street in Vaughan, which opened in May, makes a concerted effort to serve its Jewish clientele. Jewish specialty cards, kosher breads from Hermes, Carmel, and My Zaidys (store owner John Ciarallo wants to get baked goods too), Cholov Yisroel dairy products, fresh and frozen meat and fish, are grouped together. The entire centre of the store is given over to kosher grocery products. There is even Cholov Yisroel milk available in the coffee machine.

Ciarallo pointed out that many President's Choice and no-name products are kosher.

The store supports community events, and tries to give special deals to camps. "We are a discount market," Ciarallo emphasized, "with competitive prices."

Sunnybrook Foods, at the Bathurst Manor plaza, has a new service – kosher rotisserie barbecued chicken, available at the kosher meat department.

Weary and hungry shoppers at the Spring Farm shopping plaza can refresh themselves at a **Kosherland** food cart outside IGA. From 10 a.m. to 6 Sunday to Thursday, and 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Friday, you can get different kinds of hot dogs, corn dogs, and cotton candy.

Levitt's meats is now under the supervision of Star-K, as well as maintaining the MK hashkachah. While this will not have an appreciable effect in Toronto (the Levitts outlet in North York doesn't sell fresh meat), spokesperson Lorne Brookman says that this will enable the company to be better accepted in United States markets.

Metropolitan Ice Cream has added two new flavors: Moka espresso, a blend of coffee and chocolate, and strawberries & cream, a mixture of fresh strawberries with a vanilla base.

Strawberry sorbet, a fat-free, dairy-free and cholesterol-free frozen dessert, is made with 90 percent real fruit.

Kosher Gourmet is the new name for Aish Hatorah caterers B & D. Besides dairy (Cholov Yisroel) and pareve catering from its premises, owner Brian Korn will go to your home and cook family meals, or even a romantic dinner for two – including cleanup.

The home cooking can be dairy, pareve or meat.

Two new restaurants have opened recently, one dairy and one meat.

Cafe Orly, in the new strip mall on Bathurst near Sultana, which also houses Kosher City Plus, offers omelets, pizza, sandwiches, and pasta offerings, as well as gourmet pastries.

Super Sub, in what was the short-lived Royal Casablanca restaurant, offers a limited menu of shwarma, chicken, hamburgers, hot dogs and tuna, on either pita or subs. A wide variety of salads are available.

King Solomon's Table, now owned by the Diamond and Elmaleh families, has a new menu, with an expanded Chinese buffet, more continental selections, and an enlarged wine and liquor list.

They offer the restaurant, at no fee, for Saturday evening bar and bat mitzvahs, or Sunday brunch.

Taste of Tikvah, in the Promenade Circle has won an award for quality and cleanliness from the public health departments of both York Region and Vaughan. It celebrated by inviting the public for an evening of free food last month.

Tov-Li Pizza, Falafel & More has settled into its new larger quarters on Bathurst at Cedarcroft. Even the ordinary pizzas are interesting, including such toppings as pineapple, garlic, or artichokes.

Their gourmet pizzas include

[Cont'd. on page 21]

Pastas Soups

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Vol. 1, No. 4 • July 16, 1998

Hello! How are ya'? What's cooking? We're busy preparing for our heavy production season that will start with the cucumber harvest in mid-July. Ninety percent (90%) of our pickles are made from Ontario cukes grown on small family-run farms. We all work long hours to make sure the cucumbers, and the pickles, are the freshest and the best anywhere in North America. Enjoy the fruits of our labours!

Letter from camp

I love Strub's pickles, I eat them every day.
I love Strub's pickles, in each and every way.
When I eat them, I smile
And you can see them from a mile.
Their tasty taste is nice and strong,
And they will never lead you wrong.
I love Strub's pickles, I really do.
I love Strub's pickles, and so should you!

— from Kayla, Jessica, Nicola, Hanna, Jessica, Sharie, Alexis, and Rebecca, Camp Shalom Cabin 12

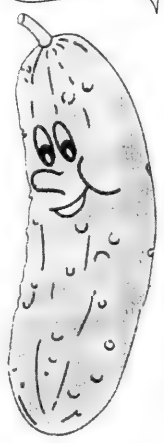
The Pickle Guy Replies

You guys are fantastic. I love your poem! I'll be sending each of you a Strub's hat for your combined effort. Have a great summer at Camp Shalom.

Remember, send your letters, pictures, and postcards to me:

Pickle Guy
c/o Strub's Pickle Corner
100 Roy Boulevard
BRANTFORD, ON N3R 7K2
e-mail: STRUBPICKL@AOL.COM

I answer **ALL** my mail, and if I use your letter in "Pickle Corner", I'll send you one of my "Pickle Guy" T-shirts and Hats. Thanks, and talk to you next month.



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What's New

By Miriam Herman

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DEADLINE REMINDER

What's New and About People deadlines: Monday, July 20, is deadline for July 30 issue, and Monday, July 27, is deadline for Aug. 6 issue. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 391-1836, fax 391-0829.

Saturday, July 18

CONSERVATIVE MINYAN

General Wingate Branch, Royal Canadian Legion, Federation of Jewish Brotherhoods traditional Conservative Sabbath service, 10 a.m. to noon, Sunnybrook Synagogue. Kiddush follows. **Hilda Harris**, 480-4421, ext. 3552.

Sunday, July 19

PICNIC ON THE HILL

Forest Hill Place's Picnic on the Hill and Open House, entertainment, 2-4 p.m., 645 Castlefield Ave. Reserve. **Marlene** or **Susan** 785-1511.

Monday, July 20

CYSTITIS SUPPORT GROUP

Interstitial Cystitis sufferers, family and friends meeting 7:30 p.m., Central Park Lodge, 1145 Albion Rd. (Albion/Islington), main floor. **Lisa** 447-2246.

SUPPORT GROUP

Jewish Parents and Families of Gays and Lesbians meets 7:30 p.m., Jewish Family & Child Service, 6th floor, Lipa Green Building, 4600 Bathurst St. **Ruth** 763-9111.

Wednesday, July 22

THE GLASS BLOWER

The Glass Blower, lecture exploring the five components of our Spiritual Being, 8 p.m., Aish HaTorah, 949 Clark Ave. W., Thornhill. $5. 905-764-1818.

Thursday, July 23

A PORTRAIT IN SONG

The Shtetl – A Portrait in Song, musical presentation featuring **Naomi Bell**, 2 p.m., Forest Hill Place, 645 Castlefield Ave. Reserve. **Marlene** or **Susan** 785-1511.

Friday, July 24

CONCERT-IN-THE-ROUND

Temple Sinai's Our Musical Legacy program presents Summer Concert-in-the-Round with singer and comedienne **Stella Walker** in a program of Jewish song and commentary. Services at 8:15 p.m.

Sunday, July 26

LIFE OF A CANTOR'S WIFE

Entertainment and Cultural Connection and Shaarei Shomayim Brotherhood host **Nechama Motzen** speaking on Adventures in the Life of a Cantor's Wife, a smorgasbord of experiences from Texas, Israel, Montreal, Toronto, 8 p.m. Sisterhood Hall. Guests $2. **Jerry** and **Sandra Genesove,** coordinators.

Monday, July 27

LA LECHE LEAGUE

La Leche League – North Bathurst meeting focuses on the Art of Breast Feeding, 7:30 p.m. 199 Glenmanor Way, Thornhill. Babies welcome. **Nancy** 905-889-7445 or **Joyce** 905-881-8779.

Wednesday, July 29

WALK TALK

Wellness Education Group of Baycrest Centre session entitled Walk Talk with Baycrest physiotherapist **Eloise Karp**, 1:30-2:30 p.m., at the Wagman Centre, 55 Ameer Ave. $2 at door. **Judy Chu** 785-2500, ext. 2340.

Thursday, July 30

HOUSING IN ISRAEL

Eliyahu Talmon of Israel, certified real estate appraiser, discusses Housing in Israel, 7 p.m. at Lipa Green Building, 4600 Bathurst St. Meeting presented by Israel Aliyah Centre. 633-4766.

[Cont'd. on page 19]

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450 g
369

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From the Bakery
Topped with Fresh Strawberries, 500 g
999

WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO LIMIT QUANTITIES. PRICES IN EFFECT SUNDAY, JULY 12 UNTIL SATURDAY, JULY 18, 1998.

What's New

[Cont'd. from page 18]

And What Else Is New

SHABBAT DINNER

Traditional Friday night Shabbat dinner July 31 at Aish HaTorah Thornhill, 949 Clark Ave. W. Bring the kids and enjoy an inspiring lecture on Loving Yourself Without Being Full of Yourself with **Rabbi Aharon Hoch.** Call Aish HaTorah for prices. 905-764-1818.

CANTOR LABOW & OPERA

Cantor Ted Labow of Shaarei Beth El Synagogue in Oakville stars as Father Germont in the Summer Opera Lyric Theatre's production of *La Traviata*. Performances are July 25, 30 and Aug. 1, 8 p.m. and July 29 at 2 p.m. at Helen Gardiner Phelan Playhouse on St. George Street (between Hoskins Avenue and College Street) Tickets $18 and $12 (seniors/ students). 465-2912.

COURSE IN JUDAISM

Crash course in Judaism, 10 sessions on Wednesdays 8:30-9:30 p.m., July 15-Sept. 16 at Ohr Somayach, 613 Clark Ave. W., Thornhill. No charge. Register. 905-886-5730.

TEL-AIDE VOLUNTEERS

Tel-Aide: The Jewish Distress Line is looking for volunteers to man the lines. Training is provided. If you are a good listener, call Tel-Aide at 636-9695.

HEBREW CLASSES

Keren Hatarbut Institute of Hebrew Studies, 788 Marlee Ave., announces registration is now open for fall courses for adults, teenagers and preteens in conversational Hebrew for beginners, intermediate and advanced students. Courses run Wednesday mornings Sept.16-Dec. 16 (Intermediate II); Thursday mornings Sept. 17-Dec. 18 (Beginners); Thursday evenings Sept. 17-Dec. 18 (Beginners, Intermediate I, Intermediate II, Advanced); Friday mornings Sept. 18-Dec. 18 (Intermediate I). Free introductory private lessons and make-up lessons for missed classes. **Joseph Klinger** 787-0197.

JIS IS AVAILABLE

Jewish Information Service can help you with housing needs. Do you need to rent out a room, or have a basement apartment or apartment to share? Are you looking for a place to live in North York or Thornhill? Call 635-5600 or drop in at the Bathurst Jewish Centre, Suite 214. Anyone is welcome to use the accommodation registry.

You can also call JIS for information regarding recreation, singles groups, holidays and festivals, counselling services, Jewish education, newcomer/tourist information, synagogues and temples.

MINCHAH SERVICES

Mount Sinai Hospital offers Minchah services Monday through Friday at 1 p.m. followed by a 15-minute class, in the hospital synagogue on the main floor. Members of the general public are welcome.

CALL A NEWCOMER

The Telephone Language Companion (TLC) Program of the Community Integration Program, a service of Jewish Immigrant Aid Services, is seeking volunteers to phone recently arrived immigrants from the former Soviet Union. Phoners are asked to make a commitment to telephone an assigned companion twice weekly for six months to help the immigrant develop telephone skills. **Luda Felik** 636-2316 or CIP 636-1880, ext. 261.

TRADITIONAL MINYAN

Shomer Israel Congregation traditional heimish minyan welcomes all non-affiliated. No dues. Shabbat 9 a.m. Shabbat Minchah study class with **Rabbi Sheldon Schwartz**. Sunday morning minyan 8:30 a.m. 60 Rockford Rd. (behind Rockford School) **David** 256-1600.

SINGLES EVENTS

Singles events. Call Rhonda 905-731-9441.

Singles, 25-35, mini golf, at Funstation, Finch and Jane, Sunday, July 19, 8 p.m.

Singles, 36-55, planning of events meeting, Monday, July 20, 8 p.m., Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue.

Singles, 25-35 and 36-55, upcoming events: Georgian Bay boat cruise; community-wide Shabbat; planning meetings; ball games (Blue Jays). Under the auspices of Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue.

FOR SENIORS

Association of Jewish Seniors general meeting focusing on Love Life, Live Long and Life Begins at 80 with **Dr. Michael Sossin** Thursday, July 23, 9:30 a.m., Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue. **Goldie** 635-2860.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club cruise and musical *Little Shop of Horrors* Aug. 19; *Man of La Mancha* at Stratford Oct. 27. In the planning is a trip to Israel in November. **Lena** 785-5773. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel. **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building): July 16, Israeli film *Flush* ; July 23, One-day trip to Muskoka $15. Register with **Rivka Kreutzer** 223-0904; July 30, members meeting, **Jerry Bengall** 905-707-7334 or **Dalia Dahary** 661-4689.

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: July 23, Casino Niagara, members $20, non-members $25; Aug. 10, shuffle off to Buffalo, members $20, non-members $25; Aug. 16, annual barbecue party and entertainment, members $5, non-members $6; Aug. 24-27, Leelanau Casino, Michigan, $399/person Canadian. Taxi pick-up at your residence to departure point and return. 395-7881.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. 225-2112.

Safe & Sound '98 annual Health Fair, Thursday, July 16, 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Osteoporosis Support Group meets Tuesday, July 21, 1:15-2:30 p.m. when **Anita Saltmarche**, clinical nurse specialist in geriatrics at Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre presents Bringing Bladder Problems Out of the Closet. Resource person is **Joan Turner**.

On Tuesday, July 28, **Irving Naftolin** hosts a fun-filled presentation on Better Dancing, 1:15-2:15 p.m.

Israeli Club Etrog meets 7 p.m. Tuesdays for movies, sing-alongs, lectures, bingo, dances. July 21 is bingo and July 28 is a sing-along. **Anna**.

SINGLES EVENTS CAN BE FOUND ON PAGE 20

USDS AWARD WINNERS

United Synagogue Day School is proud of its two major award winners. Sandra Berkal (left), a General Studies Middle School teacher at Bayview Campus, received the Schecter Scholar in Israel award for professional development in Israel. She will participate in a summer seminar at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, designed to familiarize participants with the spectrum of Israeli literary authors. Lisa Grushcow (right) won the Dr. Aaron N. Nussbaum Award for graduates of USDS who have demonstrated commitment to Jewish education, leadership and to the community. She will pursue her studies at the Conservative Yeshiva in Jerusalem, in preparation for rabbinical training at the Jewish Theological Seminary.

AISH HATORAH GALA

Honorees, spouses and attendees at Aish HaTorah's Gala Event, Making a Difference: The Power of One, held recently at Le Parc Markham: From left: John Sereny, Gloria Pelchovitch, Israel Ambassador David Sultan, Orna and Michael Serruya, MP Elinor Caplan, Simon Serruya, Debbie Schulich, Shauna and Aaron Serruya, Allan and Hilda Silber, Toby and Saul Feldberg. [Randy Zelcer, Zephr Studios photo]

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Skills required for both positions:
Word or Word Perfect, computer literacy, typing, efficiency, good people skills.

Please send your resumes to:
Chabad Lubavitch of Markham
83 Green Lane, Thornhill, Ontario L3T 6K6
Or fax to: (905) 886-0421

A GIFT FROM BONDS

On the occasion of their confirmation from the Holy Blossom Temple and in recognition to their upcoming visit to Israel, Roz Davidson, chair, community relations, State of Israel Bonds, presented Miriam Burns, Zachary Paul and Allison Mindlin each with a State of Israel Bonds $100 (U.S.) certificate.

Jewish Campus Services OF GREATER TORONTO

Jewish Campus Services
is inviting applications for the following positions:

• Program Director at York University

• Jewish Campus Service Corp/Koach Fellowship
(Servicing the Conservative movement on campus)

Jewish Campus Services is interested in candidates who demonstrate the following skills and attributes:

- A commitment to the Jewish community together with a strong Jewish background.
- Excellent interpersonal skills
- The ability to work with students from diverse backgrounds
- Experience working with students on campus
- MSW or Master of Jewish Communal Service preferred
- For the JCSC/Koach position, the successful candidate is a graduate and an active member of the Conservative movement, committed to its ideals and values, with demonstrated leadership ability through USY or Camp Ramah

Submit applications to Rachel JCS 3101 Bathurst Street, Suite 401, Toronto, ON M6A 2A6 or fax 785-8271 Deadline for submissions is July 24 Only candidates invited for an interview will be contacted

UJA FEDERATION Jewish Campus Services is a beneficiary agency of UJA/Federation of Greater Toronto

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If you have ✓ a resume
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Qualified candidates will be registered on the spot!
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UJA FEDERATION

United Way of Greater Toronto

Doctor attends leadership institute

By PETER CAULFIELD
Pacific Correspondent

VANCOUVER — Dr. Cliff Ungar, a local general practitioner, was one of 23 young leaders from the Lower Mainland who spent one week at the Wexner Heritage Foundation's 1998 summer institute at Snowbird, Utah.

The Wexner Heritage Foundation was started in 1986 by New York clothing magnate and philanthropist Leslie Wexner to educate Jewish communal leaders in the history, thought, traditions and contemporary challenges of the Jewish people.

The two-year program is comprised of three out-of-town summer institutes, and bi-weekly lectures delivered by Jewish scholars and experts flown in by the foundation to Canadian cities. Many of the speakers in the program are engaged by the Jewish Federation of Greater Vancouver (JFGV) to deliver free public lectures to the Jewish community.

Leaders and potential leaders from the Montreal and Toronto Jewish communities also take part in the program. This marks the first time the two-year program has been offered in Canada.

"It's a tremendous opportunity. It will also equip me to face the challenges in my personal and professional life and as a volunteer in the Jewish community," he says.

Ungar, 43, grew up in Saint-Laurent and Town of Mount Royal, Quebec. He attended Talmud Torah and Herzliah High School, and took part in youth activities at the YM/YWHA in Snowdon.

He graduated from McGill University medical school and came to the west coast in 1981 to intern at the Royal Columbian Hospital in New Westminster. He has a practice in Port Moody, and lives in Vancouver with his wife, Sandra, and their 5-year-old daughter Hannah.

Ungar did not get seriously involved in the Jewish community until he married and started a family. "It just seemed like the right thing to do. Being involved and taking part helps me and it also helps the Jewish community. It's fun and rewarding."

Ungar has sat on the board of JFGV for four years, and has been a Federation vice-president in charge of communications for two years.

Between 1991 and 1997, Ungar was active in the Burquest Jewish Community Association, which serves a small Jewish community scattered throughout the residential suburbs of Burnaby, New Westminster, Coquitlam, Port Coquitlam and Port Moody. He edited and published the *Chai Times* newsletter and for three years, helped run services in the basement of his home.

"I think I have something to offer the Lower Mainland Jewish community as it faces the challenges of the years ahead," he says.

The west coast has some unique problems to grapple with, he says. "We have the fastest rate of growth of any Jewish community in Canada, but we lack the infrastructure to match our needs. The high cost of living here, especially the cost of housing, means we have limited resources.

"We have a diverse community. "That means we seldom speak with one voice, but it also makes Vancouver a very exciting place to be a Jew."

CLARIFICATION

Unfortunately, production gremlins knocked out the last line of Rabbi Gunther Plaut's column of July 9. We here reproduce the full text of the final paragraph:

Burg, whose son is now the chair of the Jewish Agency, belongs to a vanishing breed. He draws on a multitude of intellectual sources and does so with great charm, without putting down his audience. On the contrary, he is one of the few who can manage to pull it up to his own level, and that is an experience of which one can never have enough.

The CJN regrets the omission.

SINGLES EVENTS
is an advertising feature of *The Canadian Jewish News*
Deadline is Wednesday, 4pm, 8 days preceding issue date.
For rates or to place an ad, call:
Tanya at (416) 391-1836
The CJN encourages readers to direct any queries they may have on an upcoming event to the event's organizers.

Check out Jewish Singles Events on the web. www.total.net/~jsreg

Jewish Singles Registry. Over 1610 registered. Averaging an engagement every 4 wks. **483-4151.**

IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR PARENTS/GRANDPARENTS OF YOUNG CHILDREN

The Government is now offering **grants** to help send your children to university.

For an infant, this gift could reach $14,000!

For more info call: **Michael Bernstein**, *B.A., B.Ed., Enrollment Officer, H.S.T.P.* at **(416) 287-5004**

From coast to coast

Five percent more families helped by JIAS in 1997

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Business has been up for the national office of Jewish Immigrant Aid Services of Canada (JIAS) over its previous fiscal year, the latest figures show.

The agency released its annual figures last week, and they show it aided 665 families in its 1997-98 fiscal year, or nearly 1,600 individuals in 10 Canadian cities, excluding Montreal and Toronto.

JIAS has local offices in Toronto and Montreal, and they calculate totals for those cities separately.

The cities in which JIAS provides services outside Montreal and Toronto are Vancouver, Calgary, Edmonton, Winnipeg, Ottawa, Hamilton, London, Windsor, Halifax and St. John's.

The national figures show a five percent increase in the total over the year before, said JIAS Canada national executive director Michael Bricks.

Bricks described the latest figures as "very strong," and said they showed a new trend: a larger influx of Jewish immigrants from South America.

Although the bulk of JIAS-assisted arrivals came from Russia and the former Soviet republics, Bricks said the agency is seeing an increase in those arriving from South America, particularly Buenos Aires and Sao Paulo.

As well, JIAS's national office provided service where it had not before, namely, in Kitchener, Ont., Lethbridge, Alta., and Moose Jaw, Sask., meaning Jewish immigrants are settling outside the larger centres, Bricks noted.

JIAS's Toronto office aided 650 immigrant families in 1997-98, while the total for Montreal was 556 families.

Sharon Hochberg of Windsor was recently welcomed as JIAS Canada's new president for a two-year term. She replaces Adrian Albert of Edmonton.

In the coming days, JIAS Canada is expected to launch its Web site. The address is [www.jias.org].

* * *

Last month, JIAS's national office joined several agencies brought together to advise the federal government on how it should spend money on immigrant services in Ontario.

Ottawa must distribute a one-time surplus to Ontario immigrant settlement services in recognition of the proportionately larger number of immigrants arriving in the province.

One area in which JIAS's expertise was sought is how to make smaller urban centres more accessible to newcomers. The agency's service providers in London, Hamilton, Windsor and Ottawa will be approached by federal immigration officials in the consultation process, which will culminate in the submission of funding proposals this autumn.

Kosher to the COR

[Cont'd. from page 17]

zucchini and tomato, broccoli and cauliflower, eggplant and roasted peppers, or greco-Roman, a no-tomato sauce pizza topped with vegetables and feta cheese, on an extra crispy and light crust. Owner Eddy Gozlan and his wife Bruria, also serve many different salads, pasta dishes, Israeli sandwiches, and baked goods, together with gourmet coffees.

The regular coffee is Lavazza coffee from Italy, which Gozlan calls the best coffee in the world.

A new bakery has opened in the Bathurst-Lawrence area. **Hole in One** specializes in different kinds of bagels, exotic grain breads, donuts, and pastries. You can also get sandwiches and gourmet coffees there.

An interesting development, and a sign of the increasingly sophisticated palates of the kosher consumer, is the **LCBO** kiosk at the Spring Farm plaza. It sells the kosher wines, liquors, and spirits that regular LCBO stores offer, all in one small storefront. You can also select a gift basket, or choose an imported lager or beer.

A new kosher product that has appeared in stores (including the two featured in this article) are food wraps, in such exotic flavors as lemon thai, mediterranean and garden tomato. They are found in the refrigerator section.

8:38 P.M.

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Parents Mark & Jennifer Schnier welcome Noah Saxon, born Jan. 28. Welcomed by Bubbie Sharon, Zayde Alan, Great-Bubbie Molly and the gantze mishpoche.

Happy birthday Jessica Taylor on June 10. Love from Bubbie Bettie, Zayde Sol, Auntie Marla & Uncle Shael, Jordan and Ryan.

Mazel tov to Nathalie Meijer on her graduation from Thornhill High School. Your parents Manon & Mickey and sister Danielle are proud of you.

Mazel tov to Tania Haas, Earl Haig valedictorian and 1998 graduate. Love from your family.

Mazel tov Marilyn & David Glick on your 25th wedding anniversary from your parents Michael & Ruth Charney.

Mazel tov to Sam Grossman who celebrated his 75th birthday with his sister and brother-in-law Sadie & Max Katz, brother Hy and family and friends.

Mazel tov to Blanche & Aby Lipski on your 50th wedding anniversary. With love from your children and grandchildren.

Mazel tov to Ruth & Morris Raiman on their 50th wedding anniversary on June 20. Love from your children and grandchildren.

From coast to coast

Businessman taking Collins before rights tribunal

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Vancouver columnist Doug Collins has another date with the British Columbia Human Rights Commission – this time for a series of articles that allegedly cause hatred or contempt towards Jews.

Victoria businessman Harry Abrams is taking Collins before the human rights body, along with the *North Shore News*, for four columns written between January and April 1994 that Abrams believes promote contempt of Jews. The case begins on July 20 though the initial complaint dates back four years.

Abrams said his case was put on hold while another complaint by Canadian Jewish Congress was adjudicated by a human rights tribunal. That case focused on a single column written by Collins, *Hollywood Propaganda*, that also appeared in the *North Shore News* and that criticized the Oscar-winning film, *Schindler's List*. Last November, a rights tribunal found the column "nasty, insulting, smug and anti-Semitic" and "likely to make it more acceptable for others to express hatred or contempt against Jewish people." But the tribunal concluded it was not hateful enough to warrant action under the B.C. Human Rights Act.

Abrams said his case differs from the previous one on a number of bases, primarily in this contention that there is an ongoing, multiple pattern to Collins' writings. The columns in question are allegedly "group libel, an anti-Semitic canard that should be discouraged," he said.

The articles, which includes *Hollywood Propaganda*, focus on denial of the Holocaust and "Jewish conspiracies," he said.

Abrams, who runs his own advertising business, said two weeks of time have been set aside for the hearing, which will be held in a ballroom at the Ocean Point Resort Hotel in Victoria.

Dr. Lionel Kenner, a retired professor of philosophy from Simon Fraser University, will be called as an expert witness to analyze Collins' writing technique while other witnesses will examine anti-Semitism in Canada, he said.

Abrams is seeking $5,000 in damages from both Collins and the *North Shore News*, which will go towards the legal fund of B'nai Brith Canada's League for Human Rights. He is a also seeking $2,000 for his lost time and expenses, a full apology and an undertaking that Collins and the *North Shore News* refrain from publishing similar material in the future, he said.

The League will be seeking intervener status in the case, said Marvin Kurz, the organization's national legal counsel.

Kurz, who is also the League's co-chair, said Abrams' case addresses a concern in the earlier ruling involving Collins that the *Hollywood Propaganda* story was merely an isolated incident. The other articles are "at least as bad," he said.

In other developments, the Canadian Human Rights Commission hearing into the "Zundelsite" Web page has been adjourned until November. In the interim, Zundel's lawyer, Doug Christie, is seeking judicial review of several commission rulings. If successful, the rulings could bring the case to a halt.

Christie is seeking a review of the commission's decision not to stay proceedings on the grounds of its alleged bias; he is seeking a review of a decision by a Federal Court judge not to grant an interim stay; he is seeking a review of a commission ruling that truth could not be a defence in a hearing to determine whether statements promoted contempt of identifiable groups; and he's seeking a review of a commission decision denying expert status to two witnesses advanced by Zundel.

Gerald Berger was a leader in Ottawa

By DIANE KOVEN
Ottawa Correspondent

OTTAWA — Toronto native and longtime Ottawa resident Gerald Berger, 60, died recently just days after the Ottawa Jewish community awarded him the Gilbert Greenberg Distinguished Service Award.

Obituary

Son of the late Salome and Lou Berger, Gerald Berger graduated from the University of Toronto and earned an MBA from Columbia University before accepting a position with the federal government in Ottawa. He became active in the Jewish community and met his wife Ruth at a lecture at the Jewish Community Centre.

Berger was a past president of the Jewish Community Council of Ottawa/Vaad Ha'Ir, Jewish Community Campus and Jewish Community Foundation. He was chair of the public service division of United Jewish Appeal, was active in the United Way and the Canadian National Institute for the Blind and was a member of the Canadian Olympic Association.

At 56 he became federal coordinator of the 1994 Commonwealth Games in Victoria, and special advisor to the minister of state for fitness and amateur sport.

Simon Reisman, under whom Berger worked in the early years of his career, was quoted in the *Ottawa Citizen* describing Berger as "the smoothest, most diplomatic, most capable public servant I ever met."

Reisman was among those who nominated Berger for the highest level of membership in the Order of Canada.

In 1994, Berger retired from the public service and spent the last years of his life as a business-government consultant.

Rabbi Arnold Fine of Agudath Israel Congregation said Berger was one of the first people to befriend him when he arrived in Canada. "I arrived here 17 years ago, not knowing very much about Canada and even less about its Jewish community...He brought me books, he sat with me, he taught me the uniqueness of this country. I received lessons in the governance of Canada and its impact upon the Jewish community."

Rabbi Fine said in his eulogy that Berger "knew where he was going and he succeeded...Gerry was a very proud Canadian who contributed much to his country."

Asked at one time which of his many accomplishments made him most proud, Berger replied "my children."

Gerald Berger is survived by his wife, children Michael and Lisa, his brother Dr. Earl Berger, and sister Dorothy Zaifman of Toronto.

Alleged war criminal named

[Cont'd. from page 1]

deaths of Nemsila and Kenstavicius stopped short court hearings that would have cleared up legal issues pertaining to their cases but which may resurface in the Nebel case.

At a hearing before an Immigration adjudicator, Nemsila's lawyer successfully argued that by obtaining "domicile" after five years residency in Canada, he was immune from deportation. The adjudicator's decision was reversed on appeal by a Federal Court judge but Nemsila died before the Federal Court of Appeal could render a definitive ruling.

Canadian Jewish Congress welcomed the case against Nebel. "This announcement shows the federal Justice Department war crimes unit continues to work steadily on bringing new cases forward," said Irving Abella, chair of Congress' war crimes committee. "There is a level of aggressiveness being displayed which helps us believe that some form of justice may be formed after all."

"We will proceed expeditiously with this case," said Justice Minister Anne McLellan.

"The federal government is determined to ensure that Canada is not a safe haven for those alleged to have committed war crimes...regardless of when those events occurred."

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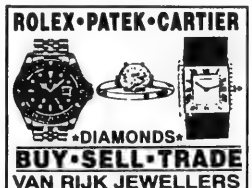

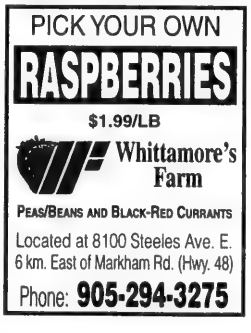

From coast to coast

Politicos fly east for summer Israel tour

Scene in Ottawa

By STEPHEN BINDMAN

OTTAWA — So what did you do on your summer vacation?

Here in the nation's capital, apparently not very much.

The nation's business in Ottawa has seemingly ground to a complete halt.

The House of Commons is recessed for nearly three months. There is not the usual flurry of government press releases, if you don't count the ones announcing new bridge construction in rural Nova Scotia. There are few press scrums with cabinet ministers or news conferences with interest groups.

In fact, it almost seems like more federal business is being conducted these days in – yes – Israel.

So far this summer, almost a dozen MPs and senators have travelled to the Holy Land.

First up was Unity Minister Stephane Dion, who spent a dizzying week meeting and touring in Israel.

The catalyst for his first visit was a keynote speech to the Israel Association for Canadian Studies at Hebrew University entitled The Canadian Ideal.

But the workaholic reformed academic wouldn't rest his laurels on one speech and spent several exhausting days meeting with officials of all political stripes, including Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and PLO chief Yasser Arafat.

Dion breakfasted with PLO executive Faisal Husseini, lunched with well-known Palestinian spokesperson Hanan Ashrawi and conferred with Shimon Peres, several Israeli cabinet ministers and Supreme Court president Aharon Barak.

The minister says the things that left the greatest impression on him were just how small the country is, how complex its problems are and how key water is to such a tiny nation.

"There are many thing that I knew, but the opportunity to go there now I feel them," Dion said in an interview upon his return.

"Mackenzie King said that Canada is full of geography but lacks history. There, it's exactly the contrary – and the history has been shaped around water. When you think about how you may give some territory to the Palestinians, it's not only what is safe regarding geostrategic perspectives, it's also what is safe regarding the capacity for Israel to have water.

"Now I feel problems that before I was able to understand but not to feel."

Dion, whose official title is President of the Queen's Privy Council for Canada and Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs but whose unofficial job is to fight Quebec separatists, said he has also come to learn how Canada's secular struggles pale in comparison to day-to-day life in Israel.

"I would not like to exchange our problems with them. There, it seems that nobody is suggesting seriously to have a state where people would be citizens, where you would have two official languages, Arabic and Hebrew. It seems impossible."

Dion was accompanied by his wife Janine Krieber (a Concordia University professor who also delivered a paper at the conference) and daughter Jeanne (not at taxpayers' expense, you'll be pleased to know).

Next to land was a group of MPs, senators and Ontario MPPs, courtesy of the Canada-Israel Committee.

For more than 20 years, the national advocacy group has been bringing elected and non-elected Canadian decision-makers to Israel for a firsthand look at the complex Middle East dynamic.

"We never hide our parochial perspective – we're pro-Israel, we want to see Canada and Israel's bilateral relationship flourish and we want to advance our perspective on the larger Middle East issues, such as the peace process," said Shimon Fogel, director of government relations.

"But the function of this trip is exclusively for them to get a very direct sense of what the issues are, what the perspectives on those issues are, what some of the challenges are. To that end, we work very very hard to ensure that they are exposed to the broadest possible spectrum of opinion, both Jewish and non-Jewish.

"Our goal is for them to be able to come back home and when they take notice of developments that arise in the media they're much more grounded in what that means for some of the larger issues. When they hear about settlements, they understand what a settlement is."

They meet Jews and Palestinians, right and left, secular and religious, settlers and journalists, academics and politicians – "they get it all."

Inevitably, Fogel says, there isn't a parliamentarian who doesn't return "struck by how different reality is from what they're initial perceptions were before going over.

"Throughout the whole experience, it just brings to life the things that they have read about in a very removed way for many years."

This year's group includes Liberal MPs Marlene Jennings, Albina Guarnieri, Brent St. Denis, Carolyn Bennett, Paddy Torsney and Reg Belair, Liberal Senator Sharon Carstairs, Conservative MPs Greg Thompson and Norm Doyle and Ontario politicians John Baird and Dwight Duncan.

"It will be a really interesting experience to be in a country that's so small and yet has such a vibrant economy and is in the international news all the time," Torsney, an energetic two-term MP from Burlington, Ont., said before her departure.

Torsney, who has been active lobbying countries around the world to sign the international treaty banning land mines treaty, also hopes she'll come to better "understand" Israel's refusal to join the process.

We'll let you know who fills up the rest of the summer Israel tour.

Stephen Bindman is national legal affairs correspondent for the Southam Newspapers based in Ottawa.

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On Campus

New projects, staff keep JCS busy in summer

TORONTO — There's no summer lull at Jewish Campus Services (JCS) of Greater Toronto, as summer students work on new initiatives, and new staff members fill positions of those who've been promoted.

Some changes that may be of interest to Toronto students are:

• JCS now has a Web site, designed by Ryerson Polytechnic University student Tammy Weisz, at [www.jewishcampusservices.com].

• Summer students Mark Buzaglo and Alana Balaban are refining the *Cartice*, signing up new businesses to make the JCS membership card more attractive.

• Balaban is also working on a fall program on eating disorders.

• Nadia Sapiro, also a summer student, is developing a conference on employment and Jewish students. It is being planned in conjunction with Jewish Vocational Service.

• Summer student Michal Kaye is updating JCS' mailing lists.

• Pearl Gropper Berman, former director of York University's Jewish Student Federation, has been appointed assistant executive director of JCS. Her responsibilities include citywide programming, initiatives such as the employment conference, staff supervision and development and on-site campus support.

• Lance Davis, former program director of the Jewish Students' Union at the University of Toronto, has been appointed JCS' director of education. His responsibilities include developing campus and citywide educational programs, leadership development, major seminars and staff development with respect to Jewish education.

• Davis will also co-ordinate a new initiative with Kedma, the Orthodox Zionist student group, to provide programs and services to Orthodox students.

• Michelle Lackie replaces Lance Davis as program director at U of T. She has a B.Ed. from McGill University and a strong background in the Conservative movement, both in United Synagogue Youth and Camp Ramah.

• Jason Soloway has joined JCS as a program associate for one year, based at U of T.

• Stephanie Wener, a former Hillel Jewish Campus Service Corps (JSCS) fellow, has joined JCS' permanent staff. She'll continue to be based at Ryerson and U of T.

• Tamar Kagan, a recent U of T graduate, becomes co-ordinator of JCS' Arts and Culture portfolio. She's currently leading a creative arts program in Israel for the summer.

• Jordie Caplan, a graduate of Carleton University, will be based at York University as a member of the JCSC Fellowship.

• Two full-time positions remain to be filled, that of program director at York University and a new position, that of JCSC Fellow for Koach, the Conservative Movement on Campus. (Former Koach fieldworker Adam Silver left recently to become manager, chapter development at Child Find Ontario.)

• A part-time fieldworker for Kesher - Reform on Campus is also being sought to build effective programming for Reform students. The newly created position was announced by Zac Kaye, JCS executive director, and Jack Zarek, JCS acting president in a recent news release.

• JCS' first annual general meeting will take place in early September.

• The agency is inviting parents to become friends and partners of JCS to ensure its financial future, Zarek announced.

• Zarek also expressed delight with progress being made on a new JSU facility at U of T.

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Lt.-Gen. Shaul Mofaz (centre) takes over as Chief of the General Staff from Lt.-Gen. Amnon Lipkin-Shahak (left) as Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai looks on. **[Israel photo]**

Mofaz faces many challenges

By ARIEH O'SULLIVAN
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

One of Lt.-Gen. Shaul Mofaz's most obvious first tasks as IDF chief of general staff is to shed any impression that he is going to be a "yes-man" to his benefactor, Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai.

A talented, courageous and experienced commander, Mofaz enters his office in the general staff headquarters with the burden of facing a public and a general staff who feel there was someone perhaps more qualified for the job: Matan Vilna'i.

When he gathered his general staff for its first meeting in Tel Aviv last week, he laid out his credo.

It was said to be not so much a description of his vision for the IDF of the 20th century, as a plea to his fellow officers to work together.

His immediate challenges will be to complete the reshuffling of his general staff, and he is expected to promote at least four brigadier generals. He must work to consolidate a multi-year program and secure a defence budget.

These are the areas where we will be able to gauge whether he is Mordechai's lackey or strong enough to stand on his own. It will also be interesting to see whether he plans to forge a working dialogue with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, something his predecessor did not have.

Furthermore, when Mordechai said that Mofaz's success is the success of all us, he really meant Mofaz's success was Mordechai's success.

Mofaz will be given his period of grace. But if he turns out to be less than a success, it will help boost the impression that Mordechai's selection of Mofaz was clouded by a personal grudge against Vilna'i.

In the longer term, Mofaz's challenges to reshape the IDF to meet the changing threats against Israel are most pertinent. He must implement the updated defence doctrine being drafted now in the Defence Ministry and work to confront the growing threat of surface-to-surface missiles and weapons of mass destruction.

Mofaz's tenure will most likely be one of the most complicated in the history of the country, since Israel is entering an era where states which have no common border with it can threaten its very existence.

Protection and long-arm deterrence are expensive, but the defence budget is dwindling more and more each year as the running costs of the IDF grow. Mofaz will need to lead the IDF in making some drastic cuts in manpower, reducing rear units and staff officers.

Lebanon will simmer, but the overriding concern will be the clock ticking away in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, where Yasser Arafat's Palestinian Authority appears to be waiting for May 1999 to declare an independent state.

Mofaz's IDF must be able to provide the government, whoever it may comprise, with the freedom, strength and options to decide how it will handle such a scenario.

CORRECTION

The wire service from which we received the July 9 *Perspectives* article entitled "Is the end of the Ethiopia aliyah at hand?" by Debra Nussbaum Cohen was incorrectly identified.

The source of the article was the Jewish Telegraphic Agency.

The CJN regrets the error.

U.S. 'inconsistent': official

Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — A senior government official has criticized the U.S. negotiating team for being "inconsistent" – initially accepting and endorsing Israeli proposals, but then repudiating them after receiving negative reactions from Palestinian Authority leaders.

Meanwhile, two senior PA officials, Saeb Erekat and Nabil Shaath, went to Washington at the invitation of the State Department for talks about the prospective IDF pullback in the West Bank.

The senior official would neither confirm nor deny a Channel 1 report that the United States is working on sponsoring a meeting between Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai and the PA's deputy chairman, Mahmoud Abbas.

The official also denied that Secretary of State Madeleine Albright had said the United States would terminate its mediation effort by the end of the month.

"She did not say any of those things. He added that the leak came from Washington, not Jerusalem.

He alleged there was an American tendency to "vacillate and backtrack" when dealing with issues germaine to the peace process. He indicated this could undercut Netanyahu's intention to announce the government's readiness to implement a 13.1 percent redeployment in the West Bank.

Netanyahu insists that this be done by the Palestine National Council, as required by the Palestine Liberation Organization's own regulations. Albright reportedly does not go along with Netanyahu on this.

Netanyahu met separately with President Ezer Weizman and Labor Party Chair Ehud Barak to update them about the peace talks, but nothing was said publicly by any of them about the pertinent details.

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UJA FEDERATION

THE RIGHT STUFF

Air Force pilot Col. Ilan Ramon has been chosen to be Israel's first man in space. The 44-year-old, who is in the United States training with NASA, has experience flying Mirage and F-16 fighters and also studied electronic engineering and computers at Tel Aviv University. While in orbit, Ramon will be in charge of a series of experiments developed at TAU. [Isranet photo]

Knesset rejects yeshiva draft bill

[Cont'd. from page 1]

result of a rare alliance involving the Likud, religious parties and Arab parties.

Arab legislators voted against the bills in exchange for a promise from the religious parties to oppose any future initiative to impose any form of national service on Israel's Arab population.

Barak's bill was defeated by a 53-45 vote. A similar bill introduced by the secularist Meretz party was voted down by 53-41.

One member of the cabinet, Public Security Minister Avigdor Kahalani, gave his support to Barak's bill.

Last week's Knesset session turned into a confrontation between Barak and his former subordinate when he was army chief of staff, Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai.

Barak claimed there was no justification for the fact that behind every soldier who "can look at the enemy directly in the eyes," there would be 10 Israeli youths who would stay at home.

Mordechai, who spoke for the government, retorted that Barak's motives for introducing the bill were political.

He added that there was no guarantee that a draft of yeshivah students would improve Israel's security situation and that the move would only deepen rifts in Israeli society.

The haredi parties expressed anger at Barak for introducing his bill, saying the move would prevent them for supporting him in any run for the premiership.

The Week in Israel

July 6

• The Labor party launched a major public relations initiative to try to exploit a statement by National Infrastructure Minister Ariel Sharon regarding inconsistent statements on the peace process made to cabinet by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

July 7

• Israel will launch a new satellite before the aging Ofek 3 runs out of energy later this year, according to the chair of the Israel Space Agency. Ofek 3 was put into orbit in 1995.

July 8

• Security officials uncovered a Jewish underground in the Golan Heights that allegedly conspired to stage an armed resistance in the event of a decision by the government to withdraw from the Heights.

July 9

• Israel authorized sending humanitarian aid to the estimated 50,000 refugees who have fled to Albania from the fighting in Yugoslavia's Kosovo region.

• Maj.-Gen. Shaul Mofaz formally assumed the position of Israel's new army chief of staff, replacing Lt.-Gen. Amnon Shahak.

July 10

• For the first time in Shin Bet history, the agency's annual assessment on the state of internal security included a warning about extremist Jewish groups prepared to take violent action against other Jews.

50 Years Ago

JERUSALEM, *July 5* — A pitched battle, during which small arms, machine guns, mortars and cannon were used, took place in Jerusalem this weekend. The 12-hour exchange of shot and shell, the first major break of the truce in Jerusalem, occurred after Arab snipers in the Old City began firing on Jewish positions. The Jews replied with small arms fire and the Arabs soon brought up heavy weapons, after which the Jews too brought their batteries into play. At one point the UN headquarters was under fire. One Arab woman in an Israeli-held hospice was shot and killed by Arab snipers while eight other Jews were injured.

With files from JTA

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Israel & the Jewish World

France increases Mideast profile

By JAY BUSHINSKY
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Syrian President Hafez al-Assad's state visit to France next week will provide his official hosts with a golden opportunity to upgrade their involvement in the Middle East peace process, especially on the Israel-Syria and Israel-Lebanon tracks, a senior government source said.

It will enable President Jacques Chirac and his foreign minister, Hubert Vedrine, to seek Assad's participation in a French-sponsored international conference in which the other main Arab participants would be Egypt, Jordan and the Palestinian Authority.

The source said Israel did not expect to receive an invitation and has opposed this initiative from its inception.

But the possibility of a breakthrough in the impasse over Israel's offer to implement UN Security Council Resolution 425 by withdrawing the IDF from the security zone in southern Lebanon was seen as a possible outcome of the impending dialogue between the French and Syrian heads of state.

Success in facilitating implementation of Resolution 425 by convincing Assad to approve the Lebanese Army's assumption of responsibility for security in the south would be a major progression from France's role in expediting the recent exchange of Hezbollah prisoners and the remains of their colleagues for the body of Third Petty Officer Itamar Ilya.

Assad's stay in France will have an additional dimension: Chirac personally and the French public, especially the Jewish community, will expect him to clarify the whereabouts and status of fugitive Nazi SS Hauptsturmfuehrer Alois Brunner. Brunner was the wartime commandant of the Drancy transit camp, from which more than 70,000 French Jews were transported to Auschwitz.

France has a longstanding request for Brunner's extradition to stand trial for crimes against humanity. It is based on evidence that Brunner has been hiding in Syria since 1959.

During the run-up to Assad's arrival, major French newspapers have reactivated coverage of the Brunner case under giant headlines such as "The Man Responsible for the Death of 100,000 Jews."

Nazi hunter Serge Klarsfeld pointed out that Assad's visit is to coincide with the annual commemoration of the mass roundup of Jews by the Vichy French police July 16 and 17, 1942.

Klarsfeld said he believes Chirac will press Assad for specific information about Brunner and possibly for his handover.

VW ups compensation ante

By PETER EPHROSS
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

NEW YORK — Volkswagen's decision to establish a fund for Jewish slave laborers ups the ante on other German companies to make similar payments.

Just three weeks after the German car company rejected demands to compensate 30 Jewish slave laborers who had worked for Volkswagen during World War II, the auto manufacturer agreed last week to set up a fund for them.

According to a history financed by the company two years ago, Volkswagen employed 15,000 slave workers to help in the German war effort.

Hailing the move as a "bold step" and a "breath of fresh air," Rabbi Abraham Cooper, associate dean of the Simon Wiesenthal Centre in Los Angeles, said, "We now hold up Volkswagen as a corporate leader" in making amends to slave laborers.

Rabbi Cooper noted that in 1995, Volkswagen led a campaign against a Japanese publishing company after one of its magazines published a Holocaust-denial article on the 50th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz.

Klaus von Muenchhausen, the lawyer who had threatened a class-action lawsuit on behalf of the 30 laborers, all of whom were employed by the firm as teen-agers and now live in Israel, said he would pursue similar action against Varta, a battery company, and Hochtief, a construction company.

Many of the estimated millions of slave laborers who worked for Volkswagen and other companies under the Nazi regime have died, and the issue of making payments before much more time elapses is crucial because of the survivors' advanced age.

Volkswagen said it would provide details about the fund in September.

The German government made compensation payments to slave laborers for their imprisonment and for health damages, but has refused to pay back wages. German firms generally have also refused to pay back wages, saying that these were the government's responsibility.

In May, the Karl Diehl armament company agreed, under political pressure, to pay $552 per month in back wages to each slave laborer.

While it was unclear how much money Volkswagen would pay the laborers, von Muenchhausen was quoted as saying his clients would seek $2,200 for each month worked.

IMPASSIONED DEMONSTRATION
An estimated 2,500 Ethiopian olim gathered outside the Prime Ministers' Office last week to demand the government reunite them with their family members still in Ethiopia. [Isranet photo]

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CJN Rosh Hashanah Photo Contest

The CJN announces its fourth annual Rosh Hashanah photo contest. We are asking readers to submit their own original photographs either of Israel or on any Jewish theme in their community.

Anyone can enter except *CJN* employees or members of their families.

A maximum of three photos per entrant may be submitted. Please write your name, address and phone number on the back of each photo. We can only return the photos if you provide a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

You may mail or deliver your photos to: *The CJN* Rosh Hashanah Contest, The Canadian Jewish News, 1500 Don Mills Road, Suite 205, Toronto, Ont., M3B 3K4.

The contest closes at 3 p.m. on Friday, Aug. 28, 1998.

The judges will choose three photographs which, in their opinion, are the most expressive and evocative. These three photos will be published in *The CJN* Rosh Hashanah issue, Sept. 17, 1998. Each of the "winning" photographers will receive a cheque for $100.

We will undoubtedly receive many worthy submissions. But only three will be selected as the "winners." The decisions of the judges will be final. The odds of winning depend upon the number and the quality of submissions received.

Winning entrants will be notified by telephone before Shabbat on Sept. 4, 1998.

Along with these three photos, *The CJN* will also publish 10 photos from the Israel Experience Photo Contest sponsored by UIA Federations Canada, the Canada Israel Experience Centre and El Al Israel Airlines. Israel Experience participants aged 15 to 24 should contact the UIA office for details.

Any litigation respecting the conduct and awarding of a prize in this contest may be submitted to the Régie des Loteries et courses du Québec.

Travel, Arts & Business

Haunting dreams form basis of swirly, twirly paintings

By MIRIAM CHINSKY
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Sandra Silberzweig describes her paintings as "swirly, twirly, full of motion and color."

That is the first impression but there is a compelling depth and symbolism in the host of images she conceives.

Silberzweig, a young mother and homemaker, gemologist and graduate of York and Carleton universities, is also a self-taught artist.

Vivid, haunting dreams which she transcribed into a journal are the basis for many of her works.

There is a reason for the dreams. The firstborn daughter of Eastern European Holocaust survivors, she is deeply affected by both their tragic experience and their recollections of life before the horror.

The dichotomy is particularly evident in two paintings, *The Silence* and *Village Wedding*.

The Silence portrays two sections of a town, divided by a road. On one side, ghosts drift above an underground graveyard studded with Magen David-engraved tombstones. On the other side, the village has erupted in frenzy, houses and townspeople tossed into the air. For Silberzweig, the tombstones beneath the earth's surface and the mute spectres above represent the silence before the Holocaust when most Jews put their heads down, refusing to see what was coming.

Village Wedding brings to life the hustle and bustle of a shtetl celebration with its bride and groom, rabbi and dancing wedding guests. A pretty lake enhances the community and a fish is clearly defined in the scene. For Silberzweig, who incorporates diverse Jewish customs and beliefs in her work, the fish represents happiness.

Multi-talented, she has her own company, with a separate division called Haute (pronounced "hot") Plates that features whimsical, brilliantly colored wooden trays and bowls, the jewel-like tones a product of her gemology training.

She collects the dishes from friends on the lookout for the unusual, acquires them from resale stores, or buys wherever she finds something she likes.

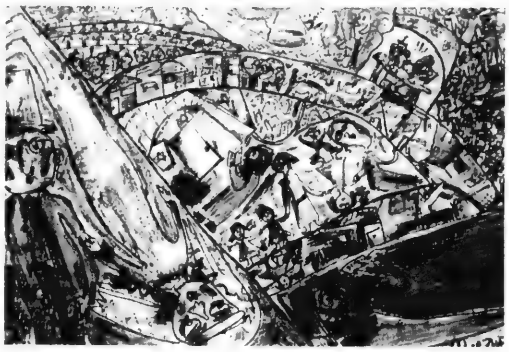
Then, invention takes over.

She designs intricate patterns, then hand paints the dishes using non-toxic acrylic paint and coats them with urethane for protection. Altering a shape, adding a bit, she transforms them into totally new concepts, at once functional and striking.

A simple little bowl glows; a hostess tray sprouts handles made from hand carved duck figurines. All pieces are originals, signed and numbered.

She's had a solo exhibition sponsored by the Koffler Centre for the Arts at the Bathurst Jewish Centre and currently has a show at Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue.

Ranging from small "button bowls" starting at $20 to much larger pieces selling for up to $200, Silberzweig's creations are available at both traditional and innovative gift shops and boutiques.



Sandra Silberzweig's Village Wedding has a colorful compelling depth and symbolism in the host of images she conceives.

Urbane play tackles angst of marriage

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The witty, urbane and insightful script by Alex Poch-Goldin was the star of the hit, *This Hotel*, at the recent Fringe Festival.

The play examines a faltering marriage ("You get married so you can't love anyone else") without pinning blame on husband or wife.

Husband Lester's life is chronicled through subconscious visits in a series of ratty hotel rooms, from his wife, paramours and strangers. The moral: Love is a fleeting and inexplicable phenomenon. Don't try to understand it, just go with the flow.

This Hotel almost takes on the air of a French bedroom farce, so many doors open and close in a hurry, but it rights itself in time to be a serious, though humorous, look at the angst of marriage.

Innovative twists such as the bell hop (Alon Nashman) popping out of thin air to set up a bar on a hotel bed were to the credit of director Kelly Thornton of the experimental Bananafish Company, which, with the New Globe Theatre (Janese Kane), co-produced the piece.

Playing three parts as the wife's lover, a general stud and a befuddled bisexual who denies his marriage is in trouble, Rich Zeppieri lights up the stage. As the enigmatic Lester, Randy Hughson doesn't come to life until the the end when his character comes into focus, while Gisele Rousseau acts intriguingly as the wife doing her own philandering on the side. Veronika Hurnik is the erotic temptress who beguiles Lester in different guises.

There are so many plot twists, it must be difficult to keep *This Hotel*'s running time to the Fringe rule of one hour. Perhaps it needs a neater set and fewer doors. Lester is in enough trouble without them.

***

Ma, Where Are You?, another Fringe play, is a three-generation look at motherhood that reveals little not found in any paperback on psychotherapy.

The one-woman performance by playwright-actor Gissa Israel (a psychotherapist herself) is a commendable theatrical effort to explain mother-daughter tensions. In dramatic terms, it falls short. The audience's interest flags before the hour is up.

There is no reason to doubt the program note that in previous productions, *Ma Where Are You?* has encouraged dialogue between parents and children. But the story of the mistakes that parents make in front of quiet but insightful children is pretty familiar. It is summed up in Israel's closing lines, "I'm here, sweetheart, I have always been here. Don't ask why!"

A mother and grandmother herself, Israel has been a psychotherapist for 35 years and grew up in an extended family amid three generations of women. The program says she and her husband, Stephen Grigg, a social worker, live in a unique round house which they designed and constructed themselves on a lush mountainside in the artistic community of Sutton, Que.

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD ANSWERS

S	T	I	C	K		W	R	A	P		K	E	R	N
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Travel, Arts & Business

Photographer examines the old with new eyes

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — A photograph titled *Ice Capades* shows six ducks lined up diagonally on an icy surface as if they were choreographed and posing for the camera.

Ice Capades, which was shot at Harbourfront Centre, is among 22 works in a new exhibition by Toronto photographer Carolyn Eisen.

Aptly named Just a Moment, the exhibition is comprised of photographs that were "found shots," as Eisen calls them, moments she was able to capture through her camera lens.

"Nothing was arranged for the picture," she notes. "It's a picture of that moment, seen through my eyes."

The exhibition, on at Sunderland Hall at the First Unitarian Church (175 St. Clair Ave. W. at Avenue Road) until July 26, focuses on three places that have been familiar settings for her, Eisen explains.

"The images in this exhibition all come from places very close to me: Toronto neighborhoods, the area in New York where I grew up, and Martha's Vineyard, a place I visit frequently in the summer. For the last few years, I found it satisfying to work in areas where I already had a relationship. I was seeing the old and familiar with new eyes."

Many of the photographs also include images of water in different forms, Eisen adds. "The puddles and other bodies of water, they reflected to me exquisite and moving visual treasures – real water colors."

For example *Boats*, a picture of the reflection of a boat on the water shot at Martha's Vineyard in 1993, looks like an abstract design.

Images of water reflect visual treasures

Underwater Colors was photographed on the Belt Line trail in Toronto, she notes. "It's shot into the puddles, or the run-off from melted snow in the spring. It's very blue. Trees are recognizable, but people often tell me it looks more like a water color than a photograph."

Katama Colors, a wide-angle shot of a marsh landscape in full autumn hues, was taken at Martha's Vineyard in the fall of 1996 after a major storm, as was *Flooded Farm*, which depicts a barn sitting in the middle of a flooded field that looks like a lake.

Eisen has been interested in photography since she was a child, but it's only in the last three years that she has given full reign to what she describes as "a hobby gone wild."

An accomplished dancer and writer who is currently working on a biography of a former student, Eisen says she intensified her efforts in photography after showing her work in New York in 1996.

She had made a set of cards with photographs as a birthday present for her mother. At the time, her sister, a New York artist, was involved in an a group art show.

"When my sister saw my work, she wanted me to show it; so she brought it to the committee," Eisen recalls. "The committee invited me to participate in this show."

The response to her work was positive, she says. "I sold several pictures and the cards were also very popular. The cards are also available in this [current] show on Sundays when I'm there."

Eisen began selling her work through Toronto art agent Elaine Lesniak and had a solo exhibition at the Sage Cafe in 1997, followed by her current show.

Despite this success and her interest in other artistic pursuits, Eisen has no plans to give up teaching English as a second language, which she has been doing for 14 years.

"I find teaching and working with people very creative. I never get tired of it."

Just a Moment can be viewed 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. weekdays, Sundays 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Call 924-9654 for more information.

Carolyn Eisen at a show of her photographs. [Lupo Cipin photo]

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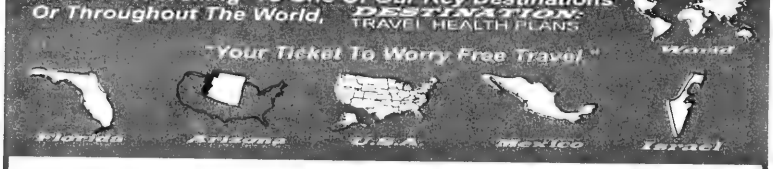

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Travel, Arts & Business

Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

TORONTO ACTRESS BROADWAY BOUND

Toronto actress **Tamara Podemsky**, who has been playing the part of Mrs. Cohen in the Toronto production of *Rent* for the past 32 weeks, has signed a contract to play that part in the original production of *Rent* which has been playing at the Nederlander Theatre on Broadway for 2½ years.

Podemsky, the 20-year-old child of a Jewish father and a native Indian mother, left last week for New York, where her contract commits her to stay at least one year. Among her other roles, she appeared in *The Rez*, a 13-part television series produced by the CBC. Although the CBC did not renew the series, an Israeli television network recently picked it up for airing in Israel.

In conversation with *The CJN*, Sol Podemsky said his daughter was thrilled to be heading for Broadway. "It's quite a rush for her because it's really her dream come true," he said. "This is her big break."

Tamara Podemsky

* * *

Cantor Sings Opera: Baritone **Ted Labow**, cantor of Shaarei Beth Synagogue in Oakville and late of Toronto's Holy Blossom and Temple Emanuel and Temple Sinai, will star as Father Germont in the Summer Opera Lyric Theatre's production of *La Traviata*. Performances, alternating in English and Italian, run from July 25 to Aug. 2 at the Helen Gardiner Phelan Playhouse, 79A St. George St. Adults $18. 465-2912.

* * *

Arts Briefs

• **The Incredible Boris**, a stage hypnotist and owner of the Toronto comedy club Comedywood, is appearing at the prestigious Just For Laughs Festival, July 21 and 22 in Montreal.

• The photography exhibit *Faces and Facets of Israel*, by **Beverley Abramson**, is being held over to Oct. 18 at the Holy Blossom Temple.

* * *

In the Spotlight: Before the momentous day in 1993 when he underwent surgery, it would have been hard for anyone to predict that **Yaron Cohen** of Tel Aviv would one day – as a female transexual singer named **Dana International** – take the entertainment world by storm.

The slender six-foot-three diva, who sings in English, Hebrew and Arabic, has had three best-selling albums in Israel and been voted the country's best female singer. Pirated copies of her albums also reportedly sold in the millions in Egypt and Jordan before she was banned in those countries for being "a corrupter of youth."

In May she gained more international prominence by winning the high-profile Eurovision Song Contest, and there has been speculation since then that she would replace **Ginger**, the singer who left the **Spice Girls**.

Dana International, who said she was not interested in becoming a Spice Girl, would probably have no trouble playing the part. A London newspaper recently described her as a "buxom young woman who, clad in a figure-hugging black jumper, looks every inch your sassy Israeli ladette."

Dana has her share of detractors, including one Israeli politician who called her an "abomination" and said "even in Sodom there was nothing like it." In response, she speaks forcefully about the need for social tolerance.

"Look, I don't have a problem with any human being in this world; my message is live and let live. It's not a nice feeling to hate; you suffer, whereas if you love, you feel wonderful. I just say to these people, 'Try to accept me.' My victory [at the Eurovision] has proved that God is with me."

Dana is also a strong proponent of both the gay rights movement and her native Israel. "I love Israel; it's part of my soul," she says. "I am very proud to be an Israeli and get mad when I read what the global media say about us. Eighty per cent of it is wrong."

Documentary looks at Auschwitz's Prisoner 88

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

Sigmund Sobolewski is obsessed and guilt-ridden by the Holocaust. He spent four-and-a-half years in Auschwitz-Birkenau, an eternity, a practising Polish Catholic whose horrific experiences left an indelible mark on him.

Sobolewski was one of the first individuals – the 88th to be exact – to be shipped to Auschwitz. He still bears the tattoo "88" on his arm.

Now a resident of Canada, he has devoted his life to two overlapping causes: preserving the memory of the Holocaust through lecture tours and combatting intolerance and bigotry. However, as a result of these pursuits, he has jeopardized his marriage as well as his livelihood.

On July 30, at 10 p.m., and again on Aug. 5 at 2:15 a.m., TVOntario examines the man and his activities in *Prisoner 88*. A sensitive one-hour profile of Sobolewski, it is directed by David Paperny. (The film had its premiere in June 1996, and was reviewed by my colleague, Ben Rose.)

The son of an army officer, Sobolewski was born in Torun, Poland. In 1929, when he was six, the Sobolewskis moved to Nowy Targ, a town with a sizeable Jewish community.

When the Germans came looking for his father, he was not at home. So they arrested Sobolewski and his mother instead. On June 14, 1940, he was brought to Auschwitz on the first transport of prisoners.

He was relatively lucky, having been assigned to the fire brigade, one of the easiest jobs in the camp. Even so, he was deeply affected by the systematic cruelty, degradation and death that befell its inmates on a daily basis.

In *Prisoner 88*, Sobolewski, the ultimate survivor, describes his ragged existence, the killing process and the 1944 Jewish revolt, the chief accomplishment of which was the destruction of a crematorium.

The film also chronicles Sobolewski's post-war life: his wanderings through Europe, his immigration to Canada in 1949, his marriage to a Cuban and his ambivalent relationship with his family.

His sons don't really comprehend what happened to him in Auschwitz, though they respect his toughness, his dedication and his crusade against racism. As for his wife, she fears that his obsessive concerns will ruin their struggling business, a hotel and pub in northern Alberta.

In addition, *Prisoner 88* makes the point that, among Polish Catholics, Sobolewski seems to be something of an oddity, a person who refers to Jews as "my brothers and sisters of the Hebrew faith," and who argues that the doctrine of Christian contempt toward Jews was a contributory cause of the Holocaust.

Clearly, Sobolewski is a highly unusual and moral man, and in this absorbing documentary Paperny distills the essence of his personality.

Yuri performs in Yiddish

Five years after being rushed to emergency at a Toronto hospital, former Soviet Union Yiddish Theatre star Yuri Tsivtsivadse will perform with Robert Raines and His Orchestra on July 25, 8 p.m. at the Church of the Redeemer, Bloor St. W. at Avenue Rd.

The Romantic "Movie Music" evening features Yuri as Tevya in songs from *Fiddler on the Roof* and other traditional Yiddish folk songs.

The 25-piece orchestra under the baton of Robert Raines plays familiar music from both new and vintage movies in a smoke-free/alcohol-free setting.

Tickets are $20. Call 416-482-6174.

Yuri became deathly ill while on tour in Toronto. The medical team refused to send him home (due to a collapsing Soviet Union). Yuri has now chosen to live in Toronto.

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TRAVEL TALK

BY BILL GLADSTONE

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES FROM ALL OVER

Catskills History: Once upon a time, the Borscht Belt reigned supreme. In the 1950s and 1960s, approximately one million people took vacations in the Catskills annually. The colorful history of this popular vacation area, which was hailed as the playground for New York Jews for a large part of the 20th century, is the focus of a devoted band of Catskills veterans who have been meeting each summer since 1995.

The 4th annual Catskills Conference, which runs Aug. 28 to 31 at the Sunny Oaks Hotel in Woodridge, N.Y., is expected to attract former hotel owners, tummlers, middle-aged waiters and busboys, and guests. The program includes discussions of the legacy of the Catskills, screenings of related films, exhibitions of postcards, and klezmer concerts.

The conference is sponsored by The Catskills Institute, which was established to preserve the memories, artifacts and documents of the Catskills during its heyday. For details contact Phil Brown, 617-354-6138.

E-mail [Phil_Brown@brown.edu].

* * *

Historic Chuppah: Connecticut resident Jane Weitzman, a member of the board of the Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, recently read about a certain chuppah being auctioned off in Dutchess County, N.Y. and arranged to buy it, sight unseen. Turns out the cloth wedding canopy had been used at many marriage ceremonies in DP (displaced persons) camps in Europe between 1945 and 1949.

"I immediately knew it had an incredible history and wanted it back for JDC," Weitzman explained.

The chuppah is blue and white with a gold fringe, and features a large Star of David with the Hebrew word "Zion" at its centre. It is labelled as property of the "Joint" and is on display in the JDC's office, 711 Third Ave. in Manhattan. 212-687-6200.

* * *

Travel By Car: Headquartered in Regina with offices in Toronto and Vancouver, Canam Holidays has packaged numerous self-drive tours with pre-arranged accommodation, attractions and a rental car, all included in the price.

"This kind of tour is ideal for those who like the independence of driving themselves, yet want the comfort of knowing the hotels, car and prime attractions have been confirmed in advance," said Pierre LePage of theToronto office (789-2202).

The company is offering self-drive tours of the Maritimes from Halifax, of the Rockies from Calgary, and of New England from Boston with an option for a three-night stay in New York City. Canam's tours are available through most travel agents, as is its 60-page 1998 catalogue, *Great Escorted & Self-Drive Holidays*.

* * *

Travel On Foot: Interested in a country walk? Country Walkers, a company based in Waterbury Vt., specializes in walking adventures and offers 41 itineraries on four continents, rated from easy to moderate to challenging.

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* * *

Art of Arthur Szyk: A master of illuminated manuscripts and editorial cartoons, Arthur Szyk (1894-1951) gained notice for his powerful political cartoons, which appeared in leading newspapers and magazines during World War II.

Eleanor Roosevelt called him a "one-man army" against Hitler. *The Times of London* said the Haggadah Szyk produced was "worthy of being considered among the most beautiful books ever produced by the hand of man."

These and numerous examples of his illuminated works, ranging from Andersen's fairy tales to Israel's Proclamation of Independence, are on view starting Aug. 16 at the Spertus Institute of Jewish Studies, 618 S. Michigan Ave., Chicago. Until Feb. 28, 1999. Phone 312-322-1747. E-mail, [musm@spertus.edu].

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8	Kennedy & Steeles N.E. Corner	4:15PM	Gerrard & Broadview	4:45PM	Spadina Chinatown Ctr.	5:15PM	1:00AM
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Genetic screening can alert couples to inherited diseases

By JEANNETTE ISRAEL
Special to the CJN

CHICAGO — Everyone would agree that Jews pass on a proud ethnic heritage and a rich cultural tradition to their children.

Unfortunately, Ashkenazi Jews, often descended from close-knit communities segregated for generations from the general population, may also pass on a more tragic and painful legacy.

Because they may share several common ancestors, Jews with forebears from Russia, Poland, Lithuania, Latvia and Romania seem to be most at risk for several genetic mutations that sometimes appear as devastating, incurable diseases in young children.

Tay-Sachs disease is the most prominent example, but there are others as well.

An aggressive education campaign in North American Jewish communities to promote genetic screening has been highly successful in averting many potential Tay-Sachs tragedies by alerting couples to carrier status before their children were born.

Cause for alarm is warranted. Tay-Sachs is a horrific degenerative condition with no cure or treatment.

Very few children survive beyond age six. Symptoms appear generally within the first months or year or two of life, typically characterized by increasing listlessness and inattentiveness, followed by the gradual and continuous loss of skills.

Infants with Tay-Sachs, who at first can sit up and crawl, will eventually become unable even to lift their heads. In later stages, the retina of the eye begins to degenerate, and blindness and paralysis usually precede death.

Although the Tay-Sachs mutation is found in all populations on earth, the prevalence of carriers among Ashkenazi Jews is dramatically higher: one in 31 compared to one in many hundreds for most other groups.

Screening remains a priority for the Jewish community. Hope for a real cure – despite the genetic culprit's identification in the mid-1980s – points toward gene therapy sometime in the distant future.

What many Jews don't realize, however, is that other genetic disorders, also quite devastating, are nearly as prevalent among Ashkenazi Jews as Tay-Sachs.

One is Canavan's disease, which is similar to Tay-Sachs in that it is a degenerative neurological condition that first appears in infancy or early childhood and leads to progressive disability and eventual death.

In Canavan's disease, portions of the brain increase in size over time and become spongy, causing sufferers gradually to lose motor and cognitive skills. The head, too, becomes horribly deformed.

As with Tay-Sachs, both parents must be carriers to have a one-in-four chance of having an affected child, and there is currently no cure and no effective treatment. The carrier rate for Canavan's among eastern European Jews is one in 36.

Unlike Tay-Sachs, however, children with Canavan's disease can survive well into their teenage years, prolonging the heartbreak and burden of care for parents and loved ones.

Despite its being nearly as prevalent, the American College of Medical Genetics only recently recommended that Ashkenazi Jews be screened for Canavan's disease as frequently as for Tay-Sachs.

Screening for Tay-Sachs and Canavan's disease involves a simple blood test that can be arranged by most primary-care physicians.

What makes screening for these conditions so attractive is that the small number of mutations found account for the vast majority of identified cases. This is due to what is known as "the founder effect" – the common ancestor mentioned earlier.

With Canavan's disease, only two mutations account for 98 percent of carrier status in Ashkenazi Jews, while three mutations account for 94 percent in Tay-Sachs.

The fewer mutations isolated as causing a disease, the more accurate screening for them becomes, making accuracy among Jews extremely high compared to potential carriers of other ethnicities.

Although screening is not a treatment or a cure for Tay-Sachs or Canavan's, young soon-to-be-married Ashkenazi couples alerted to dual positive carrier status can at least weigh various options before having children.

Dr. Jeannette Israel is a consulting geneticist for the Department of Pediatrics at Mount Sinai Hospital Medical Centre and director of the division of medical genetics in the department of pediatrics at Hope Children's Hospital/Christ Medical Centre, both in Chicago.

Experimental treatment helps heal animals' spinal cords

REHOVOT — Weizmann Institute scientists have managed to partially heal the damaged spinal cords of laboratory animals, according to a study reported in the July issue of *Nature Medicine*.

A team led by Prof. Michal Schwartz of the neurobiology department used an innovative treatment that allowed rats to regain partial movement in their hind legs after the legs had been paralyzed by damage to the spine.

"The results of our experiments are promising," says Prof. Schwartz. "However, for the moment they have only been achieved in rats, and much additional research still needs to be done before the new treatment is available to humans."

It has long been known that "lower" animals, such as fish, can repair damaged fibers in the central nervous system – the spinal cord and the brain – and restore lost function. In contrast, mammals, including humans, can only repair injuries to the peripheral nerves, while injuries to the brain or spine leave them permanently paralyzed or otherwise handicapped.

The new approach is based on Schwartz's theory that states that the loss of this repair ability occurred in the course of evolution due to a unique relationship between the central nervous and the immune systems. More specifically, Schwartz believes this loss was probably dictated by the need to protect the mammalian brain from the effects of the immune system.

While immune cells normally help to heal damaged tissue, their access to the brain would disrupt the complex and dynamic neuronal networks that build up during an individual's lifetime.

Generally, when tissue damage occurs, immune cells known as macrophages swarm to the injured site where they remove damaged cells and release substances that promote healing. The central nervous system of mammals is different in this regard. When damaged, it is not effectively assisted by the immune system.

Schwartz's team discovered that this is because the mammalian central nervous system has a mechanism that suppresses the macrophages. As a result, macrophages are recruited to central nervous system injuries at a lower rate, and those that are recruited fail to become optimally activated and effective.

These findings led to a series of experiments with rats in the course of which the researchers managed to overcome the limited ability of the damaged central nervous system to recruit and activate the macrophages. They isolated macrophages and incubated them in a test tube in the presence of a damaged peripheral nerve. The macrophages, which received the distress signals of the damaged peripheral nerve, became activated.

At this stage, the researchers returned the activated macrophages to the damaged site in the central nervous system of the paralyzed rat. The transplanted macrophages created a growth-inducing environment around the damaged tissue. As a result of the treatment, the rats were able to regain partial motor activity in their previously paralyzed legs. They were able to move their hind legs and several animals were even able to place their weight upon them.

A major innovative aspect of such treatment lies in promoting the animal's own self-repair mechanism. In fact, the new treatment offers the option of using the animal's own cells for this purpose.

Further research is necessary to see if this approach will work in "higher" animals, such as humans.

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AUGUST 6th
Deadline
Tuesday, July 28th, noon

The office of The Canadian Jewish News will be closed on Monday, August 3rd

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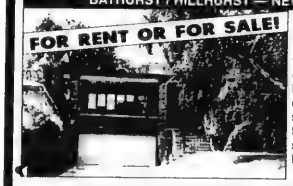

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BATHURST & CHABAD GATE – STUNNING HOME!

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CONDOMINIUMS FOR SALE

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Large 2 bdrm., solarium & balcony, ensuite laundry +++ close to all! *Helen Winer

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15 CLYDE

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Private garden, hardwood floors, detailed mouldings, updated white kitchen & baths. 4+1 bdrms. Cheryl Graff*

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Lge 3 bdrm., 2 bths., liv. & din. comb., 2 kits., fin. bsmnt., gar., steps to all.

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$249,900 - 2 storey, 4 bdrm., 2 bths., rec. rm., fireplace, 50'x150' lot, steps to subway.

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Neptune Dr., 2 bdr., good price 663-9464, 785-1797, 665-0404

Bath/Steeles- Townsgate,2 bdr. 2bth, huge cor $249K 736-8007

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30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE

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Santee Realty Inc. was established in 1979 and we would like to express our sincere appreciation to all our clients & friends for their patronage and the success we have experienced over these past years! We are please to announce our new location at

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55 ACCOMMODATION WANTED

Observant Israeli family seeks furn. apt./home for rent, from Aug. Also interested to exchange their home located on a religious Moshav, 20 mins. from Tel Aviv, 35 mins. from Jerusalem. 416-638-7397.

York University MA student, male, n/smkr., seeks clean, quiet accommodations starting August 1. Call 905-707-7921.

60 SHARED ACCOMMODATION

Seeking young prof./grad student to share an apt. with, n/smkr Jamie at 324-2262, 408-3892.

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BATHURST WILSON

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125 Neptune Dr.
(416) 787-7171

78 FURNISHED APARTMENTS FOR RENT

Bath./Shepp., bright bsmt. apt., modern, n/smkr, pkg., sep. entr., near TTC, business person preferred. 416-638-4070.

110 COTTAGE FOR RENT

Balfour Beach - 4 bdrm., sandy beach., day camp, August. 416-633-6999, 1-905-476-2815

Lake Simcoe, lakefront estate, Beaverton area,lux. 4 bed. Sandy beach. Sunsets. Tennis. Weekly, 226-0009, 749-6600.

112 FURNISHED COTTAGE FOR RENT

Belle Ewart on Lake Simcoe, 4 bdr., lkfrnt., within 1 hr. of TO, great for kids, shallow & sandy wtrfrnt, city sewers. $4500 for summer. Bernie 705-456-2999.

125 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE

Lands of the President, West Palm Bch. 3 bdr., 3 bth. twnhse in lux. gated community. Next to pool & walking distance to golf club. Excellent cond. with lots of extras. $145,000 US. 203-322-9792 evenings after 6:00 pm.

130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT

Miami Beach - Beautiful condo, one convertible. Video avail. 1 1/2 baths. 17 flr. facing ocean. 24HR. security. 514-672-5251

135 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT

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138 FURN. FLOR. PROP. FOR SALE

West Palm Bch. Century Village - 1 bdrm. condo, grnd. flr., new appl., new A/C, new furn., 5 min. walk to shul, bus at door. $15K US. 905-886-0291.

140 FLORIDA ACCOMMODATION WANTED

1998-1999 Season at Pembrooke Pine, Century Village. Responsible Couple. References. (514) 489-7798.

160 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR RENT

Jerusalem - near Mt. Scopus, 3 room lux. flat, patio garden, marvelous view. Oct./98 for 1 year. Call 416-221-3540 or Jerusalem 972-2-581-4475. Email: aryeh.shimron@mail.gsi.gov.il

Jerusalem, 3 bdr. apt., Shomer Shabbat bldg., choice location, shul on premises. Avail. 6-12 months. 635-0640, 486-0709.

240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Customer Service With a Capital C
We are looking for a special person to add to our team:
*A constant willingness to provide that little extra for our customers.
*A healthy amount of enthusiasm and a positive attitude.
*An initiator and doer.
*Strong organizational skills.
*Computer literacy with word processing and spread sheet programs.
If you have these traits and like a fast paced environment, please fax résumé to:
Sales &Marketing Manager
Fax: 416-789-5475

Enthusiastic creative, Kumon brew teacher req'd. Sun. mornings & Wed. afternoons for downtown school, beginning Sept. 1998. Successful classroom experience & teacher training req'd. Reply to DJCS, 750 Spadina Ave, Toronto, M5S 2J2 or fax 416-924-0442, include refs.

Private Jewish Day School seeks exp. teachers for P/T positions in grades 6-8 for Sept. 1998. Math, languages, social studies and French. fax résumé to principal at 905-771-1807.

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

GOLDEN CARE LTD.
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CALL (416) 630-3773

Cleaning lady seeks days work for home/office. 17 yrs. exp. excellent refs. Eugenia 740-0717.

EC Access Employ. Agency
Filipino owned.
Nannies/ Hskprs/Companions.
***Call* 905-475-2518**

European cleaning lady with Canadian exp. avail. 247-9690.

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

Frustrated by trying to find a suitable nanny? Let us help you. We have dependable, caring nannies who are thoroughly qualified, personally interviewed & pre-screened. All refs. are checked. Some are CPR trained. Low finders fee.
Wee Care Placement Agency
416-789-3070

High quality house cleaning. Call Dora, 736-1179.

Home cleaning. Introductory special offer including all cleaning products. 2 people will clean for $15/hour, minimum 4 hours. Fully insured. 7 days a week. *Call Sharon* 416-783-8068.

Lady avail. to clean homes. Exp&refs. Call after 6. 538-3216

Maria's Italian Cleaning Team. Mature Italian & Portuguese cleaning women. **For a free estimate,** please call 416-446-0856 and leave a message!

Nannies, live-in/out, full/part-time, in-home elderly care, FT, PT, RN's, nurses aides, cleaning. Bonded,refs. **416-630-0674** or **416-224-9907**. **#1 Domestic.**

Nannies/caregivers for elderly & disabled seek live-in or out jobs. Exp. w/refs. 905-677-4580

P/t caregiver companion for elderly lady. Mania, 223-0489.

Sincere, exp. caregiver to work with child/ren 0-8. 235-2749

Solid, exp. Polish cleaning person for houses. 416-699-3265.

255 DOMESTIC HELP WANTED

38 year old, partially disabled male, seeks live-in caregiver, driver, downtown. 920-0013.

Cleaning lady, 2 mornings/wk. in Richmond Hill. 905-770-1132

255 DOMESTIC HELP WANTED

English speaking live-in for 1 lady, housekeeping/cooking & companion, refs. 416-250-9341.

Nanny, part-time, weekdays, flex. hours, refs req'd. 787-5468

257 HEALTHCARE AVAILABLE

Affordable nursing college grad to care for senior, light housework, car & refs.667-7117

RPN lady to care for elderly, live-in or out. 416-638-1171.

259 SENIORS

Lonely? Tired of cooking, cleaning, shlepping? *Heimisch, kosher residence* with 24 hour supervision near shul. **225-8740**

260 BUSINESS PERSONALS

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275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

Big hearted, 23 yr. old SJM, 5'8", 150 lbs, physically fit, looking for his big hearted 18-25 SJF soul mate. CJN Box # 7065

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

*** CJN Boxes for Personal Companions Wanted ads are valid for 30 (thirty) days only (from 1st publication date). Replies must be received within this time frame in order to be forwarded to the correct CJN Box #.**

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· CUSTOMER SERVICE ·

The CJN requires that advertisers check their advertisement upon publication, as *The CJN* will not be responsible for more than one incorrect insertion, and there shall be no liability for non-insertion of any advertisement. Liability for errors in advertisements is limited to the amount paid for the space occupying the error. All copy is subject to the approval of the management of *The CJN*. *The CJN* reserves the right to classify all advertisements.

Service Directory & Classified Ad Deadlines are Wednesday, 8 days previous to the issue, by 4 pm.

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

Attractive woman, early 50's, "Balbatish" believes in treating elderly parents nicely, loves Yiddishkeit, respects Torah values, wishes to meet man (55++), very smart, very successful - not too "goody goody." Reply to CJN Box # 7068.

Confidentially yours! Call Mr. Cupid. Gents join free.**782-7592**

Do you complete me? DJM, 30, seeks kind, sensitive, fun loving, traditional Jewish woman. You love dining, theatre, movies & quiet nights at home, family oriented & have a good sense of humour. CJN Box #7074.

Jewish lady, classy, divorced, early 40's, blonde, attractive, 1 adult son, dreams about love. Reply to CJN Box # 7067.

Looking for good company with long-term possibilities? Me too! Unpretentious, soft spoken, unatt. male, 54, with integrity, good sense of humour, introspective, good listener, seeks to balance life with spirited, perceptive, petite, very slim, unatt. female, 46-53, who is communicative, good humoured, & with no dependents. I enjoy Jay Leno's monologue, intelligent movies, light jazz & pop music of the 50's, 60's & 70's. Reply to CJN Box 7073.

My optimistic side tells me you are out there. You are a special male who knows that the richness in life comes from loving and being loved, achieving one's goals & dreams, sharing life's joys & struggles, and growing together. I am a Jewish female, mid 40's, warm, sensitive, appealing, kind, fit, prof., divorced, no dependents. Let's meet and see if we can share something special together. Reply to CJN Box # 7071.

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

Replying to a Companion ad with a CJN Box Number?

Address your mail to:

The Canadian Jewish News
1500 Don Mills Rd.
Suite 205
North York, Ontario
M3B 3K4
Box # _____

SJF, 27, intelligent, sensitive, classic beauty, would like to meet a golden hearted, refined and gracious Jewish gentleman, 25-45, n/smkr. for companionship. Photo appreciated. CJN Box # 7070.

SJF, 37, 5'7", frequents Bal Harbour/Aventura, successful prof., (M.ED.) seeks marriage minded SJM 5'8" +, 34 - 53, Dr., lawyer, etc. CJN Box # 7069.

Youthful JSM, 45, social services prof., Pisces, seeks SJF for serious relationship. Interests: Cottage, blues music, motorcycling, photography, pets. Call Barry at 416-653-4376.

"Poised Attitude," keen mind, voluptuous interest, single prof., Jewish lady 43, seeks the company of a n/smkr, SPJM, 43-54. Quiet dinner, lingering, conversation and mutual exploration can be ours. Let's bring some candlelight into our lives. Reply to CJN Box # 7072.

300 ARTICLES FOR SALE

White baby furniture & accessories,good cond.905-881-4320

330 OBITUARIES

KATZ, Harry - of Montreal, Congregation Beth Ora. Died suddenly on June 22, 1998. Beloved husband of the late Margie, loving father and father in-law of Tony & Judy Katz of Ottawa, Marion & Bob Hoffman of Toronto. Cherished grandfather of Laura, Melissa, Adam & Marc. Brother and brother in-law of Sigi & Lilly Katz. Donations may be sent to the Margie & Harry Katz Memorial Fund, care of Congregation Beth Ora, 2600 Badeaux Street, Ville St. Laurent, Quebec, H4M 1M5.

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The cost of the 900# is only $2.29 per minute

The To Place Your **FREE** Ad **call 905-276-6167** ***Ext.#*** **65**

Meeting Place

Brought to you by the Canadian Jewish News

Women seeking Men

FRIENDSHIP
Single petite Jewish female, healthy, financially secure, attractive, enjoy dining out, dancing, arts & theatre, seeking male 63-73 with similar interests for friendship & companionship. Ad# 1331

FRIEND FOR THE SUMMER
Single female, 45, like dancing, dining out, music, long walks, nature, travelling, seeking a male with similar interests. Ad# 1333

LIVE LIFE TO THE FULLEST
Single Jewish female, 43, 5'3", long auburn hair, blue eyes, nonsmoker, sense of humour, enjoy moon lit walks, travelling, seeking professional Jewish male, 43-54, 5'9" or taller, caring, honest, stable to spend quality time with. Ad# 1337

VARIETY OF INTERESTS
Single white Jewish female, 28, educated, bright, fit, active, have a variety of interests, seeking a male with similar qualities, Jewish, professional who enjoys life. Ad# 1338

DREAMS CAN COME TRUE
Single Jewish female, 35, cute, slim, petite, enjoy long walks, good conversation, dining out, dancing, seeking a Jewish male 32-39 with similar interests. Ad# 1343

ARE YOU OUT THERE?
Attractive, warm, caring, appealing Jewish lady, mid 40's, divorced, no dependents, well travelled, cultured, good sense of humour, enjoy the finer things in life, seeking gentleman for those special moments in life. Ad# 1345

SPECIAL MAN
Single Jewish lady, mid 40's, attractive, caring, sincere, seeking gentleman for relationship.Ad# 1346

FULL OF LIFE
Petite, caring, sincere, bit of a romantic Jewish lady, independent, strong sense of humour, seeking gentleman, very down to earth, with similar outlook for friendship. Ad# 1349

ATTRACTIVE LADY
Jewish lady, 38, petite, never married, nonsmoker, very down to earth, laid back, quiet lifestyle, seeking gentleman, 36-40 for friendship & possible life partner. Ad# 1354

YOUNG AT HEART
Professional attractive widow, late 50's, petite, sincere, kind, enjoy movies, dining, dancing, outdoor activities, animal lover, music, looking for gentleman 58-63, nonsmoker, well established, secure, kind & caring. Ad# 1316

COMPANIONSHIP
Jewish lady, 33, single, warm, sensitive, caring, sincere, enjoy music, long walks, dining & dancing, seeking gentleman for companionship, possible relationship. Ad# 1406

CLASSY LADY
Divorced white female, 130lbs., petite, 5'4", one child, blonde hair, hazel eyes, enjoy hockey, music, cowboy boots & blue jeans, looking for male 37 or older with similar interests. Ad# 1327

FRIENDSHIP
Slim, fit & active Jewish lady, Belgian descent, enjoy travelling, dancing, seeking male, 60-74 with similar interests. Ad# 1402

VERY ROMANTIC
Single lady, 27, Jewish, 5'8", short brown hair, brown eyes, nonsmoker, nondrinker, enjoy sports, very outgoing, movies, dining & dancing, seeking Jewish gentleman, 27-36 for serious relationship. Ad# 1291

To renew your ad call 416-236-6644

LONG TERM RELATIONSHIP
Attractive, single Jewish lady, green eyes, petite, enjoy travelling, swimming, kind, sincere, trustworthy, seeking loving male, Jewish, 35+. Ad# 1298

FRIENDSHIP
Jewish lady, late 50's, widow, attractive, fun to be with, seeking gentleman, down to earth, stable, good conversation. Ad# 1309

FRIENDSHIP FIRST
Attractive Jewish lady, 5'4", dark hair, hazel eyes, professional, enjoy travelling, movies, theatre, bowling, camping, cooking, gardening, seeking gentleman, 30-43 with similar interests. Ad# 1302

DOWN TO EARTH
Jewish female, 27, outgoing, honest, caring, down to earth, enjoy working out, sports, movies, theatre, seeking a Jewish male, 24-35 who is romantic, sincere, ambitious. Ad# 1023

LONG TERM RELATIONSHIP
Young lady, kind, sensitive, strong sense of humour, seeking gentleman, 27-39, 5'8" or taller, would prefer Jewish with no dependents who enjoys music, sports, & sharing good times. Ad# 1271

SEEK ESTABLISHED GENTLEMAN
Single female, 50, nice shape, blue eyes, open minded & kind, like sports & music, seeking an established gentleman over 45. Ad# 1308

LIKE SCRABBLE
Petite, 40+ Jewish lady, raven hair & dark brown eyes, seeking an attractive, unattached, nonsmoker with integrity. I like singing, movies, scrabble, walking, dining out & fireplaces in winter. Ad# 1266

LIFE PARTNER
Jewish lady, 38, petite, nonsmoker, very down to earth, sincere, caring, seeking Jewish gentleman, 35-42 who enjoys oldies music, bingo, dining & dancing. Ad# 1311

FINANCIALLY SECURE
Single Jewish female, attractive, tall & trim, financially secure, seeking a male, 55+ who is presentable, nonsmoker & loves to laugh. Ad# 1341

LIKE TO WORK & PLAY
Single female, 30, brunette, like nature, exercising & travel, seeking someone who is fun & adventurous & also stable & serious. Ad# 1292

LOYAL & CUDDLY
Attractive, caring female, blonde, fit, loyal, cuddly, like movies, animals, children, dining out & walking, seeking someone between 45-60 who is nice, honest, down to earth & a nonsmoker Ad# 1259

Men seeking Women

DRIVES IN THE COUNTRY
Very conservative gentleman, 5'8", stock analyst, enjoy art auctions, drives in the country, looking for a lady or single moms, you don't have to be slim. Ad# 1348

SEEKING GOOD COMPANY
Gentleman, Jewish, 51, very good natured, witty, creative, professional, seeking lady, pleasant, kind, sincere, very good sense of humour, for future relationship. Ad# 1351

GREAT TIMES TOGETHER
Single Jewish male, 63, 5'9", 160 lbs., like to give a lot of tender loving care, enjoy arts, sports, seeking a slim Jewish lady who is elegant & proud of her Jewish heritage & religion. Ad# 1357

GOOD CONVERSATION
Single Jewish male, 56, enjoy travelling, movies, walks, have a good sense of humour, goo conversation & romantic, seeking a female who is attractive with similar interests. Ad# 1372

MARRIAGE MINDED
Gentleman, 70, widower, sincere, trustworthy, kind, seeking lady up to 65 years for possible future relationship. Ad# 1318

LASTING RELATIONSHIP
Divorced male from Eastern Europe, handsome, sincere, fit, professional, enjoy movies, dancing, biking, seeking a kind & affectionate female in 30's, slim & attractive. Ad# 1388

PLAYFUL
Single white Jewish male, no dependents, 175 lbs., blonde hair, blue eyes, fit, secure, well educated, seeking lady, slim, attractive, under 40 years. Ad# 1319

BRIGHT BLUE EYES
Gentleman, 50's, caring, romantic, handsome, slim, blue eyes, brown hair, good sense of humour, seeking lady, age & religion not important, attractive, should look good in jeans. Ad# 1322

DINING & DANCING
Gentleman, 33, 6', brown hair, green eyes, well established, financially secure, enjoy travelling, dining, dancing, movies, seeking a Jewish female, 28-34, 5'5" or taller, slim, attractive, well read with strong sense of humour. Ad# 1307

TRADITIONAL & KIND
Traditional, down to earth Jewish man, good sense of humour, fun to be with, healthy, good looking, kind & easy to get along with. I seek someone for a relationship, maybe marriage. Ad# 1265

LIKE AUCTIONS IN THE COUNTRY
Single male, 45, still have all of my black hair, I like art auctions, car drives & antique auctions in the country. I'm not choosy & children are OK. Ad# 1264

MOVIES & DINING OUT
Single Jewish male, 40, short brown hair & brown eyes, work out with weights, like movies, dining out, sports & walks, seeking a Jewish lady, 34-45 with similar interests. Ad# 1272

HARD WORKING
Jewish gentleman, late 40's, hard working & successful, like quiet times, movies, music, travelling. Ad# 1278

PROFESSIONAL & FIT
Divorced, sincere, handsome & fit professional man, originally from Eastern Europe, enjoy movies, dancing, biking & computers, seeking someone under 40 who is kind, caring, slim, attractive for lasting relationship. Ad# 1273

SEEK OUTGOING GIRL
Single male, 18, looking for a single girl who is outgoing, likes shopping & is not afraid to accept presents Ad# 1330

ECLECTIC INTERESTS
Easy going professional man, brown hair & eyes, 6'2", 170 lbs., have a good sense of humour, seeking someone romantic & unattached. Ad# 1323

BE MY SUNSHINE
Tall, handsome male, 40, originally from Montreal, enjoy outdoor activities, good sense of humour, seeking slim, kind, honest lady for relationship. Ad# 1244

SUMMER ROMANCE
Gentleman, kind, sincere, very quiet & a bit shy, seeking lady to make my summer special. Ad# 1249

LET'S TALK
Gentleman, early 40's, handsome, fit, creative, enjoy sports & other outdoor activities, seeking lady, early 30's, attractive, sincere, intelligent. Ad# 1250

HAND IN HAND
Gentleman, outgoing, fun loving, enjoy movies, dining & dancing, good conversation, long walks & the romance of life, seeking lady who is trustworthy, honest, sincere, kind. Ad# 1011

MARRIAGE MINDED
Gentleman, tall thin, 70, American Jewish, warm, cultured, well travelled, handsome, sincere, trustworthy, seeking marriage minded lady under 65, affectionate, soft, slim, very feminine, sincere & kind. Ad# 1240

Questions ???
416-236-6644

330 OBITUARIES

FRANKEL, Ruth - on June 26, 1998, late of 376 Hillmount Ave.
BENMERGUI-SOTO, Maurice - on July 1, 1998, late of 10 Tangreen Crt.
MOSHER, Saul - on July 1, 1998.
NADASI, Steven - on July 1, 1998.
PHILLIPS, Dina Sarah - on July 1, 1998, late of 2 Forest Laneway.
TEPPERMAN, Morris - on July 1, 1998, late of 596 Sheppard Ave. W.
EPSTEIN, Rita - on July 2, 1998, late of 599 York Hill Blvd.
FISHMAN, Alter - on July 2, 1998.
TARNOW, Lilyan - on July 2, 1998.
CAPLAN, Sidney - on July 3, 1998.
FINGER, Anna - on July 4, 1998, late of 26 Lowesmoor Ave.
BLUME, Morris - on July 5, 1998, late of 39 Virgilwood Dr.
WEISS, Aurelia - on July 5, 1998, late of 101 Alexis Blvd.
GIK, Belia - on July 7, 1998, late of 5935 Bathurst St.

Steeles Memorial Chapel

ROSS, Ann - on June 19, 1998, late of 645 Castlefield Ave.
VERMAN, Irving - on June 19, 1998, late of 23 Stemmle Dr.
SCHLOSSER, Jennie - on June 20, 1998, late of 131 Beecroft Rd., #501.
TEPPERMAN, Molly - on June 20, 1998, late of 548 Palmerston Blvd.
BELL, Morris - on June 21, 1998, late of 4415 Bathurst St., #907.
HANDLER, Goldie - on June 21, 1998, late of 2 Water St.
MANDELL, Annie - on June 22, 1998, late of 550 Cummer Ave.
FAITH, Saul - on June 23, 1998, late of 78 Stormont Ave.
LAX, Rachmiel - on June 24, 1998, late of 3595 Keele St.
STARKMAN, Samuel - on June 24, 1998, late of 45 Dunfield Ave., Ste. #2104.
BUDD, Peter - on June 27, 1998, late of 1166 Bay St., #602.
ROSENBERG, Frances - on June 27, 1998, late of 1035 Eglinton Ave. W.
SHORE, Bernice - on June 27, 1998, late of 3181 Bayview Ave., #506.
O'ROURKE, Thea- on June 29, 1998, late of 8 Donway, Suite #257.
WEINBERG, Percy - on June 29, 1998, late of 42 Harmony Hill Cres.
FACTOR, Florence - on June 30, 1998, late of 755 Avenue Rd., #310.
SLOTEROFF, Johnny - on June 30, 1998, late of 7300 Yonge St.
WEINGARTEN, Samuel - on June 30, 1998, late of 22 Duncannon Dr.
PERLMUTTER, Ike - on July 1, 1998, late of 20 Pannahill Rd.
WINNICK, Solly - on July 1, 1998, late of 105 Whitburn Cres.
ZITSOW, Helen - on July 2, 1998, late of 350 Lonsdale Rd., #306.

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

MANN, Donald - on June 28, 1998, late of 40 Godstone Rd., #508.

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335 UNVEILING

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
ROSE LAIST ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, July 26th, 10:30 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Pultusker Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
HENRY WEINBERG ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, July 19th, 2:30 p.m.
Pardes Shalom Cemetery
Temple Sinai Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
FLORENCE WEINROTH ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, July 19, 3:00 p.m.
Roselawn Cemetery
Stashover Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the beloved memory of
ARIE GREENBERG ז"ל
loving husband, father & grandfather
will take place
Sunday, July 26th, 10:30 a.m.
Lambton Cemetery
(Royal York Rd., S. of Eglinton)
Beth Jacob Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

338 SHIVA CATERING

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Israel & the Jewish World

News analysis

Israel not as isolated as it seems

By MOSHE ZAK
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

Residents of Tel Aviv stood amazed last week at the display of friendship taking place overhead, when planes from the air forces of the United States, Ukraine, France, Turkey, Italy, the Czech Republic, Chile, Switzerland, Spain and Britain helped mark the jubilee of the Israel Air Force.

All year round, we are reminded of Israel's appalling isolation, and here were planes from 10 countries saluting Israel on its jubilee.

Votes in the UN are depressing. They create an inaccurate impression that Israel is alone and isolated and has no friends. The fact is that the parliamentary games in the UN don't reflect Israel's real status in the world, not even when as occurred this week, the vote is 124-4 in favor of the PLO.

The vote of the United States, which stands by Israel, counts as much as 100 votes supporting the PLO. By not being frightened of supporting Israel against the majority in the General Assembly, the United States strengthens Israel's position in the international arena. Many countries deduce from this consistent support that strengthening bilateral links with Israel is likely to put them into Washington's good graces.

Israel's position isn't measured by who supports it in the UN. It is determined by the various common interests that it shares with different countries.

Not a week goes by without distinguished figures visiting Jerusalem – presidents, prime ministers, foreign ministers and others. No sooner had we said good-bye to the Swiss president then the Spanish prime minister arrived, and even before he had finished his official visit, the head of NASA was here. He had hardly finished his announcement of closer cooperation with Israel, including the launching of the first Israeli astronaut, when the Turkish foreign minister arrived.

It's inertia that makes us go on bemoaning Israel's isolation and making black jokes about Micronesia being our only friend. I don't know how the Kazakhstan delegation voted in the General Assembly, but I'm sure that the agreements Industry and Trade Minister Natan Sharansky signed with the government of Kazakhstan are more important.

We stood this week on the lawn of the American ambassador's villa in Herzliya, at the Fourth of July celebrations, and heard his speech – in faultless Hebrew – on the complex structure of cooperation between the United States and Israel, including numerous joint projects.

This cast a completely different light on the headlines describing Israel's increasing isolation. We heard the ambassador describe President Bill Clinton's personal support for Israel, and we remembered Clinton's last letter promising that he wouldn't press Israel to make concessions in matters concerning its security. That letter, sent to the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, caused no stir in the media here because it didn't fit the gloomy predictions of the politicians and commentators who are talking about an American ultimatum, soon to be presented to Israel, to force the second redeployment in Samaria.

Israel's UN Ambassador Dore Gold *[RNS photo]*

It's true that Netanyahu didn't call Clinton during the recent standoff in Gaza. But a call to Clinton because several Palestinian trucks were being held up would have been totally unnecessary. We needn't have feared that Clinton wouldn't have responded because of the delay in the 13 percent pullback, but let's face it: The U.S. president doesn't have to be bothered every time there is any kind of incident between Israel and the Palestinians.

We should welcome the fact that the United States stood by us in this week's UN vote in spite of the differences of opinion regarding the second redeployment. The United States not only voted against the proposal, but also persuaded the European Union to remove the PLO's central demands from the proposed resolution. The PLO delegation is still an observer and has not received the status of "almost a state." It did not win the right to be elected to key positions in the institutions of the UN and its agencies. The PLO delegation will not sit with the delegations from the member states in the UN assembly. It will remain with the observers. The Palestinian delegation has gotten certain elements of flattery, but it did not get what it really wanted.

In Israel's 49 years of UN membership it has never been elected to the Security Council or to chair any UN committees. This is because it doesn't belong to any of the UN blocs. The original proposal on the PLO included granting them the right to elect and be elected to various offices. The United States saw to it that the Europeans removed this clause in the proposal, too.

So it would be out of place to moan at the majority kowtowing to the PLO. Those voting for this week's proposal included countries with which we have close diplomatic and military ties.

On the other hand, it would be equally out of place to celebrate the PLO's lack of success, because the struggle is not over. Israel must remain alert in the face of Palestinian maneuvers as May 4, 1999 draws nearer. May 4 is the date by which the final settlement under the Oslo Accords was to have been completed.

One of things they tried was the French and Egyptian initiative to convene an international conference on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, with the participation of all the countries in the region except Israel.

The initiative put Israel in the same class as the Palestinians, who also wouldn't participate in the conference.

The attempt to upgrade the PLO in the UN didn't succeed; now we face an attempt to downgrade Israel to the same status as the PLO. This is also a plot that must be foiled in good time.

The most important thing, though, is not to panic. Despite what many think, the whole world is not against us. We have important and powerful friends.

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Jewish boxing pioneer inducted into Hall of Fame

By DAVID BEZMOZGIS
Special to The CJN

CANASTOGA, N.Y. — On a rainy Sunday in June, Joseph B. Choynski (pronounced Cohenski), the first great American Jewish boxer, was inducted into the International Boxing Hall of Fame.

Known also as Little Joe and The California Terror, Choynski was born into a middle-class San Francisco family on Nov. 8, 1868, and after a successful amateur run as West Coast champion, Joe – to the disappointment of his mother – turned professional in 1888.

Choynski's professional career, from 1888 to 1904, spanned the transition era between bare-knuckle fighting and the modern Marquis of Queensberry rules. It was a tough time to be a boxer – prizefighting being essentially outlawed throughout most of the United States – and bouts were often staged in secret locations to evade authorities.

It was also a time in which San Francisco was one of pugilism's great cities: home to the likes of James J. Jeffries, Abe Attel, and Choynski's cross-town rival, "Gentleman" Jim Corbett. Choynski and Corbett's legendary 27-round fight on a barge in the Carquinez Straits in Benicia, California on June 5, 1889 is still regarded by ring experts as one of the all-time classic moments in boxing history. Corbett won the marathon fight, but broke both hands in the effort.

At 168 lbs., too big to be a middle-weight, Choynski spent his career regularly matched against men who outweighed him by 30 lbs. or more and relied on a scientific style of slugging to defeat his opponents. This is not to say he couldn't hit. Jack Johnson, first black heavyweight champion of the world and third round victim of a Choynski haymaker in 1901, once called Joe "the hardest hitter pound for pound" he had ever faced.

"He was among the early Jewish heroes of the gloved era," said Herbert Goldman, editor-in-chief of the *International Boxing Digest* and awards presenter at the Hall of Fame.

What was it like to be a Jewish practitioner of the sweet science at the turn of the century? Goldman suggested it wasn't too bad. "In boxing, ethnicity was something they used. Boxing celebrated differences socially and commercially – especially commercially."

Boxing was always a fringe sport in which there was traditionally a lot of Jewish participation in the form of combatants, managers, trainers and promoters. In that respect, Choynski, as a Jew, did not suffer the kind of discrimination encountered by black fighters, Goldman suggested.

Hank Kaplan, noted boxing historian and chronicler of the lives of some 5,000 Jewish pugilists, said "being a Jew didn't make him a better boxer or a lesser boxer." According to the historians, Choynski probably experienced more friction at home regarding his career than he ever did in the professional sphere.

Prior to the finalization of

Joseph B. Choynski

Choynski's election to the Hall, controversy arose concerning his credentials. Long-regarded as "the greatest heavyweight never to win a title," a case was made to support the fact that Choynski actually was a title-holder. Goldman and others recognized Choynski as the first legitimate light-heavyweight champion of the world.

Previously, Jack Root had been acknowledged as the original light-heavyweight champion, but Goldman maintained that Choynski's 1899 decision over Australian Jimmy Ryan in Dubuque earned him the vacant light-heavyweight crown.

"The light-heavyweight title was lightly regarded at the time," explained Goldman. "The reason he wasn't acknowledged as light-heavyweight champ was probably because he didn't push to make a big deal out of it."

Since most of Choynski's career took place at the turn of the century, documentation of his ring exploits is not always easy to come by; consequently, certain myths and rumors have arisen regarding his career. One story attributes Choynski with the invention of the left hook. The origin of this myth stems from Choynski's barge fight with Corbett; however Goldman and Kaplan contested that idea.

"Choynski may have helped to perfect [the left hook]," said Kaplan, "but I wouldn't say he invented it."

Another story credits Choynski with the instruction of a young Jack Johnson on the subtler points of the fight game while the two were jailed together in the same cell for 21 days after their "illegal" Feb. 25, 1901 Galveston match. This story is accepted as much more credible.

After his retirement from boxing in 1904, Choynski remained active in the sport. He was a sparring partner and second for Jim Jeffries in his July 4, 1910 bout against Jack Johnson in Reno, Nevada. He was also the instructor at the Pittsburgh Athletic Club, worked in insurance, and schooled young boxers in Cincinnati, where he died on Jan. 24, 1943 at the age of 74.

As is tradition for the induction ceremony at the International Boxing Hall of Fame, deceased members are the first to be inducted. Herbert Goldman read out the names of the boxers and included a short summary of their achievements. On hand, under the shelter of tents, were several hundred boxing fans. On stage, were the inductees, and boxing alumni such as Lou Duva, Matthew Saad Muhammad, Joe Frazier, and Marvin Hagler.

Choynski was the first inducted in the Old-Timers category. Goldman listed his accomplishments and then a ceremonial ring-bell was struck in the boxer's honor. It is customary in the case of deceased members to present their certificates to a surviving relative. No surviving relative was found for Choynski.

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WARRIORS RULE

The USDS Bayview Warriors recently won the Jewish Day School League girls championship for the second time. The Warriors are (top row, from left): Jaclyn Pearl, Ashley Kochman, Emily Berkowitz, Carly Baker, Lesley Suchter. Middle row (from left): Alex Baker, Amy Wilchesky, Janice Bacher, Shauna Reznick, Laura Bercusson, Danielle Schneiderman, Stephanie Levine. Seated are the team's managers, (from left): Arielle Branitsky and Sherri Berkal. The Warriors are coached by Tanya Azeroual, who was assisted by Rachel Baker, Carly's mother.

The Inside Back

And now, in the centre ring, the bar mitzvah boy!

By JORDAN MAX

I'd been hearing rumors lately about wild bnei/bnot mitzvah parties being the norm, so disguised as a waiter, and armed only with my wits, a note pad and a $50,000 local Federation Continuity grant, I went undercover to investigate. (Before I forget, I would like to take this opportunity to again apologize to the lady at table 5 at the Finkelstein simchah for the spilled soup). My report is as follows:

Last Laugh

Methodology: At first, it was necessary to verify that the bar/bat mitzvah celebration I was attending was not in fact a wedding or a three-ring circus. Judging by the volume of food and other expenses, it's definitely getting harder to tell them apart. Perhaps the key difference is that only one family is crying.

I'm not sure whether the extravagances are due to the need to keep up with the Cohenses, the search for novelty, or whether kids are maturing faster these days and the parents wish to economize by staging the bar/bat mitzvah and wedding in one evening.

However, I am sure that these hypotheses will no doubt require further careful study and an additional continuity grant. After conducting my extensive field research, I conducted in-depth ethnographic library research. Although not entirely complete, I am pleased to share some preliminary findings on some modern customs.

Findings: Let me first comment on the typical setup for a modern-day bar/bat mitzvah celebration. It would appear the prevailing custom is to have a shaman/priest figure called a DJ who appears to be in control of the entire proceedings – sound, light and pyrotechnics systems. This individual is able to modify group behaviour at will. The closest historical parallel appears to be that of the service of the Kohen Gadol and the Levi'im in the Mishkan and Beit Hamikdash, thus deliberately emphasizing the bar/bat mitzvah family's wish that the Third Temple be speedily rebuilt in our days.

At the proper moment, the bar/bat mitzvah child appears, escorted in grand style, supported on human shoulders, pillows or elephant, and all honored guests then pay homage to him or her.

The child then dismounts and engages in a ritualistic, costumed dance of some complexity, which I am told takes more time to memorize than the Haftorah itself. This ritual appears to be reminiscent of how King David danced joyfully before the Aron Kodesh as it was moved from Shiloh to Jerusalem.

On occasion, there are shapely and somewhat clad female dancers who appear to entice the celebrants to join them. This could only be a veiled reference to the ancient custom of Tu B'Av, a day in which unmarried Jerusalem maidens would borrow each other's plain white dresses and dance in the vineyards in order to find husbands. This obviously represents a family wish that the bar/bat mitzvah be married as soon as possible and move out of the house.

Another custom I have noted consists of crooning by a pudgy, sideburned and sequin-covered individual, called an Elvis impersonator. This is obviously a reference to a desire for the resurrection of the dead (see Third Temple above). In a similar vein, at some point in the celebration, the bar/bat mitzvah takes a hammer- type device and proceeds to smash to smithereens a hollowed out cake. Note the similarity to the custom of the groom breaking the glass underfoot to commemorate the destruction of the Temples.

Clearly, one of the most widely enjoyed customs involves a group dance, which is led by multiple leaders utilizing elaborate hand movements. This song, entitled *It's Fun to Shvitz at the YMHA* is clearly reminiscent of the *duchaning* of Birkat Cohanim, or priestly blessing recited in synagogues on yamim tovim.

Conclusion: Preliminary findings indicate that these supposedly new widespread customs are indeed re-discovered ancient rituals, intended to reflect deep-seated spiritual yearnings of the bar/bat mitzvah celebrant's family. Further study of these phenomena is definitely required.

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Couscous with Dried Cranberries & Pistachios

1-1/2 cups chicken stock or a mixture of orange juice and water (pareve)
1/8 tsp. ground cumin
1/8 tsp. ground coriander
2 green onions, finely chopped
1 cup couscous
1/4 cup shelled pistachios (or pinenuts)
1/3 cup dried cranberries

In a small saucepan, bring liquid and spices to a boil. Stir in couscous, onions, cranberries and pistachios. Remove from heat; cover and let stand for 5 minutes. Fluff with a fork and serve.

About Teens

Dear Karilani,

My parents have been giving me an allowance of $5 a week. Since the summer started, I have been going out a lot more and I feel like the $5 is not enough. I don't want to ask my parents for more money, but I don't think I can have a fun summer if I have to restrict myself to where I go and how much I spend. I'm only 14, so I can't get a job at a real store, but I wanted to know how else I could make money for myself.

Strapped for Cash

Dear Strapped for Cash,

If you don't want to ask your parents for a bigger allowance, then doing odd jobs is the best way to make extra money. In your neighborhood, there are probably lots of opportunities to walk dogs, mow lawns or babysit. Let your neighbors know that you are a very responsible person who would love to help them and make some money at the same time.

If, however, there are no jobs around your neighborhood, you can always speak to your parents about doing jobs around the house and getting paid for them. If your garage is a mess and needs cleaning, you could volunteer to clean it up and get paid for doing that.

You can also do a lot of things for the community with your friends, like selling lemonade or having a carwash. Sit down with a bunch of friends and get some ideas!

Also, if you want to save money, there are many ways to do that. Rent a movie instead of going to the theatre, eat at home instead of eating out and take the bus instead of a taxi.

You can also try to budget your money at the beginning of each week to see where and how you will spend it. If you cannot seem to make ends meet and really need some more cash, than you may have to talk to your parents and seriously discuss getting a small raise in your allowance.

Karilani is a composite name for three girls, who are close friends and in Grade 11 in Toronto

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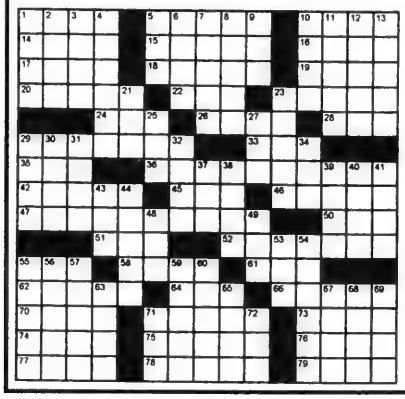

Across

1. "Jose Jimenez" comic
5. Edomite king
10. Haman?
14. Measure of grain
15. Son of Gad
16. Stones for David
17. Lear to his friends
18. Commandment site
19. Marx
20. Witch's dwelling
22. Arkia milieu
23. "Love Story" writer
24. Israeli coin
26. 2,600
28. Printing measures
29. Havdalah candle
33. B.C.E. word
35. Airport
36. Radner's Hubby
42. Edomite
45. Register
46. Craft for El Al
47. Potok's tome
50. David O. Selznick
51. King David?
52. Menorah member
55. Belief: comb. form
58. Tuches?
61. Evil __
62. Biblical word
64. __'easter
66. Tsitsit sight
70. Kunstler account
71. Bitter waters locale
73. Atop the shul?
74. Torah holders
75. "__ Hall" Allen film
76. Jacob after the Angel
77. Response to Haman's name
78. Tzedakah recipients
79. Village of Simeon

Down

1. Finished
2. King of Judah
3. Nebbish (Eng.)
4. Son of Saul
5. Owns
6. Richard Tucker specialty
7. Strauss' jeans
8. Shofar blast
9. 502
10. Kinneret
11. Graven__
12. Moses' Dad
13. Buns
21. Got away
23. Foodbag?
25. Portion (abv.)
27. Tal (Eng.)
29. Used a shofar
30. Columnist Barrett
31. Magic Carpet base
32. Jewish restaurant
34. Every
37. Not: comb. form
38. Roasted on Pesach
39. Man Ray art style
40. Son of Seth
41. Comes before shin
43. 1,501
44. Streisand film
48. Tay-Sachs carrier
49. Her
53. Affirmative
54. Act the yenta
55. Sis to Lot and Milcah
56. Puppeteer Lewis
57. Purim garb
59. Meshuggeh
60. "Bonanza" dad
63. Minor
65. Entebbe rescue
67. Scape for one
68. Poet Lazarus
69. Appear
71. Sixth day creation
72. Hebrew letter

These puzzles are the work of Kathi Handler of Waterbury, Connecticut.

(Last week's answers are on page 28.)

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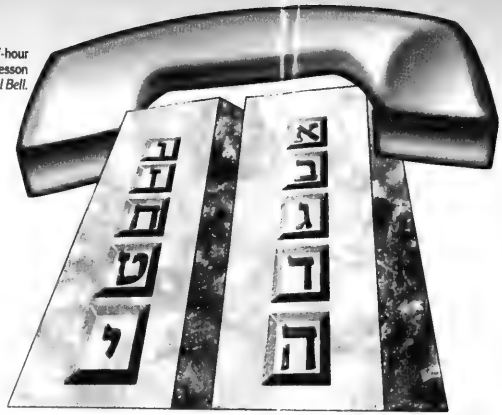

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1 תניא חלק ראשון - לקוטי אמרים

ספרו של בעל התניא. מספרי חסידות היסודיים ביותר. המבאר מהו "עובד השם" ועניניים יסודיים כמו נשמת היהודי - חלק אלקה ממעל ממש, "ולדבקה בו" דביקות בשכינה הק' ע"י דביקות בצדיקי הדור, תכלית העבודה להיות בינוני, אהבת כל אדם מישראל "כמוך" ממש.

4 נושאים ביהדות

שיחות ורעיונות בהשקפת התורה והיהדות. כפי המבואר בספרי החסידות. קובץ שיחות ורעיונות בענין "ישראל אורייתא וקוב"ה כולא חד". סידרת שיחות ורעיונות בי"ג עיקרי האמונה. לאור הספרים הקדושים. העוסקים ביסודות הכי עיקריים - אמונת השם וידיעת השם. נצחיות התורה שלא תהא מוחלפת. האמונה בביאת המשיח ותחיית המתים. ועוד.
נאמרים ע"י הרב הגאון החסיד ר' יואל כהן שליט"א.

2 תניא חלק שני - שער היחוד והאמונה

עיון עמוק בעיקרי היסודות של האמונה הטהורה באחדות השם. הכרה מוחלט לכל החפץ בידיעה יסודית בעיקרי החסידות. ביאור בטוב טעם להמושגים "זך הוא האלקים" "אין עוד מלבדו", "בריאה יש מאין" ועוד.

5 פרשת השבוע

עניני פרשת השבוע באור החסידות. מיוסד על ספרי חסידות שונים. נאמרים בטוב טעם. המאזין ומקשיב לשיעורים אלו יוכל "לחיות עם הפרשה" (כפתגם הרה"ק בעל התניא) סיפורי התורה נעשים "חיים" ואקטואליים בזמן הזה.

3 תניא חלק שלישי - אגרת התשובה

מהות התשובה ע"פ ספרי חסידות. שתי המדריגות בתשובה - "תשובה תתאה" ו"תשובה עילאה". בתוספת אוסף נכבד של ביאורים לאגרת התשובה מכ"ק אדמו"ר מליובאוויטש זצוק"ל.

6 עניני דיומא

השיעורים בעניני דיומא יתנו להשומע את האפשרות לראות עולם חדש. האור הפנימי של המועדים והיומא דפגרא במשך כל השנה. השומע את שיעורי החסידות על הימים הטובים, זוכה לחנוג את המועדים בחיות, בהתלהבות ובאש-קודש חסידית.

4 בחר באיזה חלק או פרק שתרצה.

2 שיעור יומי

1 שיעור בספר התניא, כדי לסיים לימוד כל הספר במשך שנה אחת.
4 קטע משיחת כ"ק אדמו"ר זצוק"ל בעניני דיומא.
9 לוח ימי חב"ד ועניני גאולה.

7 סיפורים

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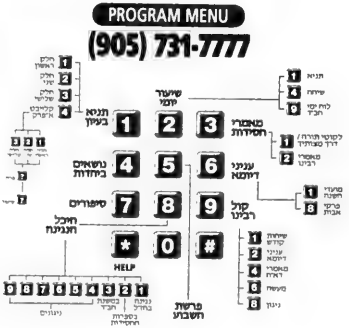

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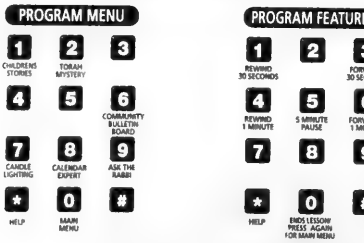

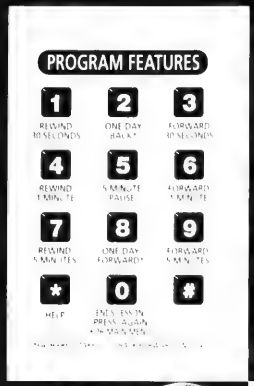

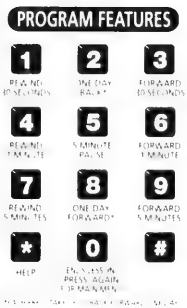

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This Week

National

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Newest day school in Toronto has a new philosophy. *Page 7*

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ICC receives qualified support

Critics argue Israel targeted by politicization of treaty creating criminal court

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Creation of an International Criminal Court (ICC) to prosecute war crimes was greeted with qualified approval by Canadian Jewish groups and unqualified disapproval by the State of Israel, thanks to a provision that appeared to be directed specifically at the Jewish state.

The provision defines a war crime to include the transfer of populations to and from occupied territories. It was introduced to the treaty as a result of pressure from Arab states led by Egypt and Syria, thereby politicizing the court, Israeli government officials asserted.

In objecting to the provision, the Israeli delegation to the UN conference that drew up the treaty in Rome said it "fails to comprehend why it has been considered to insert into the list of the most heinous and grievous war crimes the action of transferring population into occupied territory."

Canadian Jewish groups adopted a similar view, arguing the politically motivated agenda of Arab countries undermines the court's credibility.

The disputed provision "is a perversion of the concept of international criminality and will severely, perhaps fatally, undermine the effectiveness and credibility of the ICC," said Moshe Ronen, president of Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC). "The ICC should be a court of law and not another vehicle for countries to play out political disputes that should be resolved by negotiation. The provision must be amended."

"To place the Jewish presence in the territories on the same moral plane as genocide and ethnic cleansing in Rwanda and Bosnia is not only offensive but undermines any credibility a permanent war crimes tribunal could hold within the international community," said Brian Morris, national chair of the Canada-Israel Committee, the Jewish community's lobby group on Israel.

"While we, along with Israel, support the idea of the ICC in principle, we are disturbed that the UN conference establishing the court has politicized the issue by bowing to Arab pressure," Morris said.

Continued on page 23

HAPPY REUNION ON THE SHORES OF THE KINNERET
Approximately 800 teenagers from Canada who are in Israel this summer on various Israel Experience programs spent two days recently at Kfar Nofesh Amnun on the shores of the Kinneret in a special Yom Canada celebration of Israel's 50th Anniversary. *Please see page 46.* *[Isranet photo]*

Tisha b'Av in Warsaw ghetto

By LARRY DOMNITCH
Special to The CJN

On July 22, the eve of Tisha b'Av 1942, the death sentence for Warsaw's Jews was issued.

In the early morning hours, the Judenrat was convened and the Plenipotentiary for Resettlement Affairs ordered the "resettlement in the east of all Jews residing in Warsaw regardless of age and sex." The order called for 6,000 Jews per day to be rounded up and deported.

When Warsaw was placed under siege by the Germans in September 1939, its Jewish Council appointed Adam Czerniakow as mayor of the ghetto. As head of the Judenrat, Czerniakow attempt-

Feature

ed to assist the many starving and destitute of Warsaw and defended Warsaw's Jews, often at risk to his own life.

Czerniakow always kept a tablet of cyanide with him in the event the Nazis asked him to obey an order he felt he had to refuse. His despair at the plight of the children of the ghetto tormented him.

On June 14, 1942, he wrote in his diary: "I commanded that the children be brought to the garden from the detention room, organized by the local Ordnungsdienst. They are living skeletons, street beggars ... I'm ashamed to admit it's been long since I cried so ... Cursed are those among us who eat and drink and forget these children."

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INSIDE

A man finds the unmarked grave of his murdered brot
a remarkable conclusion to a remarkable story. *Please see pa*

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IDF needs more money: Defence minister — please see page 25

The News in Brief

CANADA

Intervenor Status Granted

TORONTO — The League for Human Rights of B'nai Brith Canada has been granted intervener status in the case involving Vancouver columnist Doug Collins and the *North Shore News*.

Collins and the newspaper have been taken before a tribunal of the B.C. Human Rights Commission by Victoria businessman Harry Abrams, who alleges the paper promoted contempt of Jews by carrying a series of articles by Collins that denied the Holocaust and made allegations of Jewish conspiracies.

Collins is seeking $5,000 in damages, $2,000 in lost income, a full apology and an order that the newspaper and Collins abstain from publishing similar articles in the future.

Citizenship Medal Awarded

TORONTO — Bessie Borwein of London, Ont., a professor at the University of Western Ontario is one of 15 people to receive this year's Ontario Medal for Good Citizenship.

Borwein, who specializes in biomedical research has undertaken a campaign to educate the public about the use of animals in research.

She has also been active in community activities, including being president of the London Section of National Council of Jewish Women and serving on the board of Madame Vanier's Children's Services in London.

ISRAEL

Dominican Republic Lauded

JERUSALEM — At a special Israel Council on Foreign Relations meeting in Jerusalem recently, Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) joined other leaders in paying tribute to the Dominican Republic on the 60th anniversary of the Evian Conference.

CJC president Moshe Ronen and national executive director Jack Silverstone recalled how 31 countries convened at the French resort town in July 1938 to discuss sanctuary for Jews fleeing Nazi Germany and Austria. However, they point out, the Dominican Republic stood out among the rest and agreed to accept a significant number of immigrants.

Ronen also held talks with Dominican Republic Minister of Foreign Affairs, Dr. Eduardo Latorre.

Best Wishes to King

JERUSALEM — Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu wished Jordan's King Hussein a "full and speedy recovery" after the monarch disclosed that he was being treated for suspected lymphatic cancer. Netanyahu told Israel Radio that he spoke in the name of all Israelis, who, he said, "value the important and courageous steps the king has taken over the years in relations with us."

Vote on Bill Postponed

JERUSALEM — A Knesset member recently decided to postpone a vote on a bill that would impose fines on businesses that remain open on the Sabbath. Hanan Porat, a member of the National Religious Party and chair of the Knesset Law Committee, reached the decision after seeing that the bill lacked the necessary support. Haredi Jews demonstrated recently to protest a restaurant that remained open on Sabbath.

Court Hears Petition

JERUSALEM — The Supreme Court agreed to hear a petition to recognize as Jewish adopted children who were converted by the country's Conservative movement. The hearings were delayed to allow a government-appointed commission time to reach a compromise. The petition was originally submitted three years ago by the Conservative movement and by the Na'amat women's organization.

Warning Given on Cuts

JERUSALEM — Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai warned a Knesset committee against making cuts in the defence budget. Mordechai said the army had insufficient resources to cope with future military threats.

WORLD

Hurwitz Attends Meeting

NEW YORK — Larraine Hurwitz of London, Ont., the recently elected president of the Canadian Seaway branch, attended the Women's League for Conservative Judaism annual branch presidents conference here last month. Hurwitz, a member of London's Congregation Or Shalom, joined the presidents of 24 other branches for three days of sessions designed to familiarize them with education, social action, Jewish living, Israel affairs and other programs of the league.

Iraqi Jew Named Governor

GOA, India — Lt.-Gen. J.F.R. Jacob was recently appointed Governor of the Indian province of Goa – the first Jew to achieve such high office. Jacob, who is of Iraqi heritage, was born in Calcutta. He had a distinguished military career with the British Indian Army during World War II, serving in Egypt, Iraq, Burma and Sumatra.

He is credited with having negotiated to establish diplomatic relations between India and Israel.

McLellan and Robillard Commended

MONTREAL — Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) has commended Federal Justice Minister Anne McLellan and Immigration Minister Lucienne Robillard following the recent release of the first annual report detailing the activities of their Inter-Departmental War Crimes Unit.

"Such a report was a long time in coming," said CJC war crimes committee chair, Prof. Irving Abella. "We are pleased with the determination and vigor demonstrated by the War Crimes Unit in its accomplishments to date. The commitment by the government to allocate additional resources over the next three years to bring to justice at least 13 new suspects demonstrates the new-found determination to finally root out the evil of Nazi murderers in our midst."

The report noted that there may be up to 400 modern-day war criminals present in Canada.

CJC national executive director and general counsel Jack Silverstone said, "This document gives a warning to contemporary war criminals that Canada will not tolerate their presence among us. The War Crimes Unit may be assured of our cooperation in its efforts to rid Canada of this criminal element."

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War crimes program gets substantial funding boost

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Canada's program to bring war criminals to justice received a shot in the arm last week when federal officials announced that $46.8 million would be allocated over three years to units investigating Nazi-era and modern-day war criminals.

The bulk of the funds – over $30 million – will go towards departments investigating modern-day war criminals, while approximately $12 million is earmarked for the effort against Nazi-era criminals, said Paul Vickery, head of the Justice Department's Nazi war crimes unit. At $4 million per year, the new funding is roughly double the Nazi war crime unit's previous budget, he added.

The enhanced funding will allow the unit to bring forward 14 new cases, bringing to 29 the number of cases launched against Nazi suspects since 1995.

The announcement came less than a week after Canada and 120 other nations agreed at a United Nations conference in Rome to create an International Criminal Court.

Vickery acknowledged there was a connection between events in Rome, where Canada was among the leaders pushing for a world court, and the domestic scene.

"In recent years, the government has seen the need to react definitively regarding war crimes and crimes against humanity because we've seen a growth" in conflicts around the world, he said. "I think the ministers of Justice and Citizenship and Immigration are very much alive to the need to take strong steps in this area."

In addition to the funding changes, the federal government has proposed:

• creating closer ties, though not a merger, between the modern and Nazi war crimes units;

• revamping the Extradition Act to permit extraditions to the court in The Hague trying Yugoslav war crimes cases. A bill to that effect was tabled in parliament and will be debated in the fall;

• amending the Criminal Code to overcome legal obstacles to criminal prosecutions that resulted from a Supreme Court of Canada ruling in the Imre Finta case.

Jewish organizations applauded the government's new initiative.

"It's a step forward. It's a shot across the bow of war criminals that Canada is no longer a haven as it has been for 50 years," said Irving Abella, chair of Canadian Jewish Congress' war crimes committee.

"The 14 new cases represent an almost exponential growth... It bodes well for the future," he said.

"I'm extremely pleased," said Sol Littman, Canadian representative of the Simon Wiesenthal Centre. "But it indicates how badly they lied to us in previous years, particularly during the Mulroney period, when we asked if they had enough money and staff and they said, 'We have enough money, enough staff.' Obviously it wasn't true."

"We are pleased" with the steps taken by government, said B'nai Brith Canada spokesperson David Matas. "B'nai Brith Canada has long called on the government to increase the war crimes units' human and financial resources. It is now clear... that the lack of resources was a major cause of serious delay in the commencement of proceedings against suspected war criminals."

Vickery discounted suggestions that the unit was hamstrung by budgetary restrictions. "In the past, we've been able to find the money. There hasn't been a formal funding arrangement, but funding was always there when we brought cases forward," he said.

In other developments, the Justice and Citizenship departments broke new ground with the release of a public report titled *Canada's War Crimes Program.*

The report indicated that since 1987, the Justice Department and the RCMP have investigated 1,571 individuals as possible Nazi war crimes suspects. Ninety files remain active, 15 proceedings have been initiated, 280 files are considered inactive and 880 files have been closed.

Turning to modern day war criminals, the report indicated "there are close to 320 suspects in Canada."

Vickery said the enhanced funding will help the modern war crimes unit increase its staff and beef up security in ports abroad.

"We want to prevent people from entering in the first place and so we want to beef up screening abroad," he said.

Katriuk's fate in judge's hands

By DAVID LAZARUS
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — The future fate of a Montrealer accused of concealing his wartime activities to enter Canada in 1951 will not rest on whether he actually collaborated with the Nazis, the federal judge in the case said during final arguments last month.

Federal Judge Marc Nadon said that Vladimir Katriuk's ability to keep his Canadian citizenship will be determined by one and only one question: whether there exists a preponderance of evidence showing that he was asked by Canadian immigration officials in France what he did during the war.

"If he was asked, and gave a false answer, that will be enough," Nadon said on July 3 as lawyers for Katriuk and the Crown wrapped up their arguments respectively in favor of letting Katriuk, 76, keep his Canadian citizenship and denaturalizing him.

If Nadon concludes that there is enough evidence to show that Katriuk was indeed asked but that he concealed his activities, he will be stripped of his citizenship, and then deported back to Ukraine.

Nadon is expected to rule on the case in August.

The former butcher, now an Ormstown beekeeper, did not attend the two days of final arguments in Federal Court, where his lawyers portrayed Katriuk as a man of good character who hid his identity when applying to enter Canada only because he had deserted from the French Foreign Legion and did not want to get caught.

The Crown's lawyer, David Lucas, on the other hand, contended that in the post-war years, asking potential immigrants about their past was Canadian screening policy, and that Katriuk had to have lied to gain entry.

Katriuk has admitted to having been a member of a Ukrainian battalion in 1942 that was taken over by the Germans in Belarus and which later became part of a larger Waffen SS unit implicated in acts of atrocities against the civilian population.

But Katriuk has vehemently denied taking part in any such activities, acknowledging only that he served as a guard and protected villagers from partisan looting.

Katriuk denied ever being in locations where the battalion was implicated directly in the deaths of thousands of civilians, including Jews.

During Katriuk's trial, his lawyers said Ottawa investigators, if they wanted to get Katriuk for war crimes, should have pursued him on that front, not for coming to Canada under a false name.

As the lawyers argued in the final days in court, it appeared unclear the extent to which the Crown had reached the level of evidence needed to strip Katriuk of his citizenship.

Katriuk's recollection of his wartime activities and immigration process, at least in his testimony, was sketchy. He vowed, however, that he never witnessed any mistreatment of the civilian population and that he was never asked by immigration authorities what he did during the war.

Moreover, Katriuk, after becoming a Canadian citizen in 1958, voluntarily advised Canadian officials that he came to Canada under a false name but was allowed to retain his citizenship. Key documents relating to Katriuk's admission process – including his actual application form – were destroyed in the late 1950s as part of a general housecleaning.

For Katriuk's lawyers, the absence of such a form, in tandem with what they say was the Canadian priority at that time to look out for "black marketeers, criminals and prostitutes," demonstrates that in all likelihood Katriuk was allowed in after it was established that he was none of the above.

Lucas has said that while there is no evidence linking Katriuk directly with atrocities, such activities can be inferred by his having been a member of an operational task force known to have committed war crimes.

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From the editor's desk

Cheeky and ill-advised

In the last column I commented on how "editorial writers seldom restrain themselves when condemning the policies of the Netanyahu government".

And when not condemning Israel, they appear equally unrestrained in offering the Jewish country unsolicited foreign policy advice, no doubt after extensive consultation with the battery of Middle East foreign policy experts on their respective editorial staffs and advisory boards, and no doubt, of course, well-intended.

A recent case in point was the July 24 editorial in the *New York Times* entitled "Iran's Missile Test."

The editorialist was responding to the launch by Iran last week of a form of prototype of the Shahab 3 missile. The missile had a range of 1,300 kilometres, bringing within its potential deadly reach, cities in Israel, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Turkey, and even parts of Russia and the Ukraine.

"The Administration ought to devote some attention to reassuring Israel, which considers Iran its most dangerous enemy and feels newly vulnerable. Syria already has missiles capable of reaching Israel; Iraqi Scuds did so during the gulf war, and now Iran may soon pose a missile threat.

"The immediate dangers facing Israel, however, have not substantially increased, *and Israel should not act precipitously*. (Our emphasis.) Iran's new missiles are not yet operational and Tehran remains at least five, and probably more, years away from developing nuclear weapons. That allows some time for arms control and diplomacy. Israel can also improve its regional security by pursuing efforts to negotiate peace with the Palestinians."

To be fair to the editorial writer, the advice in the editorial is primarily directed, and properly so, to the American government. Moreover, the editorial does conclude with an aptly somber statement:"Iran's missile test is a warning of future danger that should not be ignored."

But even so, one cannot overlook the fact that the writer could not resist proffering the free advice that "Israel should not act precipitously." Of course, underlying the writer's admonition was the assumption that Israel would act precipitously, whatever that means in this context.

In this particular instance, having regard to the overall content and tone of the editorial and to the fact that the writer only mildly hectored Israel, the attitude was more amusing than galling. But in many more instances, the reverse is true.

To be sure, the launch of the missile and its strategic significance were undoubtedly intended by the leaders in Tehran to be noticed and understood not only in Israel and in the United States.

The Arab kingdoms and autocracies of the Gulf region are historical rivals of the Persian state. Thus, the flight of the Shahab is potentially threatening to Iran's Muslim rivals too.

But beyond any doubt, the gravest danger from Iran's missile test is faced by Israel and by its people.

* * *

In the same issue of the *Times* were three other news items emanating from Iran. They provide additional important background to better place the missile launch in an appropriate domestic context.

The mayor of Tehran, Gholamhossein Karabaschi, a close ally to the supposedly moderate president of Iran, Mohammed Khatami,was convicted of corruption charges. Karabaschi was sentenced to five years in prison and was barred from running for public office for 20 years.

The charges, the trial and the sentence were viewed by most observers as a successful attempt by the fundamentalist mullahs, who still wield most of the power in Iran, to strike at Khatami.

In a separate court ruling, the conservative, religious court ordered the closure of the newspaper, *Jamayeh*.

The newspaper too had been a voice on behalf of the president, publicly questioning the effectiveness of some of the policies of the older, rabidly-anti western ruling clerics.

Finally, more ominous indeed than the mayor's conviction and the newspaper's closure was the execution of Ruhollah Rowhani, 52 years-old, father of four, follower of Baha'i.

Rowhani had been charged and convicted of converting a Muslim to the Baha'i faith.

Baha'i derives from Islam but is regarded as high heresy by Iran's religious leaders. Since the Islamic revolution in 1979, more than 200 Baha'is in Iran have been executed on account of their faith.

The mullahs have been single-minded in their persecution of the Baha'is. According to the *Times* news report, "three additional executions are believed to be imminent."

When told of Rowhani's execution, the State Department in Washington, to its credit, issued the following statement: "We call on the government of Iran to protect the lives of the 15 other imprisoned Baha'is, seven of whom are sentenced to death on charges of apostasy and so-called *Zionist* (our emphasis) Baha'i activities."

I am unaware if Ottawa has issued a similarly unambiguous statement. If it has not, it should.

* * *

When fully pieced together, all of these Iran-related developments should give editorial writers considerable reason to pause before they deign to give Israel advice about the implications of the launch of the Shahab. Even so relatively mild a finger-wagging as "Israel should not act precipitously" is cheeky, presumptuous, and ill-advised in the circumstances. *—MBD*

Israel's Jubilee 50 — *from the archives*

IMAGINING THE IVORIES

A young girl, newly arrived in Israel, "practises" her piano lessons while her family "listens" at their home at an immigrant camp in 1950.

[Keren Hayesod – UIA Communications photo]

* * *

For the latest in *Israel at 50* news, check out the *Israel at 50* Web site: [www.feduja.org] or call the *Israel at 50* hotline 416-635-2883 ext. 706.

Greater Toronto Area

Sudbury website ends links to extremist groups

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A Sudbury-based Internet Web site has stopped offering links to white supremacist groups – and access to instructions to concoct the deadly biological agent Anthrax – after being taken to task by its Internet Service Providers (ISPs).

Northern Information Exchange, operated by Sudbury resident John Dwyer, altered the content of its Web site after one of its ISPs, ViaNet Internet Solutions, passed along complaints about the site's contents. The original complaint came from Sol Littman, Canadian representative of the Simon Wiesenthal Centre.

Littman was concerned about the content of Dwyer's Web site, which featured access to the *Terrorist's Handbook*, a recipe for making Anthrax, instructions to create a powerful electric cattle prod and "hyper-links" to Holocaust-denier Ernst Zundel, the Michigan Militia and to Freedomsite.

Following the complaint, ViaNet and a second Sudbury ISP, Cyber Beach Communications, on which Northern Information Exchange operated a mirror site, convinced Dwyer to remove the offensive material and links. (ViaNet and Cyber Beach provide access to the Internet for Northern Information Exchange.)

In an interview with *The CJN*, ViaNet owner Will Gasteiger said he approached the complaint about Dwyer's Web site as a "problem that had to be fixed." "We took a look at the situation and thought it wasn't really appropriate. We don't want to censor things, but if there's a problem, we have to look at it," Gasteiger said. "The material concerns me in that you don't want your service offending other people."

As to the Anthrax recipe and blueprint for the cattle prod, Gasteiger said "I guess it depends on how you see these things. People can look at it and decide if they want to look at it or not. "

The Internet "is all about self-regulation," he continued. "We're in the middle of trying to resolve it so that the client gets service and people are not offended."

Gasteiger said he shut down Dwyer's Web site until he could discuss the issue with him. Once Dwyer removed the offending elements his service was restored.

Littman pointed out that the Wiesenthal Centre has been investigating extremist Web sites for over a year "and we've been able to remove all the sites."

A Web site operated by Bernard Klatt of Oliver, B.C. that was hyperlinked to white supremacist web addresses was shut down recently, and in May, Interlog, a Toronto-based ISP, terminated the account of Marc Lemire, one of Zundel's employees.

Austria tops up compensation to Jewish victims of Nazism

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Austria is adding $12 million to an existing relief fund for victims of Nazism.

Jews of Austrian origin around the world, including Canada, who were bypassed by the current restitution fund launched in May 1995, may be eligible for a one-time payment of $8,500, said Wolfgang Spadinger, a senior diplomat at Austria's embassy in Ottawa, in an interview last week.

Spadinger, the embassy's minister counsellor, said that the Austrian parliament in Vienna is expected to pass a bill in the autumn modifying qualification criterion for the 3-year-old fund.

As part of its efforts to come to terms with its past, Austria established what is officially known as the national fund.

Its purpose is to compensate Austrian Jews forced to emigrate as a result of persecution by the Nazis following the 1938 Anschluss, Austria's absorption by Germany.

Before its annexation, Austria was home to some 180,000 Jews, of whom about 65,000 perished during the Holocaust.

To be eligible for the one-time payment, applicants had to have lived in Austria before March 13, 1938, the day it was taken over by Germany.

Applicants may live in Austria or outside Austria. So far, 21,000 of 30,000 applicants have succeeded in receiving the $8,500 payment, including an estimated 1,200 Austrian Jews residing in Canada.

"We are still getting incoming applications," said Spadinger. "Some people are unaware of this fund. They prefer not to be reminded of this period."

Others, he added, want no contact with Austria.

"We'd be delighted to help them," he declared.

The $12-million addition to the fund was made possible by an act of brazen robbery.

When the Wehrmacht occupied Austria 60 years ago last winter, snuffing out Austria's independence, the German government confiscated 78 tons of gold reserves stored in the Austrian National Bank in Vienna.

The gold was subsequently transferred to the German Reichsbank in Berlin.

After World War II, the victorious Allied forces set up the Tripartite Gold Commission, a special body whose mandate was to expedite the return of stolen gold to its rightful owners.

Recognizing Austria's claim to the gold the Nazis had looted, the Tripartite Gold Commission repatriated 50 tons of gold in several tranches to Austria.

According to Spadinger, the gold in question did not belong to Jews.

Then, as a result of an international conference held in London in December 1997 to deal with Nazi gold, Austria decided to channel approximately 100 million shillings, or $12 million, into its fund for the victims of National Socialism.

According to a report in the July 17 edition of the *Jewish Chronicle*, published in London, Austria intends to modify the conditions under which individuals can apply for compensation.

Under the new rules, the newspaper claims, a person who left Austria during or after July 1936 would now be eligible for a restitution payment.

Administrators of the fund concluded that forced emigration actually began in the summer of 1936 rather than in the wake of the Anschluss.

Spadinger cautioned that guidelines governing applicability have yet to be finalized.

Further information can be obtained from the Austrian embassy in Ottawa, 613-789-1444.

CLARIFICATION

A misleading impression may have been created about Levitt's meats in the headline of a story about kosher products (*CJN*, July 16, 1998).

Levitt's is not under the supervision of COR, the Kashruth Council of Toronto. It is supervised by MK and Star-K.

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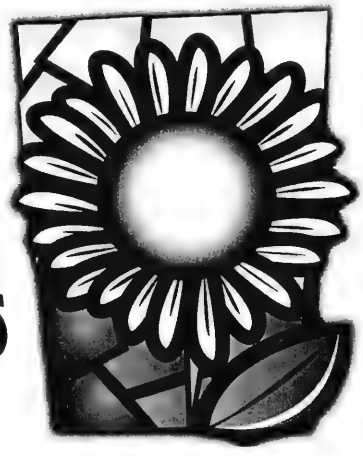

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Riverdale rallies behind youth

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Eight-year-old Aaron Weber would have enrolled in soccer and baseball camp this summer and battled his opponents on the playing field.

But the young sports enthusiast has been facing a much more serious challenge. For the last two months he has been fighting a brain tumor.

Aaron, who lives in the east-end community of Riverdale, was diagnosed with a rare type of brain tumor in May, his mother Isabel Weber told *The CJN*. "It was the worse nightmare of our life."

She said the Danforth Jewish Circle (DJC), rallied behind the family when news of Aaron's condition spread. "People were arriving with food and arranging babysitting the moment they found out. This community couldn't have been more responsive."

Two members of the DJC, Tanya Luder and Mara Cole, have also spearheaded a fundraising drive throughout the Riverdale community to cover the cost of alternative medicine or possible treatment in the United States. Their next fundraiser, a raffle, will culminate with a draw at 9:00 p.m. on Aug. 10 at the close of a three-day festival on the Danforth.

Luder noted that 20,000 tickets selling at $2 a piece are now available at several stores along Danforth Avenue, among them Korry's Clothiers, and several CIBC branches.

She added that during the festival, members of the DJC will work at raffle booths along the Danforth, and will help man a bouncing castle donated by Red Line Promotions.

Prizes donated include a weekend at Bayview Wildwood or Clevelands House; a Bell Mobility cellular phone; four Skybox tickets and meals from Ford Canada; and in-line skates from Sporting Life.

Cole, who has worked on behalf of the family since she heard the news, said raising money was the best way for her to help out. This kind of illness strikes so randomly, it could have happened to anybody, she said. "As easily as it was the Webers it could have been my family. It's so scary."

She was instrumental in getting the Withrow Ball Hockey Association to donate $3,000, the proceeds of a silent auction, and she helped organize a party at Il Fornello on the Danforth which netted $6,400.

Along with a $2,000 donation from the Big Carrot and $4,500 from the parents and the PTA of Withrow School where Aaron is a student, close to $16,000 has been raised so far.

Cole has also contacted corporations to donate services: The Marriott Hotel and the Crown Plaza will be providing rooms for the Weber family for roughly a month during the course of Aaron's alternative therapy in Montreal.

One of Cole's biggest coups was getting tickets for the recent Spice Girl concert. She was told through the Children's Wish Foundation that the tickets were unavailable, but she persisted, with corporations like CHUM, and Molson's Amphitheatre, she said.

"I knew Aaron wanted to hear the Spice Girls...A senior vice-president of public relations at Molson's put out the notice and [another] vice-president gave up his tickets. The Amphitheatre was incredible. They gave the family VIP treatment."

As for Aaron, he was thrilled with the Spice Girls, according to his mother. She said his attitude has been excellent throughout the two month course of radiation which ended recently. "He responded very well to radiation. It can be a hit or miss."

She noted that Aaron was wheelchair bound before the treatment and although he gets tired easily, he can now walk without assistance.

The hospital staff was "amazed" at how well he handled radiation Weber said. "Aaron is the most amazing patient. They said they couldn't have had a more agreeable child. He's such a trouper."

For more information, call 466-3535, or write Mara Cole, 101 Withrow Ave. Toronto, M4K 1C8.

CLARIFICATION

The report by Nathan Leipciger about the possibility that the Carmelite Nuns would attempt to re-establish their convent at Auschwitz (*CJN*, July 16) came as a result of his attendance as a delegate at the International Council on Auschwitz.

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FUNDS RAISED FOR ABUSE VICTIMS

Seen from left are Toronto's Temple Emmanu El congregants Marlene Landa and Brenda Waltman, and London artisan Ashley Barney, who recently presented a $19,000 cheque to Jewish Family & Child Service executive assistant Florence Weinberger to assist abused women and children in Toronto. Barney's earnings from the project are earmarked for a London, Ont., women's shelter and a St. Thomas food bank. The congregation raised the money by selling individually unique handcrafted Homes for Hope pins, made by Barney and other London women. Temple Emmanu El has raised more money selling the pins than any other organization in the national Homes for Hope campaign. The pins sell for $10 each and can be purchased through Temple Emmanu El, 416-449-3880. [Photo by M.J. Samuels]

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New day school offers European style education

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The newest day school in the city also has a new philosophy.

One-year-old Ohr Menachem Academy works like a European school, says principal Henya Schechter, demanding the highest standards academically and behaviorally, offering an enriched curriculum, and stressing maths, sciences and physical education.

School founder Rabbi Yoseph Zaltzman, rabbi and executive director of the Jewish Russian Community Centre (JRCC), told *The CJN* that the school was started because of the perception, particularly in the Russian community, that the education given by the day schools is inferior to that of both public and secular private schools.

"Less than 10 percent of Russian Jewish children receive any form of Jewish education. We realized that if we opened a school with higher standards and an academically enriched program, with a good sports program too, it would attract [children from that community]," Rabbi Zaltzman said.

Ohr Menachem is by no means solely for Russian children. "We will accept any Jewish child willing and able to meet our high academic and behavior standards. Their current level of knowledge and practice is not a barrier," the rabbi added.

In September, the school will consist of grades 1 and 2, although the intention is to eventually go up to Grade 8, or even Grade 12.

Ohr Menachem Academy students learn the fine art of chess.
[Photo courtesy Ohr Menachem Academy]

"We didn't feel the time was right to open a preschool too, as the JRCC preschool is in the same area," said Schechter.

Schechter is very conscious of the difficulties many youngsters have in day schools, especially with Hebrew subjects. "Many are turned off – Judaic studies become a torture, especially when the Hebrew language becomes demanding," she said.

For this reason, teaching of Judaic studies will be in English, although students will learn the original texts.

"The children will be taught basic skills and knowledge in a meaningful and enjoyable manner," Schechter said. There will be as much "hands-on" learning as possible, such as lighting the menorah on Chanukah or visiting a kosher supermarket.

"We want to instil pride in being Jewish," Rabbi Zaltzman said. "We want them to relate well to their Jewish identity."

Schechter added that the school also wants to "make a child a mensch, to teach manners. We are not ashamed to tell a child that this is not the way [to behave]."

Heavy stress will be put on maths and sciences. The aim is to give the students "the ability to internalize the material, to analyse, think and express themselves," Schechter said. "We think it is important to learn to think independently and logically, before learning by heart."

Students are bused to a nearby gymnasium for physical education. Computers are being installed in both classrooms, and not only will the children learn how to use them easily and competently, but the computers will be integrated into the curriculum.

French will begin in Grade 2, but Schechter wants to add a 15-minute introduction to the language in Grade 1.

Rabbi Zaltzman said the school hopes to add other languages in the future, such as Yiddish, Russian, conversational Hebrew, and a more intense level of French.

Another novel feature of Ohr Menachem Academy is its extracurricular program, two hours after school from Monday to Thursday. Programs include art, instructional chess, science and technology (where every week students will build a model based on a principle of physics), homework help and music.

While the program is optional, "last year, all the students took part," Rabbi Zaltzman noted.

The school is run by three boards – a board of governors that handles finances and physical matters; a board of education that overseas curriculum and policies; and a board of rabbis to deal with Judaic and halachic matters.

For the coming year, classes will be held at 44 Edinburgh, in the Bathurst-Wilson area. Transportation is available. Tuition includes a hot lunch and snacks.

For more information, contact Henya Schechter, 222-7105, ext. 31.

Woman seeks her Jewish family

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — In the second week of August 1943, a 1-year-old baby was left at the monastery of the Salwatorian Brothers in Trzebinia, near Krakow, Poland. A woman from Sosnowiec had asked permission to leave the child for an hour.

She never returned.

A parcel of baby clothes addressed to Baby Wanda Zakrzewska, believed to be a code name, arrived at the monastery 10 days later, but the ghettos at Bedzin and Sosnowiec had already been liquidated.

Today the Polish woman who was that baby, Wanda Chmielewska of Lublin, is anxiously seeking her Jewish family and has appealed to *The CJN* for help.

Three years ago, Chmielewska, 56, now married and a grandmother, learned by chance that she was Jewish. As a baby, she had been adopted by a Polish family, relatives of a priest who arranged the adoption.

She was never told, for instance, that a couple from a Jewish agency named Kehila had made repeated visits to the family in 1946 and were turned away empty-handed. They did not even see the baby.

Wanda Chmielewska

She lived with the family until she was 18, not learning until age 11 that she was adopted, and she never knew she had been left at the monastery until three years ago, when she heard from Father Pablaczyk, now 80, who had seen her at the monastery where he was a priest.

"She is more at peace with herself since she began to research her Jewish roots," her daughter, Dorota Chmielewska, 32, told *The CJN* by phone from Lublin. "She knows now who she is, that she is Jewish. Before she didn't know it."

Wanda also has a son, Robert, 33.

Six other Polish women who are now attempting to discover their Jewish roots met with members of March of the Living on their trip to Poland.

Anyone with information for Wanda Chmielewska is asked to contact Nathan Leipciger at 416-445-8255.

Another plea to help Wanda came from documentary filmmaker Mira Reym Binford, of New Haven, Conn., who met her in Poland recently.

"She is a wonderful, quiet woman who is desperately anxious to know something about her family," Binford said.

Binford made *Diamonds in the Snow*, a documentary shown on PBS in 1995, about three babies, including herself, who were hidden by Polish families.

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Set an example

We agree with the decision last week by the Conference of Presidents of Major Jewish Organizations (CPMJO) to send Yasser Arafat a personal letter urging him to publicly denounce the frequently recurring denials of the Holocaust appearing in the Palestinian media and uttered by Palestinian officials.

The appeal by the Conference leaders was in response to an article in the July 2 issue of *Al Hayat al Jadida*, the publication regarded by most well-informed observers as the official newspaper of the Palestinian Authority (PA), in which the Holocaust was described as a "deceitful myth." The author of the article claimed that Jews had distributed "frightful pictures of mass executions and invented the shocking story of the gas ovens, where Hitler allegedly burned them."

The article is not only an affront to truth and to decency, it is a stumbling block to the development of a new, more trusting relationship between Israelis and Palestinians. Thus it is ultimately also a deep danger to the possibility of peace between the two peoples.

In their letter to Chairman Arafat, the Jewish leaders asked him "to denounce this historical revisionism and declare as unacceptable all written or oral denigration and diminution of the Holocaust."

The CJN joins their plea. We urge Arafat to act quickly and assertively. He must unambiguously state on the record that such opinions are odious, false and dangerous. He must set for his people an example of a leader for whom the truth is essential both as a building block in the structure of reconciliation between Israeli and Palestinian and for its own sake, in its own right.

It is not only Jewish leadership that seeks a strong response from Chairman Arafat. *The New York Times* reported that American officials are also deeply perturbed by continuous Holocaust denial by Palestinians. "These sorts of issues come up unfortunately *all too frequently*," (our emphasis) a State Department official said. "And when they do, we repeat the view to the Palestinian Authority that it's got to stop."

The issue is not one of freedom of the press as Hanan Ashrawi, PA minister for higher education and research, disingenuously claimed. The CPMJO letter did not ask Arafat to prohibit the offensive opinion from being published. Rather it asked him to denounce and condemn it for having been published.

The issue is one of truth, of trying to build trust between two increasingly distrustful peoples and of trying to lay a foundation for a durable peace between them.

Conscience cries

We have seen the photos before. Each time they tear at our hearts and sear our souls until conscience must cry out. They are the emaciated, skeletal, distorted bodies of the poor, pitiful starving masses in East Africa. They are the children who are barely recognizable as children; and they are the adults, gaunt, hollow-cheeked, nearly lifeless, who try desperately to feed their children but cannot, or try to lift their own arms, but cannot.

Once again there is famine in the southern Sudan and as many as 50 people are dying each day. The United Nations estimates that more than one million human beings are at risk of not surviving the year because of lack of food. Because this latest famine stems not only from the malevolence of nature but from the malevolence of man as well, it will not be easily remedied. Nevertheless, a remedy must be found. We cannot stand idly by the deaths of our fellow human beings. We therefore call upon the government of Canada to take every possible step to mobilize international opinion and international resources to try to prevent any more people in Sudan from dying of hunger.

WISDOM OF THE AGES
"Even in paradise, it is not good to be alone."
Yiddish saying

Dry Bones

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Holocaust compensation to Romanian survivors

Regarding the article about the compensation plan (*CJN*, July 8), I fail to understand why the Romanian Holocaust survivors who were incarcerated in forced military labor battalions in Southern Moldavia and Bessarabia are not eligible.

Hundreds of Jews from Romanian towns like Falticeni, Botosani, Iassy were deported for over 20 months to forced labor camps in inhuman conditions, without access to the outside world.

The camps were situated in quarries, isolated, at considerable distances from places known as Calfa, Alexandreni, Doaga. They were surrounded by barbed wire, had military guards, and the inmates were subjected to a very harsh regime.

For example, at Calfa we had to live in reed-covered huts through which we could see the sky, sleeping on layers of rat-infested straw. The lack of running water and of the most elementary sanitary conditions led to massive lice infection. We were "bathing" in a swamp about four kilometres away from the camp. At Alexandreni and Doaga, the huts were made of wood, with bunk-beds; there was almost no heating during the cold winters of 1942-43 and 1943-44, and the deficient sanitary conditions were still creating problems.

In all these camps, the food was scarce and served in totally inadequate conditions. At Calfa, for example, we had to eat on the bare ground near a rail track.

There was also constant beating: One commandant of the military battalion ordered 25 blows daily to anyone found with lice, knowing very well that everybody was infested.

Terror and moral tension reigned in all military forced labor camps, and any absence or avoidance of performing forced labor resulted in deportation to Transnistria of the whole family of whoever was found guilty.

The question I would like to ask is: Were the conditions in the forced military labor battalions in Hungary and on the Ukrainian front worse than those in the Romanian forced military labor battalions?

In the light of the above, I call for including in the eligible category the survivors of the Romanian forced military labor battalions, especially since their number is in permanent decline due to old age and precarious health.

Jacob Fuchs
Montreal

Poetic tribute to Israel

I am a Conservative
And a proud Jew
Every Shabbos morning
I go to shul

I observe and learn
And I anxiously pray
That there will be peace
In Israel one day
For this to happen
To make it right
We have to come together
So we must not fight

Hy Kirsh
Toronto

Searching for Canadian survivors of SS St. Louis

The Montreal Holocaust Memorial Centre, in conjunction with the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum and the Registry of Jewish Holocaust Survivors, is attempting to trace the fate of 936 passengers who were aboard the *SS St. Louis*.

The United States Holocaust Memorial Museum believes that 65 of the passengers who survived may still be alive and the museum is attempting to trace their whereabouts. Survivors have been located in the United States, England, Australia and Israel.

The Registry of Jewish Holocaust Survivors has enlisted the assistance of the Montreal Holocaust Memorial Centre in attempting to find passengers of the *SS St. Louis* who may be living in Canada.

If you are aware of any *St. Louis* survivors living in Canada, or members of their families, please contact the Montreal Holocaust Memorial Centre 514-345-2605 at your earliest convenience.

Bill A. Surkis
Executive Director

Says Goldhagen is right on guilt of Germans

I vehemently disapprove of the comments made against historian Daniel J. Goldhagen as reported in *The CJN* (July 9).

I have assiduously read *Hitler's Willing Executioners: Ordinary Germans and The Holocaust.* As a survivor of the Holocaust, I do agree with his publication. I wept on reading the descriptions, which I found powerful and most descriptive.

No country could have perpetrated measures such as mass slaughter and anti-Semitism without the bureaucrats who signed orders; privileged officials who confiscated people's property, took away their rights; soldiers, volunteers and collaborators who abused, consigned and guarded victims, first in transit concentration camps, and later among those selected for gas chambers.

Every day, in their homes and families, in places of work and worship and throughout Germany and occupied areas, the majority of the German people did not offer resistance. Their government propagated fear, hate and death and with unrelenting zeal, and its civilians and soldiers collectively and individually willingly executed orders, orchestrated violence and pain, and committed the most heinous crimes against humanity.

Albert L. Stal
Toronto

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures. Letters sent by E-Mail must also include the sender's municipal address.

The brother's grave, at last, is marked

By JERZY JASTRZEBOWSKI

The original story in The CJN about the unmarked grave evoked 'a phenomenal response'.

Ya'anecha Elokim beyom tzara…

Simon Yarmusch half-recites, half-sings the Psalm of David. When his voice falters, Pinchas Menachem Joskowicz, the chief rabbi of Poland, picks up the verse. Suddenly, the remote forest on the Polish-Slovak border fills with the sounds of Hebrew.

Yesaghe v'HaShem Elokei Ya'akov …

That forgotten area in the woods in the Carpathian Mountains has heard Hebrew before. In August 1942, more than 500 Jews intoned Shema Yisrael close to here. Hitler's police shot adults in the back, hurled Jewish infants into the pit, finished them off with spades.

Rabbi Joskowicz will say the Kaddish over the mass grave, too. But for now, Simon Yarmusch, Rabbi Joskowicz and New York Rabbi Michael Schudrich from the Ronald Lauder Foundation pray over the Yarmusch grave. It stands alone, mysteriously.

Yishlach ezrecha, miKodesh…

About a dozen Jews from Krakow have come for the memorial service on that hot, humid evening in early June. But they willingly cede the place of honor to the local farmer Jan Holuta and his family. Without Holuta's determination to save a nameless Holocaust grave from oblivion there would have been no service at all.

Umi-Tziyon Yisadeka…

Renee Yarmusch huddles under a tree. Simon's wife is an American, but her parents were born not far from these beautiful, cursed hills, long before the Holocaust happened. She understands. So do the Holutas, even though they are of a different faith. They weep. Suddenly, I too feel a tear running down my cheek.

How It All Came About

Years ago, my friend, the Polish-Ukrainian peasant farmer Jan "Vanio" Holuta in the village of Tylawa, took his grandsons and me to a mass grave of Jews murdered in August 1942 by Hitler's police in a mountain valley. About 500 Jews from the rural towns of Dukla and Rymanow lie buried there. They have a marked grave.

Then Holuta pulled us deeper into the forest: "I want you and my grandsons to know there is another Jewish grave here that only I know and remember. There were two young brothers from Dukla. A few years ago, I remembered their names. They hid in the mountains till the first snowfall, when gendarmes tracked them down. A peasant sled-driver had to take the two under a police escort and later recalled how the Jews pleaded for their lives. But try to plead with Hitler's police! They shot and buried them right here, and I am telling you their story so that people will remember that human beings are buried under that bush. Sooner or later, someone will come to claim the bodies."

I was struck by the determination of my friend, who was fighting to preserve a memory of people of a different faith, people he had never met. He had driven a wooden marker into that spot in the ground, and when foraging boars dug it out, he drove an iron peg into the same spot. For remembrance.

What I saw was an awesome historical metaphor. Hitler's henchmen wiped out the entire Jewish people in east-central Europe, which had been their home for centuries. And the Nazis were hell-bent on going further: They wanted all memory of the Jewish race deleted. Jewish graves were to be levelled, *matsevas* used to pave roads.

And here was my friend, a semi-literate Polish-Ukrainian peasant, challenging all that. He had been tending the barely visible Jewish grave, because "sooner or later someone will come to claim the bodies." By doing this he defied Hitler, Himmler, Eichmann.

I made a commitment about the nameless grave and soon began the years of legwork that ultimately led to the scene described above.

I met old villagers in the area, asking the same questions over and over again: How did it happen? Who were the victims? What do you remember? After two years of asking questions, I stitched together the bits and pieces of their collective memory into the story of the Yarmusch family. Their name was originally spelled Jarmusz.

I took the suffering of that family to Canada. In *The CJN*, on Feb. 5, I published an appeal: "Are there any Dukla Jews left in the world – in Israel, America, Canada – to provide a minyan, so that two kids who did nothing wrong, except that they were born in the wrong place at the wrong time, would get a decent funeral at last? If there is anyone out there, please come forward. Please."

Explosion of Interest

Reaction from readers was phenomenal. The phone started ringing early on the morning after my plea was published. Murray Rose of Toronto was offering words of encouragement. Frederick Rose got me in touch with Gesher Galizien in the United States. Then Leah Judah of Toronto called to say that her late father, Rabbi Pinchas Hirschprung, had been the last pre-war rabbi of Dukla before serving for 29 years as chief rabbi of Montreal. Rabbi Hirschprung had died only two weeks before my appeal was published. Leah called her mother, Chaya Hirschprung, still in mourning after the death of her husband. When Chaya called back, saying that she knew of a family named Yarmusch in New York, I knew I was on to something big.

A few days later, my phone rang again. From Florida. But in Polish, an old voice sobbed into my ear: "Mr. Jastrzebowski, hear me – I am Simon Yarmusch. Lord, oh Lord, how did you find their grave? They were my dear brothers, Shlomo and Luzer, Shlomo and Luzer!"

Simon's Story

He was the youngest of four brothers. The oldest two – Shlomo and Luzer – were forced by Germans to work in a quarry near Dukla, but they escaped back to town. Simon didn't know what happened to them later. He also worked as slave labor in a quarry nearby.

Later Germans transferred Simon to Plaszow (remember *Schindler's List*), then to a munitions factory in Czestochowa, and later to Nordhausen-Dora where he hewed tunnels in solid rock. Finally, he was transported to Buchenwald.

When the war front drew close, SS guards took the Buchenwald inmates on a death march. Few survived. Then, on a Friday (the religious Jew still remembers it was a Friday), American troops suddenly swarmed over the dying skeletons. Simon remembers he was so weak he couldn't even get up from the ground to greet the liberators.

He spent six months in a Swedish hospital. Ultimately, in 1947, he came to America. After years of rabbinical studies and hard work, he opened a hardware store in Manhattan. The company is now run by his sons, Murray and Allan, and his daughter Suzie helps out.

Not in his wildest dreams did Simon imagine he would some day find the grave of his brothers. After the service in the forest, he consulted the rabbis. The Polish governor of the province and the mayor of Dukla had promised every assistance to have the remains exhumed and reburied at the town's Jewish cemetery.

But the rabbis decided that the peace of the remains should not be disturbed. The presence of the Holuta family nearby guarantees that the grave will be protected against desecration. Shlomo and Luzer will sleep in peace, awaiting the arrival of the Messiah.

Simon Yarmusch and Rabbi Pinchas Joskowicz. In the background are Jan Holuta and his grandson. [Wojciech Jastrzebowski photo]

Jerzy Jastrzebowski is an editor with the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation.

Opinions

The enigmatic side of Israeli life

By Robert Sarner in Jerusalem

Every country has its enigmas, things particular to its culture, history and mentality which often don't add up, especially for non-natives. Israel is no exception. When it comes to peculiarities endemic to life in the Jewish state, there are many that defy my understanding, even after living here almost eight years.

Last winter, when I sat down to write about such things for this column, the list kept growing. I quickly ran out of space and promised a second instalment.

Here it goes:

Around Again: While most of the Western world recycles an increasing amount of its garbage, Israel recycles less than five percent. This despite the acute lack of land (for dumping) and the damage to valuable aquifer water resources by current dumping.

Saturday Night Fever: With the end of Shabbat, Israelis pack the country's shopping centres. You can't move for the crowds and can't hear for the deafening noise, but still the hoards keep coming back every week.

Lots Of Talk: As part of the battle against horrendously high road accident rates, the Knesset passed legislation banning the widespread use of hand-held cell phones by drivers. It is virtually never enforced by police.

Real Money: Although all salaries in Israel are in shekels, all prices for homes for sale or for rent are in U.S. dollars.

The Plight Of The Non-Orthodox: If ever there was a place where an alternative to Orthodox Judaism would seem attractive, it's Israel. Judging by the failure of the Reform and Conservative movements to reach the wider Israeli public, however, it's not.

Big Talkers: Like a broken record, Netanyahu's coalition partners repeatedly threaten to leave his fragile government. They never do, even when the cabinet doesn't yield to their pressure. Yet every time they vow to bolt, there's great sound and fury in the media, although none of the coalition parties has an interest in toppling the government.

Out On a Date: For some events, the date is determined by the Hebrew calendar. For other things, the secular calendar is used.

Delivery Man Blues: In many cities, street signs seem a luxury item. Making matters worse when you are looking for a particular address, some buildings don't have signs with street numbers, and for those that do, the numbers often are not visible from the road.

I'm OK, You're OK, Everything's OK: The infamous *Yehiye beseder* (It will be all right) expression and attitude still prevail, despite having proven tragically infallible many times in the past.

Consuming Disinterest: Israelis can be a stubborn, argumentative bunch. Strangely, when it comes to standing up for their rights as consumers, they're surprisingly docile. The only ones who ever organize boycotts are the ultra-Orthodox on religious grounds.

Belaboring The Point: In June, millions of dollars were spent electing the leadership of the Histadrut, Israel's main labor federation. Few people cared and even fewer understand the relevance of this bureaucratic behemoth. For all its pro-worker rhetoric, its priority seems to be to protect the interests of its own public sector elite.

Communication For The Nation: In much of the world, Jews are leaders in the public relations industry. Yet for years, Israel has been doing a terrible job of PR for its battered international image.

Sardine Appeal: Every summer, you'll find the Kinneret region run amok with vacationers packed like lemmings in Tiberias and neighboring beaches. Yet less than a half-hour away, the Golan Heights, one of the greenest, most open, tranquil parts of the country remains largely devoid of visitors.

Punishment For Leaving The Classroom: Public schools, at least those in Jerusalem, don't feel the need to supply their washrooms with toilet paper – and parents don't seem to mind.

Capital Gains? In 1991, Jerusalem built a new soccer stadium seating12,000 people, with parking facilities for less than 300 cars. As National League games are on Saturdays when there is no public transportation, the number of fans arriving by car is even greater. The result: the adjacent neighborhood of Malha is virtually barricaded in by thousands of illegally-parked cars that police never ticket. Adding to the misery, this year the municipality spent $10 million (US) to expand the stadium without expanding the already inadequate parking facilities.

Straight Ahead: The propensity of Israelis to give directions even when they don't know what they're talking about.

The biggest enigma? The longer I live here the more things I discover that I don't understand. That means there is sure to be a lot more material for another such column in the future.

The UN: Still a source of hatred

By Gerald Steinberg in Jerusalem

On the face of it, a new international court to try war criminals would seem to be a good cause. However, even before it could start operations, this institution was hijacked by the same anti-Israeli agenda that has poisoned other international institutions, including the United Nations.

In a deliberate move to create yet another base for attacking Israel, the UN-sponsored conference bowed to Egyptian and Syrian pressure to include "settlements in occupied territories" in the list of war crimes. Of course, the definition of "settlements" and "occupied territories" will not be based on careful consideration of the facts, but will be a political and ideological decision determined by the usual anti-Israeli majority.

The international "community" in general, and the UN in particular, are still far too biased to provide moral guidance and dispense justice for the world. The vast majority of the states are undemocratic, and many of the democratic ones are often willing to sacrifice principle for expediency. When it comes to Israel and the Middle East, the gap between the ideal and political reality is still huge.

Recent events in the UN highlight how little has changed since the dark days when a majority of states declared Zionism to be racism. In the past few weeks, the president of the UN Security Council issued a formal statement criticizing Israel's plan to expand the municipal boundaries of Jerusalem (mainly to the west, in areas which have been part of Israel since 1948). This plan was primarily designed to improve sewage services and traffic flow in the Jerusalem area. The reason for the UN's interference was clear – the continuing Palestinian and Arab propaganda campaign designed to isolate and weaken Israel politically. The Arab charge that this issue was related to the permanent status negotiations was unfounded, but this did not prevent the UN from endorsing the Arabs' position.

In contrast, a few weeks earlier, the UN accepted an initiative that clearly violated the agreement to leave permanent status issues to be negotiated between the parties. In an effort to upgrade their status and move towards independence, the Palestinians sought to gain most of the attributes of a member state. After some softening of support from Europe, the proposal was watered down, but in the end, the UN General Assembly voted (124-4) to give the Palestinians the right to participate in general debates and to co-sponsor draft resolutions. The message was that if the Palestinians unilaterally declare an independent state in May 1999, in violation of the Oslo accords, they will be recognized by the majority of UN members. However, their continuing support for terrorism or questions regarding their ability to manage a state are not on the agenda.

While upgrading the Palestinians, the UN still discriminates against Israel. The UN is organized in terms of regional groupings that are the basis for election to the Security Council, the UN Commission on Human Rights and other UN bodies. Every UN member is also a member of such a regional group, except for Israel. The Arab states have refused to agree to include Israel in the Middle East group, and the Israeli application to join the Western European and North American group has also been rejected, leaving Israel as a second class state in the UN framework. Despite the pledge of Secretary General Kofi Annan to rectify this problem, (announced during his recent visit to Israel), nothing has changed.

The use of the UN to promote anti-Israeli hatred also continues. Recently, the Palestinian observer to the Commission on Human Rights charged that Israelis had infected 300 Palestinian children with the AIDS virus. The chair of the Commission admitted that this charge was "an allegation made without evidence, on the basis of a newspaper article ...proved completely false." However, under Arab pressure, the chair backed down from earlier plans to make the statement publicly.

During an earlier session, the Syrian ambassador repeated the Damascus blood libel claiming that Jews killed Christian children to use their blood to make matzah. The Western democracies (with the exception of the United States) lacked the moral fortitude to challenge this age-old anti-Semitic libel. As a result of such bias, the UN has lost credibility.

It is no surprise that the Oslo agreements were negotiated outside of the UN framework. Indeed, since 1993, hundreds of Israelis have been killed and thousands injured by Palestinian terror attacks. During the same period, 34 resolutions deploring Israel were passed at the UN, but not one resolution focused on Palestinian terrorism.

Canada has a central role in the UN, but its representatives, like those of the European democracies, have failed to end the abuse of this forum to attack Israel. It is time for the Canadian government to use its influence to end this campaign of hatred against Israel and the Jewish people.

The new revisionism

By Rabbi Gunther Plaut in Toronto

Historical Revisionism is not a new phenomenon. The expert practitioners of this craft were the Soviets who constructed and reconstructed history according to the latest whims of the Kremlin.

In the Jewish world the term Revisionism has had a positive connotation, for it was meant primarily to rewrite the future of the Jewish people rather than revise its past. Revisionists constituted a Zionist party that arose in the 1920s and achieved its first prominence through Vladimir Jabotinsky's opposition to the leadership of Chaim Weizmann. Jabotinsky, basing himself on Herzl's concept of Zionism as essentially a political movement, defined Revisionism as follows: "Ninety percent of Zionism may consist of tangible settlement work, and only 10 percent of politics; but those 10 percent are the precondition of success." After the founding of Israel in 1948, Revisionism was represented by the Herut party, led by Menachim Begin, and gained power some 30 years later. Today's Likud, headed by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, is an amalgam in which Revisionism plays the major role, and which constitutes the centre of Israel's nationalist ideology.

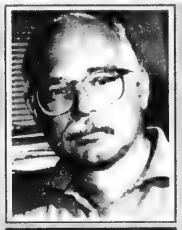
Utterly different is the so-called Historical Revisionism which has become the tool of anti-Semites. It attempts to rewrite the Holocaust and deny its existence. Ernst Zundel is a practitioner of this latest attempt to revisit the past.

Now yet another revisionism has arisen: Arab claims that Jews never had any relation to the land of Israel, neither to Jerusalem nor to anything remotely connected to it. Which is to say that Bible and Jewish tradition as well as documented history are of no account in this form of revising history. Its purpose is obvious: It is to show that only Arabs (or more precisely, Muslims) have a claim to Jerusalem and all of Eretz Yisrael.

But it may very well be that it is not Jewish but Arab claims to Jerusalem that need revision. Their religious relationship to Jerusalem is not in doubt, but their political one is. The former Israeli ambassador to Egypt, Moshe Sasson, an expert on Islamic affairs, explained the exact nature of Islam's connection to Jerusalem: "We must differentiate between the holiness of the city and the holiness of sites within the city. The Caliph Abd El-Malik, when he moved his centre of power from Damascus to Jerusalem, sought to build the mosques there. The Al Aqsa mosque was built 61 years after Mohammed's death. Jerusalem is not mentioned even once in the Koran (It is mentioned 667 times in the Bible), and the Al Aqsa mosque is mentioned only once – and even that is not a reference to the mosque of today. In verse 1 chapter 17, the Koran states that Allah transported Mohammed from Mecca to Al-Aqsa; but this cannot be referring to the mosque in Jerusalem, because when Mohammed was alive, there were no mosques in the city. Rather, it refers to the end (aktsa, in Arabic) of the sky. Sasson said that in Islam, there is a differentiation between political capitals." Sasson said that the holiness of Jerusalem to Islam should therefore not be an issue when discussing the city's future political status. But of course, it will be.

The Kirshner File

The passing parade...



By Sheldon Kirshner

They died recently, leaving footprints in time...

Mordechai Strigler, a Polish-born Yiddish newspaper editor and memoirist, edited the Paris-based *Unzer Vort* (*Our Word*) and the *Forward* in New York. He published some of the greatest Yiddish novelists of his time – Isaac Bashevis Singer and Chaim Grade, among others – and wrote *Extinguished Candle*, a six-volume autobiographical work about his experiences during the Holocaust.

Alfred Kazin, critic, author and embodiment of the New York liberal intellectual, established a standard for literary criticism with landmark books like *On Native Grounds*, *An American Procession*, *A Walker in the City* and *New York Jew*.

Shirley Povich, the pre-eminent American sports columnist, wrote more than 15,000 columns for the *Washington Post* in a 74-year career. At 21, he was named sports editor, the youngest person to ever hold such a position on a major metropolitan daily.

Sydney Gruson, raised in Toronto, was a distinguished foreign correspondent for the *Canadian Press* and the *New York Times*, reporting from Europe, the Middle East and Latin America.

Fred Friendly, a visionary CBS TV producer, developed *See It Now* in conjunction with Edward R. Murrow, a program which pioneered the use of the television news documentary.

Norman Isaacs, a Kentucky journalist, was president of the Associated Press Managing Editors Association and the American Society of Newspaper Editors, as well as a member of the Pulitzer Prize advisory board.

Edith Oliver was the influential drama critic of the *New Yorker* for 31 years.

Dawn Steel, the first woman to head a Hollywood movie studio (Columbia, from 1987 until 1991), oversaw the production of such films as *Fatal Attraction*, *Top Gun*, *Flashdance* and *The Untouchables*.

Marvin Worth, a film producer and TV writer, was nominated for two Academy Awards (*Lenny* and *Malcolm X*) and wrote segments of *The Steve Allen Show*, *The Milton Berle Show* and *Get Smart*.

Bob Merrill composed popular songs, from *How Much Is That Doggie in the Window?* and *Love Makes the World Go 'Round* to *People* and *Breakfast at Tiffany's*.

Henny Youngman, the king of the one liner, was a comedian who unloosed uproarious monologues on TV variety shows and in clubs, synagogues and hotels.

Mae Questel was the cartoon voice of Betty Boop, Olive Oyl and Sweet Pea. Her recording of *On the Good Ship Lollipop* sold more than two million copies in the 1930s.

Wolf Mankowitz, a London novelist and screenwriter, wrote *A Kid for Two Farthings*, a novel about his upbringing in the heavily Jewish East End, and *Casino Royale*, a James Bond spoof.

Frank Lloyd, a Viennese-born entrepreneur, founded the Marlborough Gallery, which was considered the most important art gallery business in the world, with branches in Toronto, Montreal, New York, London, Rome and Zurich.

Natasha Gelman and her husband, Jacques, amassed one of the great 20th century art collections, with paintings by Diego Rivera, Frida Kahlo, Pablo Picasso and Joan Miro.

Otto Bettmann, a refugee from Nazi Germany who settled in the United States, founded the Bettmann Archive, a treasure trove of photographs, prints, posters, woodcuts and cartoons that chronicled the history of civilization.

Ilse Bing, a native of Frankfurt, Germany, was a photojournalist whose work appeared in the first modern photography exhibition, held in Paris in 1936. Her spare, geometric style was compared to Andre Kertesz and Henri Cartier-Bresson.

Jack Delano, a Ukrainian Jew who immigrated to the United States with his parents when he was 8 years old, produced iconic images as a photographer for the New Deal's Farm Security Administration during the Depression.

Linda McCartney was a noted photographer whose other claim to fame was being married to Paul McCartney of the rock band The Beatles. Her father, Lee Eastman (Epstein), was an entertainment lawyer.

Sid Luckman, star football player at Columbia University in the 1930s, quarterbacked the Chicago Bears to four championships in 1940, 1941, 1943 and 1946. The National Football League's most valuable player in 1943, Luckman was named to the Pro Football Hall of Fame in 1965.

Ernst Jokl, a founder of sports medicine in Germany, South Africa and the United States, was one of the creators of the American College of Sports Medicine and a physician for the United States Olympic Committee.

Louis Gluck, a pediatrician on the staff of the Yale University School of Medicine, developed the modern neonatal intensive care unit in the 1960s.

Gertrude Goldhaber, the first woman with a PhD in physics to be employed by the Brookhaven National Laboratory in the United States, expanded the knowledge base of nuclear fission and the structure of atomic nuclei.

Samuel Corson, a professor of psychiatry and biophysics at Ohio State University, was the father of pet-assisted psychotherapy, now common in North American nursing homes.

Leon Poliakov, who fought for the resistance movement in France during World War II, turned the study of anti-Semitism into a scientific discipline. His four-volume *History of Anti-Semitism*, a classic of the genre, was published between 1956 and 1977.

Louis Loss, a Harvard professor, was a towering authority on securities law. His book, *Securities Regulation* (1951), remains the definitive work on the subject.

Shirley Polykoff, an advertising copywriter from Brooklyn, coined the famous "Does she... or doesn't she?" hair dye campaign for Clairol. The catchy slogan increased the sale of dyes, tints and rinses in the United States and Canada by quantum levels.

Walter James Levy, the dean of oil economists in the United States, was a consultant whose clients included Saudi Arabia and Brunei.

Mona May Karff of Bessarabia was the U.S. women's chess champion seven times. She won her first title in 1938 and her last in 1974.

Rene de Epelbaum, a human rights activist in Argentina, was a founder of the Mothers of the Plaza de Mayo, which protested the abduction and killing of Argentinians during the period of military dictatorships in the 1970s and 1980s. This was the fate of her own three adult children.

Jack Streit was president of Aron Streit Inc., the last independent American matzah company, founded by his parents in 1914.

Carl Sontheimer, an electronic engineer, revolutionized American cooking by bringing the Cuisinart to the United States in 1973.

Albert Lippert, a women's apparel buyer, was a founder of Weight Watchers International.

Murray Pezim, a Canadian mining promoter, was the force behind spectacular gold finds in Ontario and British Columbia.

Gerald Pencer transformed Cott Corp., his father's Montreal bottling business, into the fourth-largest soft drink maker in the world.

Gabe Paul was a baseball executive with two championship teams – the New York Yankees and the Cincinnati Reds – in the 1960s and 1970s.

Abraham Ribicoff, a Connecticut governor, congressman and senator, was one of John F. Kennedy's managers in his successful 1960 presidential campaign, and the first person to be named to his cabinet.

Bella Abzug, a Manhattan congresswoman in the 1970s, was a feminist, anti-Vietnam war activist and one of the first politicians to call for Richard Nixon's impeachment.

Chana Timoner, a Conservative rabbi, was the first Jewish woman to be a fulltime chaplain in the regular American army.

Lev Rokhlin, one of the few Jews in the post-war era to become a general in the Russian army, fought in wars in Afghanistan and Chechnya. After his retirement, he was elected to parliament.

Monty Green, a British Jew, was the last surviving major general from Israel's 1948 war.

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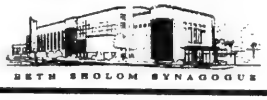

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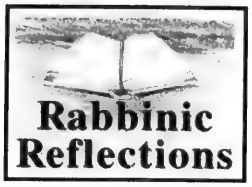

Rabbinic Reflections

Mitzvot are addictive

By RABBI MORDECAI ZEITZ

As you read this, I will be returning from Israel after our ninth annual synagogue pilgrimage. Two busloads of parents and children, bubbies and zaydes will have crisscrossed Israel for two weeks.

For most participants it will be mind boggling: visiting the sites, absorbing the information and experiencing the beauty of the country and the vibrancy of the life and the people we encounter. The group will forge lasting memories of a living Jewish experience. Canadian Jewry can feel proud that a majority of its adult population has visited Israel at least one time.

Standing before the Kotel during the week leading up to Tisha b'Av is an amazing phenomenon. On the one hand, we mourn the destruction of Temple in Jerusalem, while on the other hand, we stand with great pride beneath the flag of the State of Israel and the watchful eyes of the soldiers of the IDF. Our past of wailing at the Wall and our present of rejoicing at the Wall sort of tell it all. History has dealt us some very difficult hands, but the chemistry between the Jewish people and the land of Israel, especially the city of Jerusalem and the Temple Mount, is intrinsic and everlasting.

What we do with this great gift can determine the future of Jewish destiny. Whether Tisha b'Av will be feast or fast is totally dependent upon us. The enormity of the responsibility becomes crystal clear when we play back the memories of the Kotel on the eve of Tisha b'Av.

On leaving Israel, I always endeavor to challenge my groups to take something away from Israel. This year, I told them that if you really want to have a lasting experience and really engage in a continuing Israel experience, then – don't laugh – grab a few bagels.

The famed Chafets Chaim told of his experience with bagels. In his town there was an old woman who made her living selling bagels on the street corner. One day, she was jostled by some youngsters on the street and all her bagels fell to the ground.The children pounced upon the scattered bagels, grabbing as many as they could carry and then running away. The old woman, sat down on the pavement, and began to cry and bemoan her plight. "Foolish woman," called out a passer-by. "If you sit and cry, you end up with nothing. *Chup* some bagels too."

A bagel is a small thing with few calories, but it is the way each of us can start upon the road of heightened sensitivity in the performance of mitzvot and maintaining positive Jewish identity. Our Jewish diet does not have to be loaded down with heavy stuff. Simply grabbing a bagel – the Jewish lifesaver – can help keep us afloat and bring us to the next level of Jewish identity. While it's nice to think in terms of having the whole cartfull, you can start with at least one bagel. If not, you are left with the empty hole with nothing to hold on to.

Summer gives us some extra time, and rather than freeing ourselves from obligations and responsibilities, gives us the opportunity to perform an extra mitzvah or two, to make serious plans for the involvement of our children in meaningful Jewish education and for our own involvement in that process by learning alongside of them. It is the opportunity to find the time for some serious study, for planting the seeds for future activities around the holidays that are coming up. Perhaps this is the year for the Sukkah or the Etrog and the Lulav.

If you *chup* just one bagel, there is an amazing assortment of flavors and toppings that go with it. One bagel is just the beginning because the taste is so fantastic that it whets our appetite and there is no stopping us. Bagels, or mitzvot, are addictive, but they result in a more meaningful and purposeful life, not only for oneself, but for the entire family, with a ripple effect for the community.

Rabbi Zeitz is the spiritual leader of Congregation Beth Tikvah in Dollard des Ormeaux in Montreal.

Work to rules

By RABBI JAY KELMAN

While increased religious devotion and practice is a primary goal of Judaism, its implementation may not be carried out at the expense of others. A prime example of this can be seen in the laws governing workers. While Jewish law posits that one must rise in the presence of a scholar, one may not do so during working hours. Hence, agricultural workers are not allowed to greet passing rabbinical scholars. Similarly, while basic gratitude demands that we *bench* after every meal we eat, the Talmud modified this requirement, ordering workers to substitute a shortened version.

It is not only while on the job that an employee must devote his energies to work. Unless sanctioned by the employer, one may not engage in any activity outside working hours that would have a detrimental effect on productivity.

In our complex living and working environments, what constitutes forbidden activities is not readily defined, but they would include teachers – considered by Jewish law to be the most important of all professionals – habitually depriving themselves of sleep or a worker fasting an optional fast such as a yahrzeit.

It is a generally accepted principle of Jewish law that in commercial matters the accepted practices take precedence over strict Jewish law. So while technically a worker would not be allowed to make personal phone calls from work or take a coffee break, these practices have become commonly accepted by employers. While calling home at lulls in work may therefore in practice be allowed, receiving calls of a personal nature presents an additional moral dilemma. This is due to the fact that interruptions often have the effect of throwing one's concentration off balance. It can often take 10 minutes to recover from a two-minute interruption.

This is equally true of work related interruptions, but those form part of the employer's expectations, something which can not be said of personal interruptions. While receiving personal phone calls has become accepted practice in the workplace it would be meritorious to receive such calls only when you can get back to work just where you left off.

Due to the imperative of being free, Jewish law rules that a worker can not be forced to work against his will. To do so would be akin to slavery. It is for this reason that some authorities forbid signing a contract of greater than three years duration. In practice, most authorities allow longtime contracts, as contracts today generally do not call for the employee to live in the employer's home. But, when a longtime contract is signed in order to benefit an employee and not the employer, the issue of servitude no longer applies.

It is due to the above mentioned fear of slavery that a worker in theory, has the right to quit his job at any time. In practice, this freedom is restricted depending on the nature of the work and the original terms of employment.

A worker who signs a contract is morally bound to fulfil the terms of the contract. While no monetary penalties are assessed unless the employer suffers a monetary loss, such as when replacement workers are hard to find or can only be found at higher wages, leaving before a contract expires is morally reprehensible. Additionally, there is the crucial element of chilul HaShem, the desecration of God's name, which invariably results when a Jew, especially an observant Jew, does not keep his commitments.

Employees (and employers) must not only consider their personal situation when deciding on employment options but must be careful not to impinge on the rights of others.

Books

By Bernard Baskin

Summertime readings

Summer is upon us and there is the opportunity for sustained reading, essential to the evolution of one's personality, options and values. Books not only convey knowledge, they also offer solace, escape and inspiration.

The following list of titles is divided into three categories: classic books that every Jew should read; a number of relatively recent books of interest and a group of splendid anthologies. All books should be available in paper-bound form.

Night by Elie Wiesel. Childhood experiences in Auschwitz. A brief but stark and searing memoir that raises profound theological issues.

As a Driven Leaf by Milton Steinberg. Set in the Talmudic period, this thoughtful and disturbing book about the heretic Rabbi Elishi ben Abuyah and his obsessive search for faith, remains pertinent and provocative.

Herzog by Saul Bellow. One of the enduring American Jewish novels. It is a manual of the intellectual debates of our time, as well as the story of a troubled man and personal crisis.

The Assistant by Bernard Malamud. How a beleaguered young non-Jew learns the meaning of suffering in a small, intimate Jewish world – and his startling decision.

Collected Stories by I.B. Singer. Selected from his 12 books, these astonishing pieces bear out the author's declaration in his introduction: "Genuine literature has the magical power of merging causality with purpose, doubt with faith, the passions of the flesh with the feelings of the soul."

The Yeshiva by Chaim Grade. A long read about Lithuanian life in the period between the world wars by a master Yiddish writer. This ambitious and absorbing book is peopled with a host of unforgettable characters.

The Last Of The Just by Andre Schwarz-Bart. An original and many-sided epic about the last of the 36 righteous men in every generation upon whose virtue the existence of the world depends.

Fugitive Pieces by Anne Michaels. Highly praised, this poetic narrative of the Holocaust period and beyond is perhaps the most successful novel, ever commercially written by a Canadian Jew. It is a must read.

The Family Markowitz by Allegra Goodman. A witty, insightful narrative of three generations of a contemporary American Jewish family with roots in Israel and England.

The Putter Messer Papers by Cynthia Ozick. Stories about a strange, powerful woman and her unlikely experiences, by a great literary stylist.

If This Is a Man and *The Truce* by Primo Levi. Two memorable novellas of a young Italian chemist who is shipped to Auschwitz. The first is an account of his existence there until the liberation. The second relates how he managed to make his way home in the chaos of post-war Europe.

Badenheim 1939 by Aharon Applefeld. A tragic but restrained account of secular Jews who think of themselves first as Austrians when they are confronted by a harsh and unbelievable reality. Applefeld is a splendid Israeli writer.

Mr. Mani by A.B. Yehoshua. Translated from the Hebrew, this exciting and innovative novel of a Sephardi family covers five generations. The settings are multicultural and exotic.

***

A Treasury Of Yiddish Stories edited by I. Howe and E. Greenberg.

The Oxford Book Of Hebrew Short Stories edited by Glenda Abramson.

The Penguin Book Of Jewish Short Stories edited by E. Litvinoff.

The Shocken Book Of Contemporary Jewish Fiction edited by T. Solotaroff and N. Rapoport. (Formerly entitled *Writing Our Way Home.*)

More European Cyber Travel

By MARK MIETKIEWICZ

Today we conclude our cyber-tour of the Jewish sights and sites of Europe.

The oldest Jewish monument in western Europe is also one of its newest. The Jewish Monument of Rouen is actually located under that French city's law courts **[http://www.cpi.fr/mj/mon_juif.htm]**. Discovered just 20 years ago, it dates back to the year 1100. There is no doubting its Jewish origins, but there is a disagreement whether the building was originally a synagogue, a Jewish high school or the home of a rich Jewish person.

While in France, you can also take in the Memorial to the Unknown Jewish Martyr in Paris. The memorial commemorates European Jews who died in the Holocaust. The crypt contains ashes from concentration camps and the Warsaw Ghetto. I recommend a visit to this French-only Web site **[http://www.calvacom.fr/calvaweb/memorial/versuch/index.htm]** and the much smaller English-language site **[http://www.paris.org/Musees/Juif.Inconnu/]**.

It's off to Brussels now and the Belgium Jewish Museum **[http://www.mjb-jmb.org/]**. In addition to a large collection of Judaica dating back to the 16th century, the museum also houses a large genealogical facility with a registry of the Jews of Brussels dating back to the census of 1756 **[http://www.mjb-jmb.org/mjb-jmb/eng/gene.htm]**. That page also contains several contacts if you're of Belgian ancestry and looking for genealogical help.

When I visited the Anne Frank House Web site a couple of years ago, it only had the most basic of information. Things have changed **[http://www.annefrank.nl/]**. The site now has extensive photos of the house plus a detailed history of the individuals who were hidden there and the people who risked their lives to help them hide.

Also in Holland, you'll find Amsterdam's Jewish Historical Museum **[http://www.hi.nl/musea/joodsmus.htm]**. Four former synagogues dating from the 17th and 18th century have been converted into a stunning museum that chronicles the history of that country's Jewish community. Even if you don't speak the language, take a look at the museum's Dutch-only interactive Web site **[http://www.jhm.nl/]** and their impressive use of video.

You can find links to more Jewish museums at Maven **[http://www.maven.co.il/subjects/idx170.htm]**, Hareshima **[http://www.hareshima.com/culture/museums.htm]** and the Jewish Communications Network **[http://www.jcn18.com/jhot1.htm#h]**.

I want to conclude our European trek in Dublin. The Irish Jewish Museum has a very simple Web site **[http://www.bess.tcd.ie/roots/PROTOTYP/musjewsh.htm]**. You get the facts about the museum but little more. That's why I prefer the Web site created by Zachary Blocker. Blocker is a student at Tufts University in Medford, Mass. After visiting Dublin, he put together a Web site with his Impressions of the Irish Jewish Museum **[http://www.cs.tufts.edu/~zblocker/ijm/]**.

An example from Blocker's site: "The curators (whose Dublin accents mix interestingly with Jewish intonations) act more like storytellers than gallery supervisors. When I was there, one of them went out of his way to give me a proper introduction to the story of the Irish Jews, reading aloud in Gaelic the passage from the Annals of Innisfallen which record the first arrival of Jews in Ireland (it's common for Irish Jews to be trilingual: English, Gaelic, Hebrew!)"

This is a lovely, unofficial Web site. But even if you're not up to creating your site but have a story to tell about your Jewish journey, there's still a place to swap your stories and memories **[http://jewishfamily.com/scripts/newjfl/forum/forum.asp?ForumID=132&TopicID=15]**.

Happy travels – real and virtual.

* * *

Mark Mietkiewicz is a television producer in Toronto with an interest in the Internet. He can be reached at [mdm@inforamp.net].

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Charles Levy, Gertrude Jacobs, Rita Goldstein and families

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Have identity, will travel

By PETER NEWMAN

Guest Voices

When you're a Canadian, it can be hard to keep track of who you are. I have been all over this country, and I've learned that your identity is never on solid ground.

I'm from Ontario. When I went to live "out west," in British Columbia, they called me an Easterner.

Naturally, I figured that when I went "back east" to Atlantic Canada, I would fit right in. Not quite. In Nova Scotia they called me an Upper Canadian.

When I travelled further east, I received a new label. In Newfoundland they called me a Mainlander.

On my visits to the North, I somehow thought I would avoid being labelled. But the sense of regional identity there was just as strong. In the Arctic I was startled to be called a Southerner.

So I headed south, to Quebec. In Quebec I spoke French, but was called an Anglais.

I find being an Anglais an especially odd label. The English appear to think so, too. When I tried a visit to my new homeland, England, I was called an American.

And anywhere I go in Canada, I'm rather an oddity – a Jew.

Interestingly, my identity as a Jew is secure only in Canada. When I visit Israel, I turn into an Anglo-Saxon!

Peter Newman is a physician in Toronto.

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Diplomatically Speaking

Jewish life is everywhere

By JEHUDI KINAR

At the end of August it will be three years since my family and I arrived in Toronto. Our previous posting before Canada was in San Francisco, where my assigned territory consisted of the northern half of California as well as Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Washington and Alaska.

The move from the United States to Canada was dramatic, but as an Israeli interested in North America, this has been an ideal way to explore a wide spectrum of ideas and lifestyles.

The area around San Francisco, the Greater Bay area, has a Jewish population of about one-quarter of a million, which means that it is larger than the Jewish community in the Greater Toronto Area. There is only one Jewish high school which is Orthodox, although about ninety percent of the students or their parents are from the former Soviet Union and are not observant. It is combined with a primary school, and there are six more Jewish primary schools in the area with certainly less than 1,500 students.

Because of the high rate of assimilation in this part of California (probably the highest in the United States with an intermarriage rate of more than seventy percent) there is not much interest in Jewish schools. In contrast, Seattle, with a high concentration of Sephardi Jews originally from Greece, boasts a wonderful Jewish education system.

It often seems to me that the further west one travels in North America, the more assimilated are the Jewish communities. In San Francisco I learned that many Jews migrated there from the east coast in an effort to escape the very close family environment. People wanted to become more liberal and that had an impact on synagogue life.

Many of the German Jews arriving in the United States moved on to California, and San Francisco became a stronghold for Reform Jews. As a matter of fact, the Conservative and especially the Orthodox community is very small there. Support for Israel was minimal until the end of the 1950s and grew tremendously after the Six Day War. Like Toronto Jews, it has taken Jews in San Francisco at least a generation or two to feel accepted by the surrounding culture.

It is always an interesting and moving experience to visit some of the smaller North American communities. Over the past two months I visited Lethbridge, Alta. and Thunder Bay, Ont. Both towns have a small Jewish community and beautiful old synagogues, which not that long ago used to be quite active. Nowadays, they struggle for a minyan. I had seen the same symptoms of a diminishing Jewish community in Idaho and Montana.

On a more positive note, in Alaska, with a Jewish community of about 3,000 (more than half living in Anchorage) I found a much more vibrant community. In Anchorage itself, where I happened to spend a Shabbat, quite a number of the visitors to the Chabad minyan were also going to the other synagogues in town (Reform). The work done by the rabbis of both synagogues was impressive.

Even further north, in Fairbanks, I visited what must be one of the most northern synagogues in the world, appropriately named "Or Hazafon" (Northern Light). Now that we are approaching Tisha b'Av, I pity those who must wait the extra hours till sundown to break their fast there! Even the capital of Alaska, Juneau, has an active Jewish community. Clearly, the size of the Jewish population is not a predictor of the strength of Jewish community spirit, which sometimes flourishes in the most surprising locations.

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Adath Israel (C)	37 Southbourne Ave. (416) 635-5340	9:00 PM	9:00 AM	8:00 AM & 9:00 AM	7:00 AM & 7:45 AM	9:00 PM
Agudath Israel (O)	129 McGillivray Ave. (416) 789-5514	8:17 PM	7:30 AM & 8:45 AM	7:00, 7:30 8:00, 8:30	Mon. Thurs. 6:25, 6:50, 7:15 Tues. Wed. Fri. 6:30, 6:55	8:35 PM
Anshe Minsk (O)	10-12 St. Andrews St. (416) 595-5723	8:45 PM	9:15 AM	9:15 AM	7:30 AM	----------
Beth Jacob (O)	147 Overbrook Pl. (416) 638-5955	7:15 PM	9:00 AM	8:00 AM	6:40 AM & 7:30 AM	8:40 PM
B'nai Torah (O)	465 Patricia Ave. (416) 226-3700	7:10 PM & 8:40 PM	7:30 AM & 8:45 AM	7:00 AM & 8:00 AM	Mon. Thurs. 6:20, 6:45, 7:10 Tues. Wed. Fri. 6:30, 7:00, 7:20	8:45 PM
Lodzer Centre (C)	12 Heaton St. (416) 636-6665	5:30 PM	9:00 AM	----------	9:00 AM	----------
Pride of Israel (C)	50 Lissom Cres. (416) 226-0111	7:00 PM	9:00 AM	7:00 AM & 9:00 AM	7:30 AM	7:00 PM
Temple Sinai (R)	210 Wilson Ave. (416) 487-4161	8:15 PM	10:00 (study) 10:30 AM	----------	7:30 AM	----------
Temple Har Zion (R)	7360 Bayview Ave. (905) 889-2252	6:15 PM	10:30 AM	9:00 AM	7:15 AM	----------

This is not a comprehensive listing of the synagogues in the Greater Toronto area. The information is provided by the Vaad Harabonim of Toronto and the Toronto Board of Rabbis. The Vaad and the Board will periodically revise the listings.

Strong government support for Ne'eman Commission recommendations

Bobby Brown

A key advisor to Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu is optimistic about the success of recommendations made by the Ne'eman Commission on the controversial issue of religious conversion.

"There is 5% of the Jewish world on one side which wants an explosion and 5% on the other side. The vast majority of Jews want greater understanding," said Netanyahu's advisor on Diaspora affairs, Bobby Brown during a recent interview with UJA Federation communications director Howard English.

Brown, who reiterated the Israeli government's strong backing for the commission, was particularly buoyant about the new Institute for Jewish Studies to prepare people for conversions. Based on the Ne'eman Commission's suggestion, the institute instructors would come from all religious streams, but the conversions themselves would be conducted by the Chief Rabbinate.

Q. The conversion institute itself has become the subject of controversy among many involved in the debate. How do you rate its chance for success?

A. The chances for the institute to succeed are good. There are nine people sitting around the table. They're all very serious and very reasonable. These are people who want this to succeed.

Q. How will the institute alleviate concerns about instructors coming from different religious streams?

A. Recently representatives of each stream submitted a sample curriculum. And the conversion curricula were almost identical. We want to take potential instructors and put them through a preparatory course, so there won't be any infighting. Once a potential convert completes the course, the test cases (for conversion completion) will be in Beersheva, Haifa and an unspecified location in the centre of the country.

"... we have to find the maximum amount of flexibility and sensitivity."

Q. The Chief Rabbinate has yet to fully endorse the institute. How will the government be dealing with that?

A. The chief rabbis will still be the ones who appoint judges to the rabbinical court (overseeing conversions). If after two years, we don't have a flexible court, we've created a political case. The Rabbinate is an arm of the State of Israel. Their budget is assigned by the Knesset. There is a strong argument that the Knesset would take a look at their budget very carefully. Ya'acov Ne'eman himself has stated that if the Rabbinate won't convert, there will be a panel of three judges who will. If you create a vacuum, that vacuum will be filled.

Q. How much flexibility are we talking about?

A. Within halacha (religious law), we have to find the maximum amount of flexibility and sensitivity. We've created a consensus on the minimum standard...If we allow everything to be separate (Orthodox, Conservative and Reform) - if my son can't marry your daughter - we've created three religions. On the other hand, we don't want just one stream.

"The first step is Jews talking to Jews."

Q. How much influence did the Diaspora have on the conversion issue?

A The Diaspora and the UJA Federation movement had a great deal to do with the formation of the Ne'eman Commission...There are massive changes in the relationship of Jews in Israel to Jews in the Diaspora. In 1948, the average Jew in Israel came from the same cities and even between religious and non-religious, the gap wasn't that wide. Today the one thing that binds kids in Israel and the Diaspora is popular music. In North America, Judaism requires a religious and communal commitment. In Israel, you're automatically Jewish because the holidays are Jewish holidays. It creates a Jewish consciousness.

Q. Another hot spot is the kotel (Western Wall) where disputes have occurred when Conservative and Reform men and women conduct their own services there. What are your thoughts on resolving that problem?

A. The kotel is a very large wall. You could divide it into many sections. One of the places we're looking at is Robinson's Arch – along the path leading up to the Temple Mount – as a possible location for alternate prayers. As far as I'm concerned, the more sections of the kotel we use for prayer, the more it enhances the Jewish hold on the kotel area.

Q. Do you have any prescription to resolve the problems surrounding us as Jews?

A. I still believe that Israel's Supreme Court or even the Knesset is not the place to resolve these issues. The first step is Jews talking to Jews.

Community Matters

UJA Federation is reaching for Fifty

Leaders of UJA Federation's upcoming Campaign for Fifty are urging members of the community to make the unprecedented $50 million fundraising drive a priority in their charitable giving.

Canvasser training Chair Jonathan Miller previewed new strategies.

"Our goal is for every Jewish family in Toronto to view their UJA Federation gift as their preeminent gift," Campaign Co-Chair Brent Belzberg told more than 70 of the organization's leading fundraisers last week. "We must make sure our supporters understand that

The Board of Jewish Education's Shirley Worth presented new family education initiatives.

no other Jewish gift touches more lives," said Belzberg who, with Lawrence Tanenbaum, is heading the effort to raise $50 million annually by 2001. The $50 million objective is $13.5 more than the amount raised last year.

The group, which gathered at the home of Julia and Henry Koschitzky for a pre-campaign leadership retreat, was briefed on how the additional $13.5 million will be used to meet the growing needs of Toronto's Jewish community. Based on extensive consultations, UJA Federation will be allocating new funds raised to strengthen Jewish identity, assist the vulnerable, including more than 4,000 local children living in poverty, and rescue Jews, primarily from the former Soviet Union. Participants also heard from Morris Zbar, UJA Federation's Vice-President of Community Planning and Development, Shirley Worth, Chair of UJA Federation's Board of Jewish Education and March of the living alumnus Shalomi Abraham who recounted his emotional journey to Poland and Israel. "I came back a changed person," said Abraham, who expressed his desire to become a community volunteer. "We are well on our way to setting a new standard for this community,"said Belzberg.

Shalomi Abraham said the March of the Living, which is supported by UJA Federation, changed his life.

Stephen Goldbar, Chair of UJA Federation's Developers' Division Campaign.

CORRECTION

In UJA Federation's Volunteer Recognition Supplement *I Am More Than One: A Salute To Our Community's Volunteers*, which appeared in the June 11 issue of the CJN, the names **Varda Feiner** and **Robert Hort** were inadvertently misspelled

It was a great night for newcomers

Cool showers didn't dampen the warm welcome more than100 newcomers to the community received recently from UJA Federation's Shalom Toronto volunteers.

Participants at the Shalom Toronto reception were welcomed to the city for the first time and were presented with a Shalom Toronto complimentary gift basket filled with food and community information to make them feel right at home.

Every year, Shalom Toronto volunteers greet hundreds of new arrivals, from Montreal, other North American cities, Israel and the former Soviet Union, offering a friendly face and practical help with everything from identifying Jewish day schools to opportunities for community involvement.

Twenty-five year old Neil Schneider says two years after moving from Montreal he still feels new to the city, but realizes, with Shalom Toronto's help, that he's not alone. "It's nice to meet other people in the same boat,"says Schneider, who is now actively involved in UJA Federation's Young Business Network.

Israeli-born Batya Piness, was one of many Shalom Toronto guests who found out about the program while visiting UJA Federation's Jewish Toronto web site www.feduja.org. "It can be very overwhelming arriving alone in a big city," Piness explains. "It's nice to know the community cares."

"Our goals are to show newcomers that they have somewhere to turn for help and to offer them ways to feel connected to their new community," says Miri Schneiderman, who co-chairs Shalom Toronto with Marlene Rochwerg.

For more information on Shalom Toronto call (416) 635-2883 ext. 135.

Ex-Montrealers Renée Goodman and Jordana Pastelnik

Community Matters

Tribute to Past UJA Federation Chairs

UJA Federation Campaign for Fifty Chair Lawrence Tanenbaum and his wife Judy.

Event Co-Chairs Rhonda Sheff and Gil Palter.

(left to right) Al Green, who created a special sculpture for past chairs with Malka Green and David Goldstein.

Campaign for Fifty Chair Brent Belzberg (left) and Campaign Vice-Chair Abe Glowinsky.

Close to 200 of UJA Federation's leading supporters gathered at the Canadian Broadcasting Centre recently to recognize five decades of campaign leadership. Thirty-five former UJA Federation Campaign Chairs, many accompanied by family members and friends, were honoured and presented with commemorative statues designed by well-known sculptor and 1973 Campaign Chair Al Green. Evening highlights included a video tribute, personal recollections from David Y. Green, Debbi Stern, Elisa Palter and Lawrence Tanenbaum about their parents' involvement with UJA Federation and a keynote address from former U.S. diplomat Dr. Jeane Kirkpatrick.

The following photos, taken by Stephen Epstein, capture some memorable moments from the historic occasion, co-chaired by Rhonda Sheff and Gil Palter.

Charles and Marilyn Gold (left) with Barbara and Charles Taerk.

ATID members Kenny Tanenbaum and his wife Jennifer.

(left to right) Dr. Paul Hacker, Michelle Halbert Hacker, Tootsie and Dr. Gerald Halbert, Wendy Halbert Silverberg and Gary Silverberg.

Campaign for Fifty Top Gifts team (top row; left to right) Marty Goldberg, Gerald Halbert, Lionel Schipper, Leo Goldbar, Paul Morton and Brent Belzberg. (bottom row, left to right) Allan Offman, Lawrence Tanenbaum, Gerald Sheff, Julia Koschitzky, David Goldstein and Laurence Bloomberg.

Shirley Granovsky and Gerald Halbert, who heads the Council of Past Chairs, with 1998 Granovsky Award for Campaign Excellence recipient Glennie Lindenberg.

Sam Sable (far right), with daughter Heather Sable McClelland, husband Peter McClelland and grandson Howard Weller (far left).

Keynote speaker Dr. Jeane Kirkpatrick with Paul Morton.

Beverley Fine and David Y. Green.

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What's New

By Miriam Herman

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DEADLINE REMINDER

What's New and About People deadlines: Tuesday, Aug. 4, is deadline for Aug. 13 issue, and Monday, Aug. 10, is deadline for Aug. 20. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 391-1836, fax 391-0829.

Sunday, Aug. 2

TISHA B'AV AT BETH JACOB

Beth Jacob Congregation invites the community to a series of lectures on Tisha b'Av. Shacharit along with explanations of the Kinnot by **Rabbi Jay Kelman** begins at 8:30 a.m. Minchah is at 2 p.m. followed by a series of lectures by **Rabbi Aharon Hoch, Rabbi Moshe Goldberg, Rabbi Yaakov Kerzner,** Rabbi Jay Kelman and **Elliot Malamet**. For information, call the shul at 638-5955.

JEWISH STORYTELLING

Jewish storytelling at Beit Habonim, 5 Glen Park Ave., 7:30 p.m., hosted by **Alec Gelcer**. All welcome to listen or tell. $4 donation. Presented by Jewish Storytelling Arts. 440-1330.

TISHA B'AV PROGRAM

Medrash Torah Vehayim and Ohr Somayach present an all-day educational and inspirational program, 2-8 p.m. at the Sephardic Kehilla Centre, 7026 Bathurst St. 905-669-7654, ext. 223. No charge.

Monday, Aug. 3

FAMILY DAY

All families are invited , free of charge, to the Lever 2000 Family Day for both the morning and evening sessions at Canada's international men's tennis championships at York University. Catch world-class tennis action as well as special activities such as a treasure hunt, tennis clinics, air guitar contests, face painting, music, cotton candy, prizes. Tickets can be picked up at the front gate starting at 9:30 a.m. for the matinee session and at 5 p.m. for the evening session on a first-come, first-served basis. For information, Family Day hotline 665-9777, ext. 285.

Wednesday, Aug. 5

FREE CONCERT

A free concert at Mill Pond in Richmond Hill 7 p.m. with Russ Myers Band performing a variety of music. Barbecue is available starting at 6 p.m. (all food and beverages kosher) Sponsored by Beit Rayim Synagogue and Hebrew School to celebrate Israel's 50th birthday. 905-770-7639.

ROMANIAN BB LODGE

Romanian-speaking Dr. Filderman Lodge, B'nai Brith, meeting 6:30 p.m., B'nai Brith Building, 15 Hove St. Short information and international news plus movie *This is Israel*. Trips – Washington and 30,000 Islands. **Felicia** 631-0634.

And What Else Is New

OUTDOOR SHABBAT

Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Shabbat Nachamu outdoor Kabbalat Shabbat service Friday, Aug. 7, 8 p.m., led by **Rabbi Philip Scheim** and **Cantor Yehuda Rottner**.

SEPHARDI OUTREACH

The Sephardi Community of Toronto announces the formation of ROOTS (Re'ut Organization of Toronto Sephardim). ROOTS is being created to organize Jewish outreach for all Toronto Sephardi communities. All those interested in getting involved (your input is needed) or for more information, call **Sandy** 905-660-4528.

LEARNING DISABILITIES

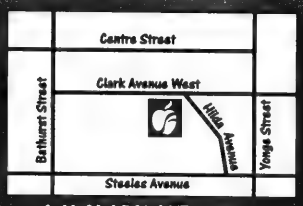
The Learning Disabilities Association of North York is offering Social Skills and Socialization programs for children and adolescents with learning disabilities and/or ADHD. Group meets after school on a weekly basis for 10 months. 229-1680.

SOCCER TOURNAMENT

Sephardic Education Centre (SEC) first Soccer Tournament at York University's Event Stadium Sunday, Aug. 9, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.,

[Cont'd. on page 19]

IGA Kosher
IGA brings down the cost of keeping kosher



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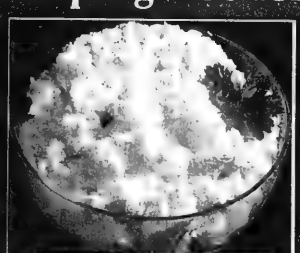

Astro Cottage Cheese
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7.60 kg
345 lb.

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Creamy Coleslaw
From The Kosher Kitchen
.50 /100 g
229 lb.

Melons
Canary, Casaba, Cranshaw, or Santa Claus
Product of U.S.A.
2.18 kg
.99 lb.

All Beef Salami
Parl's
750 g pkg.
699 ea.

Snapple Drinks
Selected Varieties, case of 12 x 473 mL btls.
999

Black Forest Layer Cake
From The Bakery
700 g
699

Single Rye Bread
From the Bakery
425 g
.99

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What's New

[Cont'd. from page 18]

$40 per player includes shorts, soccer shirts, trophies, barbecue. Register with **Yael** 905-669-7654, ext. 225.

BOOK DISCUSSION

The Feminist Book Discussion Group of North York Chapter, Older Women's Network, discusses *Fall on Your Knees* by **Anne Marie Macdonald** Sunday, Aug. 9, 2 p.m., at North York Community Centre, 505 Lawrence Ave. W. (basement). **Ruth Goldsmith** 782-6414.

EATING DISORDERS

Jewish Family & Child Service new group, Parenting When Your Child Has an Eating Disorder, provides education and support to parents whose children suffer from eating disorders such as anorexia, bulimia, obesity. Parents discuss strategies for coping, impact on family life and available resources. For information and registration, **Pat Lieberman** 638-7800, ext. 215.

FUN SUN SWIM DAYS

Enjoy fun sun swim days at the Sephardic Kehila Centre (in the Bathurst/Steeles area). Come swimming and receive free gifts from Ban De Soleil and many chances to win great prizes, all while keeping cool. For schedules, information, registration, **Stacey** 905-669-7654, ext. 255.

INTERSINGLE EVENTS

Events for singles 25-36 and 36-55. Check with **Rhonda** 905-731-9441. Under the auspices of Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue.

Theatre tickets for *Fosse*, August 13, 8 p.m. $30/$40. Reserve now.

Don't miss this boat! Muskoka cruise, includes deluxe bus ride, refreshments. $36. Reserve now.

Looking to spend the High Holy Days with other singles? Consider Beth Emeth's auxiliary service, followed by a kiddush for singles.

FOR SENIORS

Wagman Centre Bereavement Group for older adults who have recently lost a spouse, meets every other Friday at the Wagman Centre, 55 Ameer Ave. **Paula David** 785-2500, ext. 2271.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). Aug. 6, a video; Aug. 9 (Sunday), a dance with the Teddy Band; Aug. 13, bingo and other games; Aug. 20, free members evening; Aug. 27, lecture with **Lisa Armoni**, director of Institute of International Affairs of B'nai Brith. **Jerry Bengall** 905-707-7334 or **Dalia Dahary** 661-4689.

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: Aug. 10, Buffalo, members $20, non-members $25; Aug. 24-27, Leelanau Sands Casino, Michigan, $399 per person (Cdn); Aug. 30, annual barbecue party and entertainment, members $5, non-members $6. Open for membership, $12. 395-7881.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club: Aug. 19, cruise and musical *Little Shop of Horrors*; Oct. 27, *Man of La Mancha* at Stratford; in the planning, a two or three-week trip to Israel in November. Orientation/information meeting early August. **Lena** 785-5773. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel. **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. 225-2112.

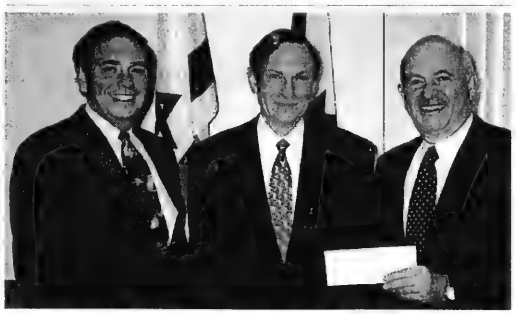
Literary luncheon, Wednesday, Aug. 12, at noon. *My Brother Peter* reviewed by author **Nomi Berger**, members $8, non-members $10. Review only $5. Register at Information Desk.

Parkinson's Support Group for people with Parkinson's disease and their caregivers, Tuesday, Aug. 4, 1:15 p.m. **Riva Nussbaum** from Keshet discusses and demonstrates How the Sense of Smell and Sound Enhance Relaxation. **Ruth**.

Israeli Club Etrog meets 7 p.m. Tuesdays for movies, sing-alongs, lectures, bingo, dances. Aug. 4 is a movie. **Anna**.

Movie, *Out of Africa*, Sunday, Aug. 2, 2:30 p.m.

Wednesday afternoon social Aug. 5 features a musical show with **George Frank,** 1:30 p.m.



UIA FEDERATIONS CANADA

A cheque for $5 million (US) is presented to Charles (Corky) Goodman (centre), chairman of the board of governors of the Jewish Agency for Israel, by Harvey Wolfe (right), president, UIA Federations Canada, and Steve Ain (left), executive vice president, in response to the Jewish Agency's request for a $60-million loan from North American Jewish Federations to help cover costs incurred as a result of its restructuring plan.

SINGLES EVENTS CAN BE FOUND ON PAGE 23

REENA ANNUAL DINNER HONORS MINTZES

Reena's recent annual gala dinner honored longtime supporters Al and Faye Mintz. From left are Alex Eisen, chair of Reena's Elder Homes Project; dinner chair Ron Appleby; Reena board chair Angela Iannuzziello; Al and Faye Mintz; Reena Foundation chair Ira Sack; and Danny Iannuzziello, chair of Batay Reena. Proceeds from the event will go toward construction of the Al and Faye Mintz Reena Elder Home for developmentally disabled older adults. [Barry Shainbaum photo]

ISRAEL BONDS 50TH ANNIVERSARY GALA TRIBUTE

Pictured at State of Israel Bonds 50th anniversary gala tribute, from left, are Stanley Hartt, event co-chair; Susan Fenwick, event co-chair; William Davis, honorary event chair; Dr. Barry Sherman; Rose Wolfe; Hal Jackman ; Issy Sharp; Alex Grossman, honorary tribute dinner chair; Eph Diamond. (Anthony Munk and Maureen Kempston Darkes are absent from the photo).

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Educator co-founded school

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Samuel Gwosdy, co-founder and longtime principal of North York Community Hebrew School, died recently of heart failure. He was 58.

Obituary

A teacher in the North York and Toronto public school systems, Gwosdy had a particular passion for the weekly Hebrew school, which he ran for the 25 years of its existence. He wrote all its courses – from beginner level through high school – and created a four-year training program for his teachers, many of whom were day school students.

The school began with 10 students in 1961, after Gwosdy finished a temporary Hebrew teaching stint and was asked by a few parents to teach their children privately. From its inception in Gwosdy's basement on Reiner Road, the Hebrew school grew to serve 850 students at its height.

Gwosdy was committed to Jewish education based on love and understanding, said his daughter Carol Bodenstein. His philosophy was one of inclusiveness, and students were taught about the approaches of all denominations of Judaism.

The curriculum included Yiddish, a two-year bar/bat mitzvah educational program and a structured day-by-day homework system to supplement the three classroom hours on Sunday mornings.

Gwosdy also introduced an accelerated program for older students with no Hebrew background, as well as a program in special education, his professional area of expertise. Outside of classroom hours, students could participate in drama, choir or Israeli dance.

Much to Gwosdy's chagrin, the school was never recognized by the Board of Jewish Education and its hours were deemed insufficient to prepare students for their bar or bat mitzvah at certain synagogues.

Steven Schonblum, a former bar mitzvah teacher at the school who is now ritual director at the Pride of Israel Synagogue, recalled Gwosdy in a eulogy as an innovator who did things his own way.

"He constantly sought new ways of teaching [and] ways of making things easier to understand, so that his students could absorb and retain more knowledge," said Schonblum.

Gwosdy was "a fantastic teacher and a great administrator," said school co-founder and co-administrator Doreen Goldberg, who was married to Gwosdy for 31 years. (The marriage ended in divorce.)

At home, every day was a learning experience, said Gwosdy's son Elliott, who still has election scrapbooks he began putting together at his father's behest in 1979.

Gwosdy received his own Jewish education at a downtown Toronto cheder. He later majored in religious studies at Waterloo Lutheran University, and received his MEd at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education.

As a young man he did voice-overs and commercials for radio and television, and in 1961 wrote the book *Official Hockey*, meticulously tracing the careers of every NHL player – without benefit of a computer.

In the 1980s, he worked for a time as a stockbroker before returning to teaching, and wrote a weekly financial column for the *North York Mirror*.

Gwosdy had an eclectic range of interests, many of which were subjects of his carefully catalogued video collection.

Until January, when he went on disability leave, he taught English as a Second Language at Sprucecourt Public School.

Despite multiple health problems, including post-polio syndrome that made it difficult for him to walk, Gwosdy had the ability to keep students "enchanted," said Maureen Coleman, his partner for the past seven years, herself a teacher. "He didn't let up. He didn't stop being inventive."

In addition to Coleman, Gwosdy leaves his children, Carol Bodenstein, Alana Shapiro and Elliott; four grandchildren including a namesake born during the shivah; his sister Francis Stern and his brother Larry Turkish.

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ASSOCIATED STUDENT WINS PRIZE

Associated Hebrew Schools of Toronto Grade 8 student Miriam Anbar recently won first place in the Royal Commonwealth Society's Essay Contest for a piece entitled *Josepi's Lesson*. Pictured from left are: Royal Commonwealth Society Youth and Education Committee Chairman Fred Burford; Noeline Burford; Associated Junior High principal Jerry Rosenfield; English teacher Leah Landau; Miriam Anbar; Anbar's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Simon Anbar; and Chief Examiner Mike Frederiksen.

Marrus' career changes course

With this article, Sheldon Kirshner launches a new beat covering Canadian academics whose work and careers will be highlighted from time to time.

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

Michael Marrus, an internationally renowned historian, has changed course, shifting from scholarship to administration.

Michael Marrus

Last year, the University of Toronto named Marrus – a specialist in the Holocaust – dean of its School of Graduate Studies, the largest in Canada. He thereby became the 14th person, and the third Jew after Ernest Sirluck and Jon Cohen, to hold the position.

It is an awesome responsibility. The School of Graduate Studies has 10,000 students, 17 centres and institutes and more than 100 programs in the humanities, social sciences, life sciences and physical sciences.

Leaning back in a chair as he talked, Marrus, 57, described his new job as "extraordinarily demanding."

"I work every waking hour," he said with a slight grimace, adding that he has accommodated himself to his new role by lightening his teaching load and curtailing his research activities.

Nowadays, Marrus teaches only one course, on the Holocaust. In the past, when administration was not the raison d'être of his professional duties, he also lectured on fascism and World War II.

"My research has taken a significant beating since I assumed this job," said Marrus, the author of, among other works, *The Holocaust in History*, *Vichy France and the Jews* (with Robert Paxton), *Mr. Sam: The Life and Times of Samuel Bronfman* and *The Unwanted: European Refugees in the Twentieth Century*.

Nonetheless, Marrus is still very much a scholar. Currently, he is preparing a lecture series on the Vatican and the Holocaust for Holy Blossom Temple, Clark University in Massachusetts and the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Library in New York State. As well, the *Bulletin of the History of Medicine* is publishing his monograph, *The Nuremberg Doctors' Trial in Historical Context*.

Marrus, who holds graduate and post-graduate degrees from the University of Toronto and the University of California at Berkeley, is a prolific writer. He has written for academic journals, including the *Canadian Journal of History* and the *American Historical Review*. And his analytical pieces and reviews have appeared in the *New Republic*, the *New York Times*, the *Washington Post*, the *Globe and Mail* and the *Times Literary Supplement*, among other publications.

Despite his credentials as a scholar, Marrus is hardly a novice in administrative matters, having been a governor of the university and chair of its academic senate.

He accepted the deanship for broadly two reasons. He viewed it as an opportunity "to help shape the direction of academic life" at the U of T. And, feeling somewhat restless, he sought a fresh challenge.

Marrus, to whom four associate deans, a vice-dean and more than 40 administrative and secretarial employees report, feels that the hallmark of higher education in the 1990s is accountability.

'The days of the ivory tower are long gone'

"The days of the ivory tower are long gone," he noted. "We don't want to be self-satisfied and self-contained. We are constantly testing ourselves to see if we can do better."

In line with his philosophy, he is improving existing programs, developing new ones (student internships) and putting more emphasis on inter-disciplinary courses. He is also seeking funding for additional fellowships.

Marrus, who has been associated with the U of T since 1968, was acting director of the Jewish studies program in the mid-1970s, and today he sits on the advisory board of its chair of Jewish studies. The university, he said, has experienced "significant growth" in the field of Jewish studies. Currently, it is trying to recruit professors for its newly established chairs of medieval Jewish history and Israeli studies.

Much to his regret, neither the U of T nor any other university in Canada has an endowed chair in Holocaust studies. But there has been progress. When Marrus, a Torontonian, was a student, the Holocaust received only passing mention in school texts.

In his view, the Adolph Eichmann trial in Israel stamped the Holocaust with the imprimatur of academic importance.

But he believes that the explosion of popular and scholarly interest in the Holocaust would have been impossible without the publication of three seminal books dealing with perpetrators, victims and bystanders: *The Destruction of the European Jews* by Raul Hilberg *Judenrat* by Isaiah Trunk; and *While Six Million Died* by Arthur Morse.

Daniel Goldhagen's best-seller, *Hitler's Willing Executioners: Ordinary Germans and the Holocaust*, does not impress him. He considers it "a very poor, repetitive and jargon-filled" tome which utterly fails to substantiate its thesis that the Germans, in particular, had a predisposition toward wanton cruelty and mass murder.

Are Jews obsessed by the Holocaust? "The Holocaust was an event that would have traumatized any group," he observed. "The Jewish world is still in the process of mourning. There's a great deal of anguish and despair, and this doesn't always lead to balance and a sense of proportion. Yet Jews have admirably come to grips with the Holocaust."

As for Holocaust deniers, Marrus characterizes them as "malevolent anti-Semites" on the margins of society who crave media attention. In his opinion, Holocaust denial, while certainly a problem, is not of great long-term significance.

He deeply regrets that a climate of "intolerance and anger" recently forced his American colleague and friend, John Roth, to turn down the directorship of the Centre for Advanced Holocaust Studies at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C. Roth came under fire following a report that he had written a newspaper article in 1988 comparing Israel's treatment of the Palestinians to Nazi Germany's treatment of Jews.

As a member of its Holocaust advisory council, Marrus recently advised the Canadian War Museum in Ottawa to drop the idea of building a Holocaust gallery. "The Holocaust is an event of colossal significance, like the French Revolution or World War I," he observed. "The framework of Canadian military history would have been too narrow to encompass it."

Coming from a person like Marrus, the argument is convincing.

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From coast to coast

Tenants appeal ruling against condo sukkot

By DAVID LAZARUS
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — A last-minute flurry of activity last week allowed a handful of tenants at Le Sanctuaire du Mont-Royal condominium complex to appeal a recent Quebec Superior Court ruling barring them from erecting their own sukkot.

The appeal to the Quebec Court of Appeal will be taken on pro bono by the firm of Segal, Laforest, El Masri, with lawyers Jean El Masri and Serge Segal in charge.

The appeal was made on the last day possible following a permanent injunction that was issued against the tenants on June 5.

It may have important implications for religious and civil rights. Regardless of the outcome at the Quebec Court of Appeal level, the issue may wind up in the Supreme Court of Canada for final adjudication.

Parties involved had said that an appeal was not likely because of lack of time and high legal costs.

"It looks like there's not going to be an appeal," the tenants' lawyer, Alan Adel, told *The CJN* on June 29.

But some members of the Jewish community were so outraged by the permanent injunction that last Tuesday, with the Canada Day holiday and 30-day deadline for appealing approaching, several people, including at least one lawyer, said they were willing to get involved or raise funds for an appeal.

Thomas Klein, one of the condo owners involved in the case who spent almost $50,000 fighting the injunction with another tenant, Gabriel Fonfeder, seemed almost jubilant at the turn of events.

"I feel very happy the Jewish community is rallying around this thing," he said in an interview last Thursday. "Before, we felt very much alone."

Moïse Amselem, one of the defendants in the case, said that Rochon's ruling was a catastrophe for the tenants who wanted to erect their own sukkot.

He added that his children were so upset by the ruling that his family is now considering moving out of the complex.

Klein said his family was definitely leaving Le Sanctuaire. It was a decision already made before the sukkah case, but one that was "accelerated" by the injunction, he said.

Segal said last Friday that "as lawyers dealing with fundamental rights on an almost every day basis," his firm was "appalled" by the Superior Court judgment.

In his ruling, Superior Court Judge André Rochon said, essentially, that because the plaintiff in the case, Le Sanctuaire's co-owners association, Syndicat Northcrest, seemed ready to "reasonably accommodate" the defendants by accepting a "common" sukkah, there was no violation of religious rights as defined in the Quebec Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

Rochon also dismissed the defence position that the condo complex's bylaws were applied "selectively" because objects such as Christmas decorations and satellite dishes have been tolerated on the balconies, but sukkot were not. The complex's bylaws, agreed to by its residents, bars any structures other than garden furniture from being put up on balconies or terraces.

Two rabbis, Barry Levy and Moïse Ohana, testified respectively for the Syndicat and for the defence.

But while both rabbis agreed that individual sukkot were not halachically mandatory, Rochon said Rabbi Ohana's view that a common sukkah would make celebrating Sukkot too onerous for some to enjoy in the proper spirit was too subjective.

The appeal is expected to deal with the question of whether the court can consider and rely upon religious law, in this case, Halachah, rather than on merely the sincerity of a litigant's religious beliefs, to determine the extent of the protection of religious rights in the Quebec Charter.

It is also possible that other arguments made in Superior Court will be repeated in the Quebec Court of Appeal: that the condominium complex's bylaws were applied in a discriminatory fashion by allowing other objects other than lawn furniture; and that Syndicat Northcrest did not prove "serious and irreparable prejudice," which the Quebec Civil Code now states is necessary for a permanent injunction to be granted.

B'nai Brith's (BB) League for Human Rights is expected to continue to act as intervener in the case. BB Quebec director, Robert Libman said he hopes the cost will be defrayed through Jewish community contributions.

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CJC urges insurers, museums to check for Holocaust victims' assets

MONTREAL — Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) will communicate shortly with museums and insurance industry representatives in Canada to ensure they are not holding any assets belonging to Holocaust survivors.

This development comes in the wake of consultations which CJC president Moshe Ronen and national executive director Jack Silverstone held with the World Jewish Congress (WJC) while attending the recent annual board meeting in Jerusalem of the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany.

Ronen said CJC will urge the insurance industry to establish a high level committee to ensure that an audit is undertaken promptly and effectively.

In addition, he noted that CJC plans to contact the associations representing museums and curators to ensure that no looted works of art found their way into Canadian galleries, other institutions or collections.

Ronen stated that the Bank of Canada should serve as a role model in this area. When it was alleged last summer that the central bank had been party, by means of a paper transfer, to a complex move involving six tons of gold shuffled between Switzerland and Portugal in 1942, CJC immediately called for an investigation.

Bank of Canada Governor Gordon Thiessen responded by appointing Prof. Duncan McDowall of Carleton University to undertake an intensive archival survey.

McDowall concluded there had been no wrongdoing. Furthermore, the Bank of Canada already makes information about dormant accounts from chartered banks and financial institutions available to the public on microfiche.

At the Claims Conference's annual meeting, the CJC delegation urged that a recently announced compensation package be made more equitable by enabling all Holocaust survivors, regardless of income, to benefit. [*CJN*, July 9]

Ronen extended an invitation to the president of the Claims Conference, Rabbi Israel Miller, and executive vice-president Saul Kagan to visit Canada.

Upon the conclusion of the conference, Ronen was invited to a private meeting with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, who congratulated the CJC president on his recent election.

Netanyahu also expressed his appreciation to the Canadian Jewish community for its solidarity with Israel over the last 50 years.

While in Israel Ronen and Silverstone also attended meetings of the Memorial Foundation for Jewish Culture, which serves as a living memorial to the Jewish victims of the Holocaust. Its purpose is to help fund scholarship and research on Jewish themes.

CJC president Moshe Ronen meets Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu during Ronen's recent visit to Israel.

From coast to coast

New home for JCC

By DIANE KOVEN
Ottawa Correspondent

OTTAWA — The Jewish Community Centre (JCC) of Ottawa will soon be relocating. Along with the excitement and anticipation associated with the move to a brand new, state of the art facility is a feeling of nostalgia for the old site.

In order to bring a sense of fun to the move, and to enable all community members and former community members to say a "proper" good-bye, the JCC's "Last Dance" is being organized for Sept. 6.

Co-sponsored by the JCC and Beth Shalom Synagogue (which is, and will remain, at the same location, 151 Chapel St.), the dance will re-create the atmosphere of the '50s and '60s. Both a live band and a disc jockey will play music from that era.

According to committee member Phyllis Leith, the prizes and refreshments will be reminiscent of the "good old days."

"We are trying to reach all former Ottawans who grew up coming down to the JCC. We would like them to come and be a part of it," says Leith.

The dance will be held from 2 to 6 p.m. at 151 Chapel St. For further details or ticket information, call the JCC at 613-789-1818.

ICC treaty singles out Israel: critics

[Cont'd. from page 1]

"Given that the United Nations passed a resolution equating Zionism with racism, I have grave concerns about [the provision]," said Sol Littman, Canadian representative of the Simon Wiesenthal Centre. "It's something we'll have to fight out as we have other issues concerning Israel."

"To equate the establishment of schools and kindergartens in the West Bank with the murder of six million Jews at the hands of the Nazis or the ethnic cleansing that took place in the former Yugoslavia and Rwanda insults the memory of the victims of these horrific crimes," said Frank Dimant, executive vice-president of B'nai Brith Canada.

Despite their reservations at the provision, the Canadian Jewish groups welcomed the creation of the world court.

"Obviously it's a necessity if there is going to be justice in the world," Littman said. "It sends a clear signal to all countries that genocide and ethnic cleansing will no longer be accepted forms of political behavior."

"The Canadian Jewish community has for many years supported the establishment of an ICC," Ronen said. Congress informed Foreign Minister Lloyd Axworthy – who travelled to Rome to lobby for an ICC – that "we welcome this initiative," Ronen said.

Meanwhile, human rights activist Irwin Cotler, another strong proponent of the ICC, criticized Jewish groups for not being in Rome during the deliberations that created the court. Several non-governmental organizations (NGOs) like Amnesty International and Human Rights Watch were instrumental in pushing for an international court as well as for the recently passed land mines treaty. Despite Jewish history, Jewish NGOs were "outside the process," he said.

Although a delegate was present from the U.S. B'nai Brith organization, Cotler referred specifically to the World Jewish Congress (WJC) and to CJC as two groups that could have been there.

Jack Silverstone, CJC's national executive director and legal counsel, said Congress does not normally seek inclusion in a Canadian delegation to international conferences such as the one in Rome.

"We don't have the financial resources to participate in long-duration international conferences," he said.

Calls to the WJC were not returned.

Israel was one of only seven states – including the United States, China and India – that voted against the ICC, which received the support of 120 countries. Spokespeople for the United States said they were concerned that U.S. soldiers serving abroad would be hauled before the court on politically motivated charges.

Israeli analysts roundly condemned the population transfer provision, with the *Jerusalem Post's Internet Edition (JPIE)* headlining its story on it as "Another UN obscenity."

Israeli Attorney General Elyakim Rubinstein said Israel voted against the ICC "with real regret."

"We completely support the sacred mission of bringing war criminals to justice. No right-thinking individual could doubt the need to bring to trial those who perpetrated genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes… During the conference, it became clear that the Arab delegations intended to promote a clause [on transferring populations]… Over time, this has become a stick with which to beat the Jewish settlements in Judea, Samaria and Gaza," he said.

Rubinstein pointed out that under the Rome treaty, any Israeli involved in the decision to create settlements could be arrested in another country and brought before the court.

Other Israeli legal analysts, while condemning the provision, suggested the West Bank settlements would not come under terms of the treaty. An editorial in the *JPIE* argues that the settlements are not illegal. The Fourth Geneva Convention that originally dealt with such population transfers referred to forced transfers – not the case in the West Bank. Furthermore, Israel does not occupy the territories, "since that term applies to controlling territory that was captured from another country in a war of aggression. Judea and Samaria were not legally part of any country, but were unallocated portions of the British mandate and in any case, were captured by Israel in a defensive war," the analysis argued.

Ambassador Morris Abram, chair of UN Watch, a Geneva-based NGO, suggested the population transfer clause would be used "inevitably as a hammer against Israel and Israel alone."

Abram, who served on the prosecutor's staff during the postwar Nuremburg trials, said given Israel's treatment by the international community, the clause "will make it possible for the [Israeli] prime minister and others to be hauled before an international court for reasons that are political."

Esmat Abdel Meguid, secretary general of the Arab League, said the resolution creating the court "regards Israeli settlements in occupied lands as a war crime," JTA reported.

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אין די נאָענטסטע טעג וועט די ייִדישע געזעלשאַפט אין טאָראָנטאָ האָבן די געלעגנהייט מקבל־פּנים צו זיין דעם טאַלאַנטירטן ייִדישן שרייבער און זשורנאַליסט, הויפּט־רעדאַקטאָר פון „פאָרווערטס“, **באָריס סאַנדלער.** סאַנדלער איז איינגעלאַדן געוואָרן פון דער ייִדישער קולטור־געזעלשאַפט און דעם קאָמיטעט פאַר ייִדיש בײַ דער ייִדישער פעדעראַציע פון גרויס־טאָראָנטאָ, צו זיין דער גאַסט־רעדנער בײַם געדענק־אָוונט נאָך די דערמאָרדעטע ייִדיש־סאָוועטישע שרייבערס, וואָס קומט פאָר מיטוואָך, דעם 12-טן אויגוסט, 8 אָוונט, אין אודיטאָריום פון דער בית־צדק שוהל.

סאַנדלער און זיין פרוי, וואָס קומט מיט אים, וועלן פאַרבלייבן דאָ אין שטאָט עטלעכע טעג, כדי זיך נענטער צו באַקענען מיטן היגן ייִדישן לעבן בכלל און דעם ייִדיש־סעקטאָר בפרט.

באָריס סאַנדלער איז נאָך אַ יונגער־מאַן, 48 יאָר אַלט, און איז דעריבער אַ בולט'ער באַווייז, אַז טאַלאַנטירטע מענטשן פון ייִנגערן דור קאָנען איבערנעמען און ממשיך זיין די גאָלדענע קייט פון ייִדיש־שאַפן אין דער ליטעראַטור ווי אין דער פרעסע.

אַ געבוירענער אין בעסאַראַביע, האָט ער שטודירט אין דער קישענעווער קאָנסערוואַטאָריע און געווען אַ פידלער אין מאָלדאַווישן סימפאָנישן אָרקעסטער. אויף דער איניציאַטיוו פון אהרן ווערגעליס, רעדאַקטאָר פון „סאָוועטיש היימלאַנד“, איז סאַנדלער, צוזאַמען מיט נאָך אַ צאָל פייאיקע יונגעלייט, אָנגעקומען אין אַנהייב אַכציקער יאָרן, אויף אַ ספּעציעלן קורס פאַר יונגע ייִדישע שרייבערס בײַם ליטעראַרישן אינסטיטוט אין מאָסקווע. נאָכן פאַרענדיקן דעם קורס האָט באָריס סאַנדלער זיך אָנגעהויבן דרוקן אין „סאָוועטיש היימלאַנד“ און איז אין גיכן געוואָרן אַ מיטגליד פון רעדאַקציע־קאָלעגיע פון דער איינציקער ייִדישער חודש־שריפט אין אַמאָליקן סאָוועטן־פאַרבאַנד. דאָרטן האָט סאַנדלער פאַרעפנטלעכט אַ ריי דערציילונגען און רעפּאָרטאַזשן, וואָס האָבן געצויגן די אויפמערקזאַמקייט פון ייִדיש־לייענער אין ראַטן־פאַרבאַנד און אין אויסלאַנד. אין דער זעלבער צייט האָט סאַנדלער געפירט אַ ברייט־פאַרצווייגטע ייִדישע קולטור־טעטיקייט אין קישינעוו. ער האָט אָנגעפירט מיט אַ ייִדישער פראָגראַם אויף דער מאָלדאַווישער טעלעוויזיע, געשריבן סצענאַריאָס פאַר ייִדישע דאָקומענטאַרע פילמען, געווען טעטיק אין ייִדישן קולטור־פאַרבאַנד אין קישינעוו און רעדאַגירט די צוויי־שפּראַכיקע צייטונג „אונדזער קול“.

אין 1992 האָט סאַנדלער, פונקט ווי די מערסטע יונגע ייִדישע שרייבערס פון סאָוועט־רוסלאַנד, עולה געווען קיין מדינת־ישראל און זיך באַזעצט אין ירושלים. דאָ האָט ער מיט נאָך מער ענערגיע ממשיך געווען זיין ליטעראַרישע אַרבעט, אַרויסגעגעבן נייע ביכער און געווען דער רעדאַקטאָר פון אַן אילוסטרירטן קינדער־זשורנאַל אין ייִדיש מיטן נאָמען „קינד און קייט“. סאַנדלער איז דער מחבר פון פינף ביכער פון קינסטלערישער פּראָזע, צוויי פון זיי דערשינען אין מאָסקווע און דריי אין מדינת ישראל. זיין לעצט בוך „טויערן“, איז דערשינען אין ירושלים אין 1997 און שליסט איין אַ צאָל דערציילונגען פון ישראלדיקן לעבן, געשריבן אין אַן איינגאַרטיקן סטיל און אין אַן עקזאַקט ייִדיש־לשון, מיט אַ טיפן פּסיכאָלאָגישן אַרייַנבליק אין איינערלעכן לעבן פון די געשילדערטע פּערסאָנאַזשן.

אין אָנהייב פון הייַנטיקן יאָר איז באָריס סאַנדלער אָנגעקומען קיין ניו־יאָרק, צו ווערן דער קולטור־רעדאַקטאָר פון „פאָרווערטס“. מיטן טראַגישן אַוועקגיין פון דער וועלט פון מרדכי שטריגלער איז באָריס סאַנדלער איינשטימיק דערוויילט געוואָרן ווי הויפּט־רעדאַקטאָר פון דער וואָכנצייטונג, צוזאַמען מיט יוסף מלאַטעק אַלס מיט־רעדאַקטאָר. אין משך פון דער קורצער צייט זינט זיין איבערנעמען די אָנפירונג פון „פאָרווערטס“ האָט סאַנדלער באַוויזן צוצוציִען אַ ריי נייע מיטאַרבעטער, ספּעציעל פון ייִנגערן דור, ווי אויך איינצופירן איינציקע אינטערעסאַנטע אָפּטיילן וועגן קונסט, וויסנשאַפט, ליטעראַטור א.א. אין זיין רעדאַקטאָרישן קאָלום „פּנים אל פּנים“ באַמיט זיך סאַנדלער איינצושטעלן אַ נענטערן קאָנטאַקט מיט די לייענער, אויסצוהערן זייערע מיינונגען מיט אויפמערקזאַמקייט און ענטפערן אויף זייערע אָנפרעגעס און טענות. אַזוי אַרום באַמיט זיך סאַנדלער צו מאַכן צוגענגלעך און אינטערעסאַנט די צייטונג צו אַ ייִנגערן עולם לייענערס, וואָס וועלן דאַרפן געניסן און ווייטער אויפהאַלטן די עלטסטע ייִדישע צייטונג אין אַמעריקע.

מיר באַגריסן אונדזערע אָנגעלייגטע געסט, באָריס סאַנדלער מיט זיין פרוי און ווינטשן אים הצלחה אין זיין אחריות־פולער אַרבעט.

War orphans hold reunion

By MATT BELLAN
The Jewish Post & News

WINNIPEG — Seventy people, the last of some 130 Holocaust survivors brought here by Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) from 1947 to 1949 as war orphans, met recently for a 50th anniversary reunion.

The war orphans, their families and friends spent three days reminiscing, celebrating and poring over old photographs, at the reunion held recently.

The Winnipeg war orphans have held reunions about every five years since 1972. "I've come to every [one]," says Michael Kutz, a Montrealer. "We have no family. This is our family."

Kutz was 10 ½ in 1941, when he "crawled out of a mass grave" near his hometown of Neiswitz in eastern Poland. Nazi collaborators had shot the rest of his family and other local Jews.

A Catholic farmer in the area hid him for several months, and Kutz later joined the partisans.

"From a city of 8,000 Jews, I was one of only 14 survivors.

"We were a very large group, about 50 boys and girls," he remembered of his 1948 ocean voyage to Halifax on the *Nea Hellas*.

In Winnipeg, the Glassman family at 379 Scotia St., parents of current *Winnipeg Free Press* restaurant critic Marion Warhaft, took in the 16 year old, one of 1,123 war orphans the CJC brought to Canada from Europe after the war.

Shortly after he arrived, he took part in a Yiddish show at the Playhouse Theatre to raise money to help other war orphans. About a year after his arrival, Kutz moved to Montreal, seeking better job opportunities.

Also at the reunion were Thelma Edwards, 92, who was director of the United Hebrew Social Service Bureau that brought the orphans to Winnipeg after they arrived in eastern Canada, and Rose Hochman Parker, who was a social worker for that bureau. She met the orphans as they arrived in Toronto or Montreal by train from Halifax. Jeanette Grosney Block, also at the reunion, was a social work student under Parker's supervision.

"They told me they were ready to kiss the ground, because they had been able to get into Canada," said Edwards, now a resident of Phoenix, Ariz.

"They looked fine. On the trip to Winnipeg, they were all anxious, wondering what would be done with them. I was able to reassure them." Parker recalled having to use a lot of sign language as she escorted groups by train to Winnipeg.

"The language was a problem, because they couldn't speak Yiddish or English."

Edwards and others at the reunion remembered the late John Hirsch, one of the war orphans who headed to Winnipeg and later became the first artistic director of the Manitoba Theatre Centre.

"I remember looking at a map of Canada with him," says David Erhlich. "He said, 'Winnipeg is right in the centre of the country, close to Chicago, between New York and Los Angeles.' Little did he know how cold it is."

Grosney Block remembered the teenage Hirsch dropping into Edwards' office. "He would be regaling her with stories. He was just an enchanter."

Eugene Joseph talked about the train trip that started in Halifax and continued to Winnipeg after stopovers in Montreal or Toronto.

"After about two days, we thought they were taking us to Siberia. There was no end to it. How could you imagine travelling for two days on a train in one country, and not seeing anything?"

Jack Weiss, who arrived in Winnipeg in 1948, was escorted with other war orphans from Italy to Winnipeg by a Mrs. Lions, and a Miss Tessler, two social workers. The CJC paid the war orphans' room and board with local Jewish families until the orphans, then mostly aged 16 to 18, got jobs; CJC also helped them find work.

Erlich said, "I hoped on the way to Winnipeg that some rich family would adopt me, like you would a dog, and I'd live happily ever after. It never happened. We had to go to work for 50 cents an hour."

Barry Klein travelled from his home in Caracas, Venezuela to attend the 50th anniversary reunion in Winnipeg. He said many war orphans wanted to go to Montreal or Toronto, but he and some of his buddies chose Winnipeg.

"We had no idea where it was. I loved Winnipeg. We were invited every Friday night for dinner with different families. Everyone got a job. We made many friends. And girls, let me tell you. We can never pay back Canadian Jewish Congress for what they did for us."

Shalom Village treats dementia patients

By MOURA WOLPERT
CJN Correspondent

HAMILTON — Contrary to popular perception, people with dementia are capable of learning, according to Lori Shindel Martin, the recently appointed director of education for Shalom Village.

A lot of work has been done to help people with dementia develop the capacity to learn, meaning, she explained in a recent interview, that people with dementia can be helped to relearn their forgotten living skills.

The greatest thing is to help them engage in some activity, she said, especially activities that allow them to use their hands. Looking at pictures and using various props may help them recapture memories, while talking with them may help them remember things that had been important to them and thus reawaken their interest and even their capacity for enjoyment.

Also, rather than use medication and restraints to control agressiveness or other behavioral problems, Shindel Martin suggested that skillful handling by educated staff can significantly reduce such problems.

A nurse specialist in psychiatry, gerontology and dementia care, with undergraduate degrees in nursing from McMaster University and in anthropology and sociology from Guelph University, a master's degree from d'Youville College in Buffalo and work experience in various institutions, including the geriatric care hospital, St. Peter's Hospital in Hamilton, Shindel Martin explained that her primary role at Shalom Village, is "staff development and working with caregivers to advance their practice."

In the future, "there will be more and more complexity in elder care," and it is important, she said, for staff to have the necessary education.

"Staff must be flexible, tender and interested."

They must learn to interpret the needs of patients who are unable to articulate them; help them feel they are not alone by "engaging them on a personal level with a touch," if, for instance, they happen to meet while walking along a corridor.

Also, it's important to help staff cope when approached by a resident in anger, anger, she explained, that often stems from fear and frustration.

She was impressed, Shindel Martin said, that Shalom Village staff "have the capacity to stop what they are doing in an instant when they perceive a person's need."

She considers herself privileged to be able to work at Shalom Village, whose philosophy of care has impressed her. She hopes to "expand the environment [by using] music and reminiscence groups, attuning residents with the seasons and the religious calendar, and extending relationships with volunteers.

"Music, friends and family are all profound influences that must be incorporated," she said.

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PA has no plans to resume pullback talks

Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — In a last-minute reversal last Sunday Palestinian Authority (PA) officials said that there are no plans to resume direct negotiations about the pullback .

The officials said after a meeting in Gaza with PA Chairman Yasser Arafat that they are still waiting for an Israeli offer that would be consistent with the U.S. proposal calling for a 13 percent IDF redeployment in the West Bank.

The Palestinian decision Sunday came after Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu indicated to the cabinet that he had authorized both Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai and Internal Security Minister Avigdor Kahalani to hold separate talks with Mahmoud Abbas, chief aide to Yasser Arafat.

Mordechai and Abbas met to discuss new ways of energizing the peace talks. Israeli officials had said that both Mordechai and Kahalani were to meet meet Abbas Monday.

PA spokesman Saeb Erekat said he would hold talks with Kahalani—not about the pullback, but about Palestinian demands for the release of security prisoners; Israeli security measures; problems of Palestinian laborers; and other peripheral matters, such as the opening of an airport in the Gaza Strip and safe passage between the Strip and the West Bank.

Erekat also said, however, that during the Mordechai-Abbas meeting, Mordechai had given Abbas some new ideas. According to television reports, Abbas found Mordechai's proposals to be "very interesting."

The television reported that Abbas, referring to Israel's proposal to turn some of the 13 percent withdrawal area into a nature reserve, said that the Palestinians would object to "making [their territory] into a mosaic," and would prefer it all be in one spot.

Mordechai replied that the proposed reserve would be in the Judean Desert, the report said.

Abbas also said the Palestinians would not convene their national council to vote on repealing their covenant, the report said. Mordechai reportedly replied: "We will find a formula."

Israel's Internal Security Minister Avigdor Kahalani and PA Chairman Yasser Arafat meet the press after their meeting last week. *[RNS/Reuters photo]*

Palestinian opposition groups have criticized the PA decision to resume negotiations with Israel. Opposition representatives said they had urged Arafat not to reverse his decision last week to end the talks.

During Sunday's cabinet meeting, Netanyahu clarified Kahalani's and Mordechai's respective roles in a review of the government's contacts with the PA, and went on to justify Industry and Trade Minister Natan Sharansky's decision to opt out of a previously scheduled meeting with Arafat.

An official source said reports to the effect that the prime minister rebuked Sharansky for standing up Arafat were "false."

Controversy also was generated by Absorption Minister Yuli Edelstein's criticism of Kahalani for his highly publicized session with Arafat.

Edelstein said it is inappropriate for a minister to seek Arafat's opinions "and then listen to his assessment of the prime minister – all the more so at a time when the defence minister is working, with government approval, on advancing the peace process."

Netanyahu stressed that Kahalani's meeting with Arafat was "fully coordinated" with him, but noted that it "was not held for the sake of conducting negotiations, but only to present positions."

Netanyahu said he has not deviated from his position that the Palestine National Council must delete the Palestinian Covenant's anti-Israel clauses, refuting the media reports that Mordechai would agree for this to be done in an alternative fashion.

Israel's defence minister warns:

IDF needs more money

By ARIEH O'SULLIVAN
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai said Sunday that if the Defence Ministry's budget is not given an additional NIS 2 billion on top of the NIS 34b proposed for next year, the entire defence establishment will collapse.

In a letter written to Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, Mordechai said that for the past two years his ministry was promised that the annual cut was a one-time action aimed to spur growth, and that the defence budget would grow in the future.

The letter, first publicized Sunday on Israel Radio, said that the growing shortfall is not only threatening the investment in advanced weapons and technology to combat increased threats over the next decade, but is shaking the foundations of the defence establishment itself.

"The main conclusion of the Defence Ministry and the IDF is that the defence budget is nearing collapse," Mordechai was quoted as writing.

The letter went on to explain how a non-partisan group of economists confirmed the Defence Ministry's assessments and concluded that the current budget "will bring the defence establishment to financial collapse."

Copies of the letter were sent to the Finance Ministry and the chief of General Staff.

Mordechai's spokesman Avi Benayahu confirmed the contents of the letter and said it was dated June 4.

Its publication now does not detract from its importance, he said, adding that this is the first time a defence minister has ever warned of a "collapse" if the budget is not increased.

The Defence Ministry's demands come at a time of deep recession and minute growth. The ministry accounts for about 15 percent of the NIS 215 billion shekel national budget and is the largest slice of the financial pie.

The Treasury replied by saying the defence budget has risen over the past year by about 1 percent. They said that the increase demanded by Mordechai, which is equivalent to about 8 percent of the entire defence budget would confound all the balance sheets of the proposed budget and set back the attempts to spur growth.

Treasury budget director David Milgrom told Israel Radio Sunday that everyone is asking for more money and it is impossible to increase all ministry budgets.

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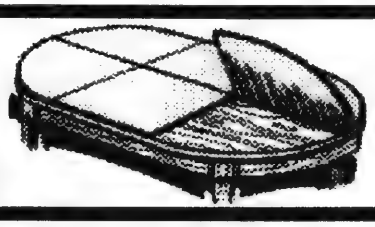
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Please send C.V and othe relevant documentation by Sept. 15, 1998 to: President, Jewish Community Foundation of Ottawa, 151 Chapel St., Ottawa, Ont. K1N 7Y2.

CJN Rosh Hashanah Photo Contest

The CJN announces its fourth annual Rosh Hashanah photo contest. We are asking readers to submit their own original photographs either of Israel or on any Jewish theme in their community.

Anyone can enter except *CJN* employees or members of their families.

A maximum of three photos per entrant may be submitted. Please write your name, address and phone number on the back of each photo. We can only return the photos if you provide a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

You may mail or deliver your photos to: *The CJN* Rosh Hashanah Contest, The Canadian Jewish News, 1500 Don Mills Road, Suite 205, Toronto, Ont., M3B 3K4.

The contest closes at 3 p.m. on Friday, Aug. 28, 1998.

The judges will choose three photographs which, in their opinion, are the most expressive and evocative. These three photos will be published in *The CJN* Rosh Hashanah issue, Sept. 17, 1998. Each of the "winning" photographers will receive a cheque for $100.

We will undoubtedly receive many worthy submissions. But only three will be selected as the "winners." The decisions of the judges will be final. The odds of winning depend upon the number and the quality of submissions received.

Winning entrants will be notified by telephone before Shabbat on Sept. 4, 1998.

Along with these three photos, *The CJN* will also publish 10 photos from the Israel Experience Photo Contest sponsored by UIA Federations Canada, the Canada Israel Experience Centre and El Al Israel Airlines. Israel Experience participants aged 15 to 24 should contact the UIA office for details.

Any litigation respecting the conduct and awarding of a prize in this contest may be submitted to the Régie des Loteries et courses du Québec.

CANADIAN PARLIAMENTARIANS VISIT ISRAEL

A group of Canadian federal and provincial legislators, in Israel as guests of the Canadian Israel Parliamentary Association (CIPA), visit Knesset Speaker Dan Tichon in his office. Pictured standing from left to right are: John Baird, Reginald Belair, Norman Doyle, Paddy Torsney, Carolyn Bennett (newly elected CIPA chair), Brent St. Denis, Albina Guarnieri, Greg Thompson, Dwight Duncan and Marlene Jennings. Pictured seated is Dan Tichon. [Isranet photo]

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C'	PEUGEOT 306 / MAZDA 323 P.S	266
C'	FORD ESCORT P.S	294
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M	MINIBUS 10 SEATS	630
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Islamic conclave to discuss Jerusalem

By JAY BUSHINSKY
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — The Foreign Ministry has launched an intensive campaign to allay the potential damage to relations with the Arab states that could ensue from the Islamic conference on Jerusalem, due to open in Morocco this week.

Officially known as the Committee on Jerusalem and permanently chaired by Morocco's King Hassan, the conclave is expected to focus on the government's plan to expand the Jerusalem Municipality's administrative area – and to come up with retaliatory measures against it.

"One of the most disturbing consequences could be a call for a halt to normalization of relations with Israel," a senior official said.

Referring to the urban expansion scheme, the official said "it is being used as a pretext for an anti-Israel resolution."

If implemented, it could lead to the closing of the various trade offices opened in Tel Aviv by Arab states which do not have full relations with Israel, and the shutdown of Israeli trade missions to the North African and Persian Gulf states.

The 16-nation body, which includes Arab and non-Arab states, also will be urged to support the convening of an international conference on the Middle East peace process, an initiative proposed by France and Egypt.

This proposal was turned down last week by Syrian President Hafez Assad during his state visit to Paris.

The Week in Israel

July 20

• Infrastructure Minister Ariel Sharon threatened to topple the government if Israel agrees to redeploy from 13 percent of the West Bank. Agriculture Minister Rafael Eitan threatened to withdraw from the government if it hands over more than seven percent of the West Bank.

July 21

• The Israeli firm Gilat signed a $6.2-million (US) deal to provide 250 cities and towns in Kazakhstan with satellite telecommunications.

July 22

• The Knesset gave preliminary approval to a bill that would require a referendum before any Israeli withdrawal from the Golan.

July 23

• Television viewers are expected to have six new cable stations within a year as the result of a decision reached in the Knesset.

• PA Chairman Yasser Arafat held a secret meeting with Yitzhak Molcho, a close aide to Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, according to Palestinian sources, where he rejected the idea of convening a summit meeting.

July 24

• The State Attorney's Office announced it would charge Shimon Sheves with accepting bribes while serving as the director general of the Office of the Prime Minister under Yitzhak Rabin. Sheves denied the allegations, calling them "nonsense."

50 Years Ago

TEL AVIV, ***July 9*** **—** The Palestine war broke out anew today as the four-week United Nations truce expired this morning and Arab and Jewish armies locked in combat. Early today Tel Aviv was subjected to air bombing, while Haifa had a 10-minute air alert during which no bombs were dropped. Three Jews, including two children, were killed and eight wounded when one of the bombs dropped on Tel Aviv struck a farm school on the city's northern outskirts.

Only one plane was involved in the air raid. It was identified as an Egyptian Spitfire. Iraqi planes struck at Jewish positions surrounding Jenin southeast of Haifa.

With files from JTA

Deportation was seen as a death sentence

[Cont'd. from page 1]

A week before the announcement of the deportations, rumors had already spread in the ghetto and the Jews were gripped with terror. Czerniakow asked the Nazi officials for an explanation, but received only denials.

On July 22 at 7:30 a.m., Czerniakow, along with the members of the Judenrat, were told that the deportations were to begin the next day – Tisha b'Av – and the expulsions would include children. He immediately understood the gravity of such an order and that his previous policy of cooperation with the Germans was a grievous error. This was an order he refused to sign, since it was one his conscience could not live with.

The night following the first deportation, he took the cyanide he had kept with him. He left the following note to the Jewish council: "I am powerless, my heart trembles in sorrow and compassion. I can no longer bear all this. My act will show everyone the right thing to do."

The diary, *A Cup of Tears*, by Abraham Lewin, offers the following description of the events that occurred on July 23: "Disaster after disaster, misfortune after misfortune. The small ghetto has been turned out on to the streets…The people were driven from 42-44 Muranowska St. during the night… Rain has been falling all day. Weeping. The Jews are weeping. They are hoping for a miracle. The expulsion is continuing. Buildings are blockaded."

Chaim Kaplan, in his diary on the Warsaw Ghetto, foresaw the doom that awaited the Jews of Warsaw with the issuance of the decree. He described the decree as "the total destruction of the Jewish nation." He cites several signs – all ominous – and surmises that the deportations can only be a death sentence and those who deny it, "grasp at straws."

In a July 26 entry, Kaplan writes, "We, the inhabitants of the Warsaw Ghetto, are now experiencing the reality. Our good fortune is that our days are numbered – that we shall not have to live long under conditions such as these."

According to the decree, all were to be deported except those who worked in German industries or for the Judenrat. Over the next nine days, 66,701 Jews were deported to Treblinka. At Treblinka, there was a sign outside the death camp that stated, "Do not worry about your future…All of you are headed for the east to work; while you work, your wives shall take care of your houses. But first you must bathe and your clothes must be cleaned of lice."

Only moments later, after merciless beatings by SS and Ukrainian guards, the Jews from the Warsaw Ghetto were herded into the crematoria.

Emanuel Ringelblum
Encyclopedia Judaica photo

On July 29, the second round of deportations from Warsaw began. A proclamation was posted by the Jewish police (most of whom were concerned foremost with saving themselves) urging Jews to volunteer for resettlement. The SS, along with Latvian and Lithuanian troops, closed off individual blocks and brutally forced the masses out for deportation. Shots rang out as many were shot on the spot; others were savagely beaten. When the crowd's numbers reached a few thousand, they were herded off to the Umschlagplatz – a deportation railway yard. Every morning and every evening the roundups took place.

During the month of August, 142,525 were deported, of whom 135,120 Jews were sent to Treblinka. By the middle of August, it was widely understood that "resettlement" was a myth. Enough evidence had already reached the ghetto by word of mouth from witnesses to the Nazi camps that resettlement actually meant death at Treblinka.

By Oct. 3, 310,00 Jews had been deported, including most members of the Judenrat. Many were deported on Sept. 21 – Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement.

On Tisha b'Av 1942, the well-organized Nazi killing machine was put into high gear. That day marked the beginning of the end of Warsaw Jewry. Of the 40,000 Jews who remained in the Warsaw Ghetto following the deportations, several hundred armed themselves and fought against their oppressors when they came to liquidate the ghetto in April 1943.

Soon other ghettos would face the same fate.

A chronicler of the Warsaw Ghetto, Emanuel Ringelblum, called the eve of that Tisha b'Av in 1942 "the blackest day in Jewish history in modern times. From that time, mass deportations and executions began."

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On November 18, at the Parliament Buildings in Ottawa, National Jewish Organizations will recognize Canada's Holocaust Survivors by honouring 50 representatives from across the country for their outstanding contribution to Canadian society.

Applications are invited from organizations or individuals, from across Canada together with a brief profile and biography. Applications should be sent to the Canadian Society for Yad Vashem before September 11, 1998. For more information, please contact (416) 785-1333 or fax us at (416) 785-4536.

Please help us to make certain no Holocaust Survivor is overlooked.

U.S. official warns against confrontation with Swiss

By DANIEL KURTZMAN
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

WASHINGTON — An appeal for a period of calm and reflection in dealing with Switzerland, made by the Clinton administration's expert on Holocaust restitution issues, is going largely unheeded by the key players trying to resolve Holocaust-era claims.

In testimony before the Senate Banking Committee on July 15, Stuart Eizenstat reiterated a plea to U.S. public finance officers not to threaten Swiss banks with sanctions, saying that such steps would damage American financial markets, hurt U.S.-Swiss relations and further delay justice for Holocaust survivors.

"It is our feeling that we will get more by a non-confrontational approach at this point," said Eizenstat, the U.S. undersecretary of state for economic affairs.

"Swiss opinion has been so hardened by threats of sanctions and other allegations that flexibility to achieve a settlement will be further complicated" by punitive measures, he said.

Eizenstat called on the lawyers representing Swiss banks and Holocaust survivors to return to the negotiating table to try to reach a settlement to Holocaust-era claims. Talks broke down last month after the banks said $600 million was their best offer, and Jewish groups rejected the offer as "insulting" and in "bad faith."

The appeal for restraint appeared to carry little weight with the Jewish leaders and elected officials who appeared before the committee.

Michael Hausfeld, one of the lead attorneys representing Holocaust survivors in a class-action lawsuit against Swiss banks, rejected Eizenstat's appeal, saying of the administration official's repeated efforts to bring the two sides together: "He's had three periods of calm. Under American baseball rules he's out."

Israel Singer, general-secretary of the World Jewish Congress, struck a fiery tone when he told the committee: "We are ashamed of the lies that have been used to scuttle the talks. These talks didn't break down by mistake. They were broken down by an absence of good faith, by an absence of fair play, by an absence of attempting to deal with the question of moral restitution."

He said the banks made a settlement impossible "when they took the money and threw it on the table and told us, 'Take your money and go, all you people want is money and more money.'"

"The issue is not one of money, but moral restitution," Singer said, adding that the Jewish side is ready to return to the negotiating table.

Several states, including California, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Florida, have already taken punitive measures against Swiss banks, but New York state and New York City have set a deadline of Sept. 1 for implementing a gradual series of sanctions if a settlement is not reached by that date.

The wide-ranging hearing in mid-July was intended to re-examine a 1946 accord signed with Switzerland on the return of Nazi-looted gold. Switzerland agreed to return $58 million to the Allies in the 1946 Washington Accord despite records which showed that Switzerland had accepted several times that amount.

Sen. Alfonse D'Amato (R-N.Y.), chair of the Senate committee, threatened to reopen that accord in light of the standstill in settlement talks. He said Switzerland must be brought back to the table and held accountable for its "deceitful conduct and apparent fraud."

No decision was made about reopening that agreement.

Switzerland did not send an official government representative to the hearing, saying that the government has already testified before Congress on several occasions and that the country had already taken sufficient steps to address its wartime past.

D'Amato said that Switzerland's absence at the hearing signalled that the country's history of stonewalling "is repeating itself."

Czar's burial fires anti-Semitism

By LEV KRICHEVSKY
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

MOSCOW — The recent burial of Russia's last imperial family – intended to be a moment of national reconciliation – instead has fueled a national controversy that included some familiar anti-Jewish canards.

Shortly after the fate of the family became known some eight decades ago, a rumor spread that Jews were responsible for the death of the czar. Supporters of the conspiracy theory rely on the fact that many of the early Bolsheviks were of Jewish origin – including the head of the firing squad that shot the royal family.

The burial rekindled these theories once again.

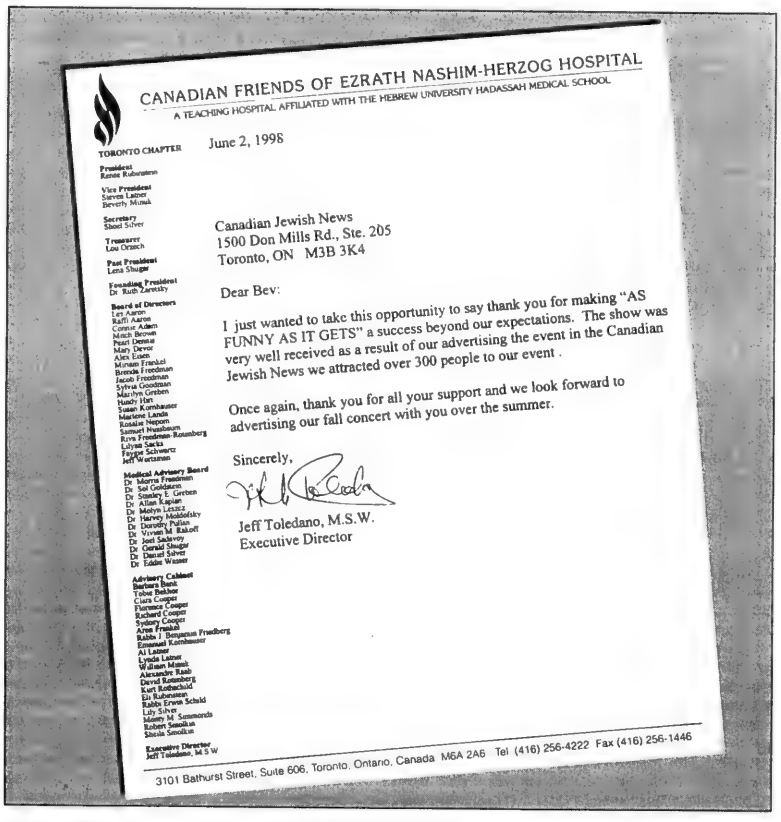
"Regardless of the fuss made by the government and [Boris] Nemtsov, for Orthodox people the funeral will virtually not exist," Alexander Rakov, editor of a Russian Orthodox newspaper in St. Petersburg, said in an interview on the eve of the burial ceremony.

Rakov was referring to Nemtsov, the Russian deputy prime minister who headed a government commission that used historical and forensic arguments to dispel the version of the deaths that holds Jews responsible.

A placard at a hard-line monarchist and Christian rally, held two days before the remains were buried, read Satanic Regime – Satanic Rituals, a thinly veiled attack on an imagined Jewish plot against the czar and church.

In a recent interview, Sergei Khazanov-Pashkovsky, an activist with St. Petersburg's leading monarchist group, the Russian Imperial Union-Order, echoed the traditional cry of many Russian anti-Semites when he claimed that both the 1905 and 1917 Russian revolutions were financed with Jewish money.

With security tight,the burial passed without incident.



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Israeli unemployment expected at 9.6 percent

Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Unemployment will reach 9.4 to 9.6 percent this year – approximately 217,000 jobless – according to senior government economists discussing the macroeconomic backdrop to the 1999 state budget.

In preparatory talks between the Finance Ministry and the Bank of Israel, there has been widespread agreement that this year the jobless total will average nine percent – about 204,000. They say it will reach its 1998 high in December and will only begin to decline once economic growth passes the 2.5 percent mark.

The population and workforce are increasing at an annual 2.4 or 2.5 percent, and only when the gross domestic product increases at a faster pace will unemployment begin to subside, according to the Treasury.

The Treasury is forecasting economic growth at 1.5 percent this year, rising to 2.5 to three percent next year. Zilberfarb is already describing 1999 as a "transitional year," with growth only returning to its potential four to five percent by 2000.

When the Netanyahu government came into power just over two years ago, unemployment stood at 6.5 percent of the workforce. In 1990-91 the rate of unemployment peaked at 11 percent when the economy failed to provide immediate solutions for the newly arriving immigrants from the former Soviet Union.

Analysts believe that the high rate of joblessness at that time played a crucial role in the Shamir government's electoral defeat in 1992.

Since then, many of the immigrants who were initially unemployed have adjusted their training credentials to local standards and landed jobs in their original or related professions.

Today most of the increase in unemployment is in low-tech industries and among people with less education. In 1997, unemployment rose to 10 percent among those with eight years schooling or less, but was slightly higher than four percent among those with at least 16 years schooling, according to government figures.

In addition to the textile and food industries, joblessness is also on the increase in tourism and construction. Tourism has not yet recovered from the wave of terrorist attacks that occurred just before the 1996 general election and construction is still suffering from the slowdown in immigration and the lack of economic growth.

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Stroke changes dentist's view of life

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — He thought he had it all – health, energy, financial and professional success, a close and loving family and boundless self-confidence.

That was 48-year-old Dr. Howard Rocket, a dentist-cum-entrepreneur, in October, 1995. In a minute everything changed.

Rocket was going about his daily hectic routine, ignoring the headaches and blurred vision that followed a blow to the head during a pick-up football game.

On October 27 at 6:15 p.m., he collapsed, excrutiating pain coursing through his head.

Due to the injury, Rocket had suffered a massive basilar stroke, a blockage in the basilar artery, the main supplier of blood to the brainstem. Emergency surgery at the Western division of Toronto Hospital removed the blockage, but Rocket faced a long, difficult convalescence, and the realization that some of the effects were irreversable.

This realization was difficult for a man who, by his own admission, had always enjoyed being in control. But then, many things had changed for Rocket.

"My priorities are different now," he told *The CJN* in a recent interview. "I know what's important.

"I'm more spiritual now," he went on. "I seem to know naturally what's most important." He figures that if you compare daily stress with a stroke, maybe the stress isn't important enough to get sick over.

What is important to him now is not business success and the trappings that go with it. Family, friends, helping others have taken over.

He visits stroke victims frequently, and is always ready to take calls or speak about stroke to individuals or groups.

"It is important to give back time and effort to the community that helped save me," he said, explaining why he commissioned a book about his experiences called *A Stroke of Luck* (Parnassas Communication, 1998, written with Rachel Sklar). All the proceeds are going to the Rehabilitation Institute of Toronto (formerly the Queen Elizabeth Hospital) for stroke research, education and treatment.

Therapy

It was at that hospital that he received the months of therapy that resulted in his being nearly healed, except for a very weak left arm and leg, a far cry from the man who could not speak, see, breathe by himself, walk or feed himself.

He is now able to swim, drive a car, play tennis, and work as an entrepreneur. He uses a cane to help him walk, (in keeping in line with his new policy of making the best out of everything he began to collect antique canes and now has 30) but he insists that "it's to let other people know that I am not that [physically] stable." Much of his time is devoted to helping other stroke victims and their families.

A Stroke of Luck may seem like an odd title for the story Rocket is telling but that is how he looks at his experience. "I feel like a two-year-old in an adult's body," he said. "There is something new every day. You shouldn't take those things for granted."

Every morning, he said, he touches his tracheotomy scar, just to remind himself what might have happened.

Rocket is a great believer in the power of the will in healing. 'If you believe you can, you probably can," he said. Even if a person is confined to a wheelchair, he said for instance, "be the best wheelchair person you can be."

Rocket has achieved many of the goals he set himself, including walking down the aisle at his two daughters' weddings.

There is still something he wants to do. "I want to take my family to Israel on our 30th wedding anniversary. It will be in two years – and I want to be able to walk on and off the plane by myself."

A Stroke of Luck is available for $24.95 at Rehabilitation Institute of Toronto Foundation, 550 University Ave., Toronto, M5F 2A2, telephone 597-3040, and in bookstores.

Howard Rocket

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Health

Study finds genetic link to ovarian cancer

By DEBRA NUSSBAUM COHEN
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

NEW YORK — A new study has found that women who develop breast cancer because of a particular genetic mutation are 10 times more likely to also develop ovarian cancer than are breast cancer victims without the DNA defect.

The genetic mutations that can lead to breast cancer are more frequently found among Jewish women of Ashkenazi descent than among the general population.

The benefit of the new information, according to an executive at the genetic testing laboratory that underwrote the study, is that women who know they have a hereditary link to breast cancer can be carefully screened for indications of ovarian cancer, which is particularly deadly and difficult to detect in its early stages.

An estimated 10 percent of breast cancer cases are believed to be linked to heredity. The causes of the other 90 percent are thought to be environmental, related to exposure to certain hormones, and linked to diet and exercise.

Among American women in general, very few – just two percent – develop breast cancer before age 50. But between one-third and one-half of all women with a genetic mutation – Jews and non-Jews – will develop the disease before they turn 50.

By age 70, about 12 percent of women without the mutation, and between 56 and 87 percent of women with the mutation, get breast cancer, recent studies have shown.

A small percentage of women with the genetic mutation that predisposes them to get breast cancer – 10 percent – are Jews of Ashkenazi descent, meaning their ancestors came from Central or Eastern Europe.

But since Jews account for about two percent of the American population, this disproportionate finding prompted alarm when the cancer-causing mutations on BRCA1 and BRCA2 were first identified about two years ago.

The purpose of the latest study was to find out which features of family history best predict mutations BRCA1 and BRCA2.

Determining the risk of ovarian cancer was not the study's primary purpose, but the link quickly became apparent from the data, according to Dr. Tom Frank, medical director for Myriad Genetic Laboratories.

Myriad spent some $570,000 to conduct the analysis involved in the study. Based in Salt Lake City, Utah, Myriad is the only firm that currently offers the test for breast cancer mutations commercially.

The link between genetic mutation and ovarian cancer was discovered by researchers from a dozen of the country's leading medical institutions – including the Sloan-Kettering Institute for Cancer Research in New York and the Anderson Cancer Centre in Houston – who worked cooperatively with Myriad on the project.

The study examined 238 women with breast or ovarian cancer, or both, whose family histories showed a strong likelihood of genetic mutation.

Researchers found that women who had breast cancer but no genetic mutation, developed ovarian cancer at the rate of under two in 1,000 women in the general population, which is about the same rate as that of women who have never had breast cancer, Frank said.

But with a genetic mutation, the incidence of ovarian cancer rose to over a one in 100 chance.

About 186,000 American women are diagnosed with breast cancer each year, and 44,000 women will die of the disease in the same period.

By contrast, some 26,000 women are diagnosed with ovarian cancer each year – and half that number, 13,000, will die of the disease each year.

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Advertising Feature

GREEKTOWN ON THE DANFORTH

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Saul Korman celebrates 64th birthday by rebuilding

When I get older, losing my hair,
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Doing the garden, digging the weeds,
Who could ask for more?
Will you still need me,
Will you still feed me,
When I'm sixty-four?

Lennon and McCartney's idyllic blueprint for old age clearly doesn't apply to Saul Korman, who at age 64 is following another set of blueprints entirely. At a time when he could be forgiven for coasting into retirement, he's ripping up and rebuilding an already successful business. ***WHY?***

"Ego," he allows. "Pure ego. I love my street, and I want to look my best for it."

Korman's love affair with the Danforth is well-documented by himself on many radio stations. If you've merely *heard* him extol its virtues, however, you might question whether his bravado is self-serving. But stroll along the

Love affair with the Danforth

Danforth with him, or join him for a coffee at any of the wonderful cafés and restaurants that line the street, and you'll understand that the man/street relationship runs far deeper than any advertising pitch could suggest.

Every twenty feet or so, Korman stops — or is stopped by — fellow merchants and passers-by. Warm greetings are exchanged. They love him; he loves them. Even the word "love", however, fails to convey the full depth of the rapport, for Korman doesn't merely love the Danforth, he *lives* it: eats, sleeps and breathes it.

Incredible values compensate for geshrei *of renovations at Korry's*

"It's all here," he crows. "Forty years ago it wasn't; now it is. We have two synagogues. World-class restaurants. Shopping. Travel agencies! If you're going to Greece, go with a Greek travel agent. They know Greece! Food? The best specialty food shop in the city is right here on my block! Ladies' fashion? Right next door to me — world class! But *character* — that's what the Danforth is all about. Malls spend a fortune trying to create ambience, but money can't buy what we already have. Our atmosphere is indigenous; it comes with the territory. We have Mediterranean flavour because we have Mediterraneans! We'll have half

Character and *tachles*

a million people for the Taste [Krinos Foods Taste of the Danforth, Aug. 7 to 9]. We have *tachles*. We have **LIFE**," he roars.

Say *l'echaim*, Danforth style!

Though coy about the completion date for renovations, Korman promises an exquisite new facade

Saul Korman (r) and son Michael on the "job site"

to showcase Korry's designer menswear.

On a quieter note, Korman's eyes mist over as exclaims, "I'm extremely proud of my children" [Michael, Shawn and Jodi]. Korman plans to hand over the reigns of the business to Michael if and when he does the unthinkable and retires. Meanwhile it's full steam ahead.

"You have to keep moving if you want to stay on the cutting edge," he states. "I decided it was time to take a big step forward." Amid the rattle and bang of hammers

North America's pre-eminent street festival

and the scream of power saws, you'll find some of the most spectacular values ever at Korry's, as many of his customers have already discovered. If you don't mind stepping over a power cord or two, there's never been a better time to visit 569 Danforth.

So whether you're "getting older, losing your hair" or you're there already, visit the Danforth August 7 to 9 and enjoy North America's pre-eminent street festival. And while you're there, pay a visit to Korry's. A certain shy but not yet retiring gentleman would like to say hello.

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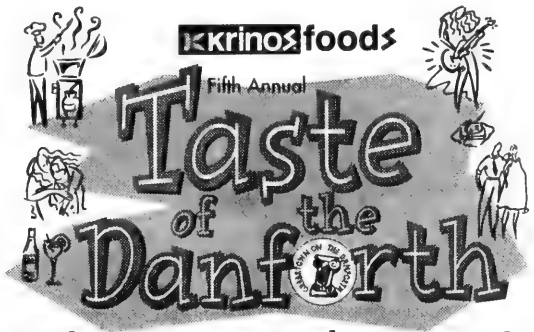
Advertising Feature

GREEKTOWN ON THE DANFORTH



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So much to eat, see, hear and do at this year's Krinos Foods Taste of the Danforth!

The Krinos Foods Taste of the Danforth, now in its 5th year, has grown from its first year attendance of 5,000 people to 500,000 people expected over the weekend of August 7 to 9.

Follow the Royal Bank "Tasting" Umbrellas located in front of participating restaurants and purchase Royal Bank "Tasting" coupons. Each restaurant is offering a "taste" from their menu for $1, $2 or $3. Purchase your "taste" using the Royal Bank "Tasting" Coupons and 20¢ of every dollar coupon is donated to the Toronto East General Hospital. The Krinos Foods Taste of the Danforth features three live stages, three Molson beer gardens, a *Fix* beer garden, an *Ouzo Tirnavou* garden, and lots of activities for children and the family.

As Alex Alexakis, General Manager of Krinos Foods Canada Ltd. says, "We are proud of our Greek heritage and, of course, our foods. We invite people of all backgrounds to the Krinos Foods Taste of the Danforth. Try something new or enjoy an old favourite, listen to some music or dance, and live life as it was meant to be lived!"

BAKEWORKS

Hot Bagels & Basics

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Fresh, Homemade 'Dream Cheese' in 14 Varieties.

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Sasha and Vernon Whiting (owners)
582 Danforth Avenue (at Pape)
(416) 465-8036

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It's My Party

423 DANFORTH AVE.
AT CHESTER SUBWAY STATION
(416) 469-2223
TORONTO'S PARTY SPECIALISTS

It's My Party, Toronto's premier party shop, is truly a store worth visiting. Right in the heart of Toronto's Greektown, the dazzling window displays and in-store layouts throughout its 2,500 sq. ft. location are sure to inspire; and with over 8,000 items in stock (and many more available within a few days), you are sure to find what you need on the first try. With 10 years' experience and a friendly, knowledgeable staff (4-6 people at any given time), you are virtually guaranteed to get prompt and efficient service in planning your next function, large or small. Although **It's My Party** carries a huge variety of "regular" party supplies, its real strength lies in its incredibly diverse balloon selection and its unbeatable choice of seasonal and theme decorations and accessories. **It's My Party** is open late Thursday through Saturday as well as "all day" Sunday. We offer delivery and/or decorating services throughout most of Metro.

All major credit and debit cards are accepted, so be sure to call or visit before finalizing your next party. You won't be disappointed!

COME TO IT'S MY PARTY
AND SEE "TASTE OF THE DANFORTH" SPECIALS
ON SATURDAY, AUGUST 8TH!

Palace offers regal dining experience

What's in a name? In the case of The Palace, everything. On the main floor, a warm, cozily stuccoed room girded by massive pine beams fairly glows with the promise of a superb feast. On the second level above, the same wonderful ambience is bathed in natural light from all directions — sprawling skylights above, and huge windows wrapping the room on two full sides. The entire place, in fact, looks like a picture from a children's fairy-tale book. It's a fitting scenario, since partners Peter Hadjis and Napoleon Zacharakis have devoted their 50-plus years in the restaurant business to making customers' culinary dreams come true.

Fresh fish and seafood are a specialty, and here you'll find the largest selection on the Danforth. Filet of sole, red snapper, salmon steak, rainbow trout, sea bass — you name it, The Palace has it, all grilled or broiled to perfection. Seasonal offerings include fresh halibut, swordfish and grouper, and kalamari is available both as an entrée and as an appetizer.

The oven-baked stuffed lamb and mousaka are simply superb. The Palace even offers a selection of special entrées that must be ordered in advance, including many unusual dishes you won't find anywhere else.

During the Krinos Foods Taste of the Danforth Aug. 7 to 9, the Palace will offer three superb specials: Stuffed Lamb, $14.95; Chicken Kebab, $10.95; and Mousaka, $11.95.

Conveniently located across the street from the Pape subway station, The Palace offers a richly rewarding dining experience.

PALACE SPECIALS
AUG. 7 – 9

STUFFED LAMB
Rolled loin of lamb, sprinkled with romano and feta cheese, enveloped in a puff pastry and oven-baked. Served with rice & vegetables **$14.95**

CHICKEN KEBAB
Tender chicken breast marinated with herbs & spices, then skewered with onions and green peppers. Served with rice & vegetables **$10.95**

MOUSAKA
Alternate layers of potatoes, sliced eggplant and ground beef, topped with Bechamel sauce and served with rice and vegetables **$11.95**

WE ARE FAMOUS FOR OUR AUTHENTIC GREEK APPETIZERS SPECIALLY PRICED AUG. 7 – 9 FROM $3.95 TO $5.95

THE PALACE RESTAURANT
722 Pape Avenue at Danforth
(416) 463-3393

Advertising Feature

GREEKTOWN ON THE DANFORTH

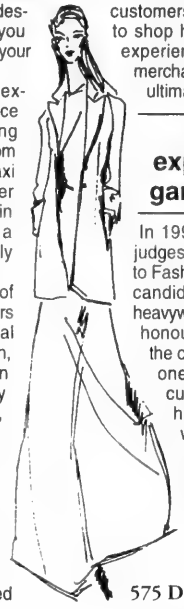
Maxi Boutique voted Toronto Fashion Retailer of the Year, 1998 by industry peers

From humble beginnings some 30 years ago on Bloor Street, **Maxi Boutique** migrated to its current location at 575 Danforth Avenue, where it has emerged as one of Canada's leading ladies' retail fashion destinations. The word is out: if you want style with service, this is your stop.

In 1995, Maxi underwent extensive renovations to produce the glamorous yet welcoming premises of today. Women from all over Toronto seek out Maxi not only for leading designer labels but also for expertise in fitting and coordinating, and a willingness to enthusiastically address their every need.

Always a strong promoter of Canadian designers, Maxi offers the very latest from Crystal Siemens, Misura, David Dixon, and Lida Baday. An American contingent includes Betsy Johnson, Mark Eisen, Laundry, and Urchin; the European market is represented by labels such as Teenflo and Tombolini. Each piece is hand-picked, often with a particular customer in mind.

Sisters Sandy and Elizabeth Bartzis have continued the fashion legacy established by their parents (and Maxi's founders), James and Hristina Bartzis. The sisters are best known for their warm, knowledgeable approach. Says Sandy, "You wouldn't believe how many of our customers tell us what a pleasure it is to shop here. When they value the experience even more than the merchandise, they're paying you the ultimate compliment."



Meeting high expectations helps garner major award

In 1998 a distinguished panel of judges voted Maxi Boutique Toronto Fashion Retailer of the Year, over candidates that included every heavyweight in the industry. Though honoured, the Bartzis sisters say the critics who count most are the ones they serve daily: their customers. "Our clients have high expectations, and so do we," she smiles. "We wouldn't have it any other way."

MAXI
Boutique
575 Danforth Avenue 461-6686

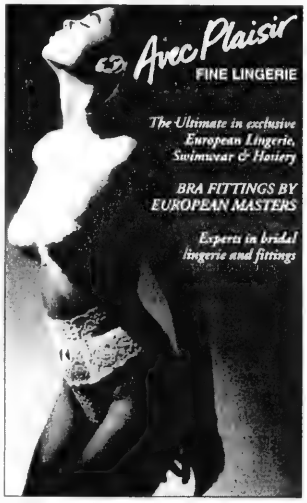
Avec Plaisir a perfect fit on Danforth

Delectably ensconsed between Korry's and Maxi Boutique on the Danforth's "Fashion Row", **Avec Plaisir** brings new meaning to the phrase "quality and service". Building on a decade of success in Toronto's toney Yorkville district, husband-wife team Peter and Vasilia Panagakos searched extensively for a second location before selecting 573 Danforth Avenue. "We felt that the Danforth, with its European ambience, offered the most appealing setting for our customers," says Peter. By offering the "crème de la crème" of lingerie, swimwear and hosiery lines and the expert fitting and service that department stores don't, Avec Plaisir has seen its customer base grow relentlessly.

A large part of their business, says Vasilia, comes from women who receive imperfect fittings elsewhere. "There's no margin for error in a bra fitting," she states. "It has to fit perfectly." If yours don't, you're in good company: according to Vasilia, **fully 70% of her first-time customers are wearing the wrong size**, usually because they've purchased at a store that lacks either the full size range or the fitting expertise or both. Avec Plaisir, on the other hand, carries sizes 32A to 42E and thoroughly trains its staff in the nuances of bra fitting.

The merchandise is exquisitely European, the result of regular buying trips to Paris and Milan. From Switzerland, you'll find the most divine pure mercerized cotton panties that feel like heaven and last simply forever.

In recent years, Avec Plaisir has experienced a spectacular increase in its sales of bridal lingerie. From bodysuits and bustiers to corsets and leg garters, they have everything the bride needs to make her honeymoon truly special.


Avec Plaisir
FINE LINGERIE
The Ultimate in exclusive European Lingerie, Swimwear & Hosiery
BRA FITTINGS BY EUROPEAN MASTERS
Experts in bridal lingerie and fittings

573 Danforth Avenue 466-5011
124 Cumberland Street 922-7702

Customers share Sun Valley's obsession with quality

Think you're good at spotting imperfections in fruit and vegetables? Think again. At **Sun Valley Fine Foods**, you may need a magnifying glass.

Upholding a family tradition begun by his father, Spiro Aravantinos and partner Peter Vacirtzoglou have elevated fine food purveyance to an art form. Rising at the crack of dawn to hand-pick the cream of the fruit and vegetable crop, the partners then race across town to 583 Danforth Avenue and stack it in row on bountiful row so gleaming and seamless you almost feel guilty picking it up. The produce at this emporium of fine food comes as close to perfection as you'll ever find. Fresh herbs are flown in weekly from Israel.

Sun Valley brims with culinary delights in every nook and cranny. You'll find breads from Ace Bakery and Stonemill, among others; a dozen flavours of pita from Pita Break; gourmet crackers galore; and the finest jams money can buy, including Greaves from Niagara-On-The-Lake. In fact, Sun Valley's "designer collection" of fine spreadables, sauces and dressings includes a host of famous labels. From the U.K., there's Cross & Blackwell, Gordon's, Patak's, and Sharwood's; from France, Maille and St-Dalfour; from the U.S., Paula's, Jacques Pépin's, and Olde Cape Cod; and others too numerous to mention from around the world. Sun Valley also offers its own house brand of jams, sauces and dressings bottled for it by an award-winning Canadian supplier. There's a small selection of Kosher products, which the partners plan to expand in the near future.

Olive oil rated #1

Exclusive to Sun Valley is a cold-pressed, extra-virgin olive oil from Greece that was ranked #1 among all oils tested in a recent Toronto Star poll, and described as follows: "Organic Extra Native Oil (Greece). Good solid colour. Creamy and a little earthy. Rich to the nose. Well-balanced and integrated. Good firm texture. Herbaceous aromatics." — *Toronto Star, June 24/98*

Responding to changing demographics in the Danforth area, Sun Valley underwent major renovations in 1993. The glittering result — immaculate inside and out — has succeeded in catering to a growing yuppie class with international tastes while retaining its loyal Greek following.

One extremely pleasant surprise at Sun Valley is price. You'd expect to pay a premium for the exquisite quality they offer, but you don't. As of this writing, for example, ultra-crisp, whistle-clean romaine lettuce was going for 79¢ a head. "Value is part of our tradition," says Spiro. "We cannot and will not overcharge."

At the centre of the store is a pentagonal meat and deli counter featuring cheese from around the world (including some eight varieties of feta), prime quality meat and poultry, and the plumpest, juiciest olives this side of heaven. Sun Valley's hand-cut shish kebabs are in such demand that a full-time butcher was added to the in-house staff for the sole purpose of cutting shish kebabs. Distinctively superior to the cookie-cutter variety you'll find in many supermarkets, they are typical of Sun Valley's obsession with quality, and, as an in-store sign proudly proclaims, contain **NO MSG. WE NEVER USE IT AND WE NEVER WILL.**

If you're a *nosher*, an embarrassment of riches awaits you. Cakes and pastries from Dufflet, La Rocca and Pauline's are supplemented by Sun Valley's own cookies, croissants and banana breads baked fresh daily in store. Confections include Valrhona chocolates from France. Coffee from A.L. Van Houtte, considered by many connoisseurs to be the finest available today, is offered in some 15 delicious blends.

Spiro and Peter thrive on the long hours that are part and parcel of the food business. "It's a labour of love," says Spiro — and one that's rewarded daily. "When customers take our food home, in a sense they're taking *us* home," he smiles.

Sun Valley *Fine Foods*
583 Danforth Ave.
(416) 469-5227
Open to 9 p.m. 7 days a week for your convenience

Advertising Feature

GREEKTOWN ON THE DANFORTH

Mezes rooted in family values

As you approach **Mezes,** the first thing you notice is its spectacular wrought-iron patio with tall pedestals adorned with flowers and vines. Inside, a courtyard effect: bubbling fountain, elegantly pillowed wrought-iron benches and Greek pottery echo a faraway world that is still vividly etched in owner Sue Zindros' memory. "Growing up, we would sit around the table and share both the day's events and the variety of dishes my mother had lovingly prepared. Sometimes it was just feta cheese, olives and watermelon, but it didn't matter. Forks would fly across the table, but somehow everyone ended up consuming equal amounts. To me that was ideal, because my mother never really knew if I ate all my vegetables." It is through Mezes, Sue says, that she and her sister Christine (the head chef) are able to share these treasured memories with guests.

Both Sue and Christine are on the same culinary wavelength — namely, that all dishes be prepared fresh daily to ensure consistently high quality. The most important factor in flavour, Sue says, is using the highest-quality cold-pressed extra-virgin olive oil. The Greek product in particular, she claims, has been shown to promote increased health and longevity. It also has a symbolic value that has prompted Zindros to acquire her own personal olive grove in Greece, with a view to perhaps pressing her own oil some day.

The fruits of Mezes' teamwork are joyously abundant and evident on your first bite. Lamb chops are a house favourite, as are the superbly seasoned fresh whole red snapper or sea bass. Vegetarian dishes are a Mezes forté; highly recommended are the grilled vegetable plate and the vegetarian moussaka. Among the appetizers *(mezes)* for which the restaurant is named, the feta cheese saganaki (pan fried and flambéed in ouzo) is unsurpassed. And their kleftiko is melt-in-your-mouth delicious: succulent chucks of chicken or lamb, topped with spinach and feta cheese, wrapped in filo pastry. The tastes will have you closing your eyes in bliss and comparing them with favourites from your own past.

Mezes

AUTHENTIC GREEK CUISINE

456 DANFORTH AVENUE
(416) 778-5150

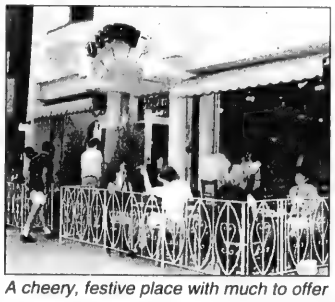
Mezes is open late, seven days a week; supper is served until midnight Sunday to Thursday, until 3 a.m. Friday and Saturday. Reservations are recommended. Mezes is also happy to cater your office parties and other functions.

Mezes is a business, to be sure; but by treating it first and foremost as a vehicle for sharing their cherished experiences, the two sisters have succeeded in going forward by looking back. Whatever your perspective, you'll taste the difference that caring and quality make.

Ouzeri thrives on fresh approach

Marrying European fine dining with Greek cuisine, the new Ouzeri has much to offer Danforth-goers.

After purchasing the popular eatery in November '97, brothers Chris and Alex Trahiotis (whose father Jim was executive chef and partner at Burlington's famed Lord Nelson Restaurant) revamped the menu with a view to offering fewer dishes but making every dish count. "We prefer to offer fifty superb selections than a hundred good ones," says Alex. "And freshness is paramount; from field to table is our modus operandi."



A cheery, festive place with much to offer

In addition to a wide variety of Greek appetizers, you'll find a few intriguing entrées available nowhere else on the Danforth. Signature dishes include the wonderfully garnished and baked Oysters Ouzeri; Chicken Parmesan; and Breaded Chicken with Wine Mushroom or Lemon Butter Sauce.

Fresh fish is available daily, and may feature Salmon, Pickerel, Rainbow Trout, or whatever catch happens to be freshest on the day you visit.

Accompany these delectables with a fine wine from Ouzeri's extensive international list and you have all the ingredients of a culinary bonanza.

Ouzeri is a cheery, festive place, especially on Tuesday nights when live Greek music plays to the wee hours. Its patio ranks among the Danforth's' largest and liveliest, and the sightlines both within and without are clean. If you're a people-watcher, Ouzeri is unparalleled — not only on the Danforth, but city-wide.

The service is friendly and extremely thorough, with ample wait staff to keep pace with your needs. The dining environment is immaculate, the cuisine impeccable. If you haven't visited Ouzeri recently, perhaps now is the time.

OUZERI

500A Danforth Avenue 778-0500

South Side Christina's gets top billing

A quick Danforth quiz: Which restaurant has the most spectacular patio; the best plate of lamb chops; the most elegant decor; the latest hours (open till 4 a.m.); the largest celebrity crowd; and the most intriguing owners? If you answered "South Side Christina's" to all of the above, you're obviously a regular; if you didn't, maybe it's time to check out one of Toronto's most compelling dining spots.

Despite the spellbinding decor that has earned it bragging rights as a leading film shoot site, South Side Christina's boasts a menu that is chock-full of some of Toronto's finest food values. After you've been greeted by John or Dean Kekkas, both of whom have secret lives that would fill up a novel in their own right — or their extremely gracious uncle Steve — it's time to hunker down to a delicious and highly affordable feast.

SOUTH SIDE CHRISTINA'S

Try the Roast Rack of Lamb in a mustard cream sauce; at only $17.95, it's a culinary "Brinks Job". Another steal is the Chicken stuffed with Mushrooms ($12.25). For steak lovers, The Black Angus with Roasted Garlic in a red wine reduction ($14.95) is worth its weight in gold. All entrées, including the above, are served with rice, roast potatoes and seasonal vegetables.

On Friday and Saturday nights, belly dancing afficionados will enjoy the city's finest performers. Live music is featured on Friday through Sunday nights. South Side Christina's swells with song; a variety of live international music breezes through the dining room and out onto the large open patio. It feels like freedom, and you'll love every minute of it.

Toronto's most exquisite dining room in repose, prior to the supper hour

535 DANFORTH AVENUE 778-1100

Any Sucker would fall for this store

If you're old enough to forget what being a kid in a candy store is like, **Suckers** will take you back to the most riotous excesses of your childhood and amplify them tenfold.

The brainchild of **....It Store** founder Jack Green, **Suckers** has erupted on the Danforth in a bucket-hurling splash of colour, animated by an ever-changing montage of vintage cartoons and commercials. The "production" is scored with individually-pressed CDs. Suckers is crammed with literally hundreds of sweets you won't find at any corner store, and offers a vast collection of nostalgic toys. Outrageous? Yes. So much so that three generations of present-day and wannabe-again kids have embraced it with an abandon that has surprised even its creator, a driven bachelor who by his own admission understands children "because I'm still a child myself."

"Candy tests we conducted at the ....It Store convinced me that people were looking for something more than over-the-counter confections," he says. "Over years of travel and research I developed a vision that embodied all my candy-coated whims, but I had no guarantee that others would share it."

Share it they have — in droves. Daytime carriage trade; evening after-dinner crowd; late-hour yuppie crowd: all have converged on Suckers in staggering numbers since its opening. Greeting them are innovations galore. The M&M Colour Program (exclusive to Suckers) offers the tumbling taste temptations in 21 different colours. Soon to feature a "Willy Wonka" party room for kids' parties, the flagship Suckers store has been so successful that three more stores are opening this summer, with14 other locations currently under negotiation.

What has proven most gratifying, says Green, is the fact that people of all ages derive pleasure from their visit. Bubies and Zaidies rub elbows with their grandchildren at elaborate gum machines that would make any pinball wizard proud. This magic carpet ride provides a sensory experience that "is instantly uplifting; it's a dose of happiness."

The real key, says Green, is that "We don't dispense candy; we revere it. We don't feed; we entertain." The only problem experienced at Suckers to date, he laments, is that "once the kids are inside, they can't control their parents."

450 DANFORTH AVENUE 405-8946

Advertising Feature

GREEKTOWN ON THE DANFORTH

Astoria's souvlaki judged best in major media polls

Think "Danforth", and you're liable to think "Astoria." In the 21 years since it opened, this venerable "institution of higher dining" has come to symbolize the culinary qualities the Danforth is known for: great food, great quality, and great value.

Indeed, many of Astoria's original customers are still regulars two decades later, and wouldn't dream of going anywhere else.

Astoria's now-famous "souvlaki window", always a beehive of activity, is an indelible image of Danforth life. And what souvlaki! Judged **"Best of the City"** by Toronto Life (1998) and **"Best of Toronto"** by Now Magazine (1997), Astoria's souvlaki helped make it a multiple winner of the **Toronto Sun's Readers' Choice Award** as Toronto's favourite Greek restaurant. Other jewels on the menu include hearty moussaka, exquisite broiled sea bass and salmon steaks – and Greek appetizers like kalamari and saganaki, if you can keep your souvlaki craving at bay long enough to sample them.

Location and atmosphere are other Astoria assets. For a big restaurant, it's remarkably cozy, due to its corner location, dual outdoor patios (the Danforth's largest), and quiet, richly appointed interior.

Heading eastbound on Bloor, you know you're on the Danforth once you hit Broadview; but you don't really *feel* it until Astoria's white facade with its pale blue trim leaps joyously into view, bidding you "Welcome to the Danforth" in words that the food lover in you understands so well.

CIBC makes difference in community

As Community Manager for the Danforth, Dave D'Amico has a twofold responsibility: one, to ensure a high quality of service within his member branches; and two, to promote goodwill and improve the quality of life in the surrounding community.

Dave D'Amico
CIBC Danforth Community Manager
421-0051

Not unique to the Danforth, this approach is part of a company-wide commitment to providing help where help is needed. Underscoring this fact, in '97/98 the CIBC donated some $19 million to a wide variety of charities and causes, including the Baycrest Centre, Mount Sinai Hospital, Riverdale Hospital, Toronto East General Hospital, several schools, and countless community projects.

D'Amico favours a hands-on approach that sees him personally participating in fund-raising and other charitable events. He also takes pleasure in encouraging employees, associates and friends to do likewise.

D'Amico brings to the table an extensive background in both banking and volunteer work. And as someone who has lived and worked on the Danforth for a number of years, he is well-positioned to turn CIBC's strong presence in the area (10 branches) to good account.

Building goodwill starts within each branch, he says. "We want every single visit to be a happy one for our customers. This is a standard we strive to uphold each and every day." Good works outside the branch are a natural extension of this philosophy, he says. "We want people to think of the CIBC not only as a great place to bank, but as a good neighbour."

D'Amico's approachability, easygoing manner and work ethic have endeared him to Danforth business people and members of the general community, and he relishes the opportunity to serve. The sense that he is helping to make a difference gives him "all the gratification I need. Giving back to the community isn't something that's nice to do, it's something we *have* to do."

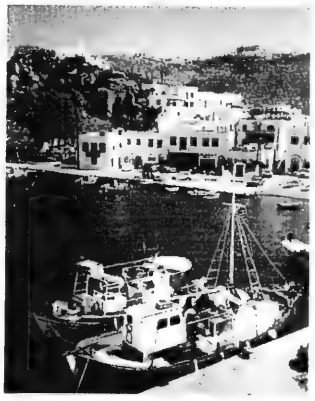
D'Amico can be reached directly at (416) 421-0051, or through e-mail at ddamico@ibm.net.

CIBC

Skyway the only way to Greece!

In their 38 years of business, partners Aris Sideratos and George Sevdalis have booked enough direct flights to sunny Greece to circle the globe a few times "with a refuelling stop on Venus," kids Sideratos.

The destination may be celestial, but the service at this bustling travel agency is very down-to-earth. As Canada's largest independent Greek tour operator, Skyway is a leader in both individual and corporate travel. Its large clientele (including a certain well-known Danforth haberdasher!) relies on Skyway's ability to book flights at a moment's notice and its total commitment to service.



Skyway has a particularly strong relationship with Regent Holidays, and offers highly competitive pricing on Regent's full range of tours to Greece. Direct non-stop flights on the day and at the time of your choice are a phone call away, and Skyway will go the distance to ensure that the seating and meal arrangements are to your liking. Skyway deals with all major air carriers and will get you where you want to go with a minimum of fuss. "We pull our hair out so our clients don't have to," jokes George.

Skyway offers its customers the best of the old and new: old-fashioned personal service from owners who are almost always in the store, and fully automated flight tracking that determines seat availability instantly.

So when it's time to arrange your vacation, picture your favourite Greek island destination; when you can almost feel the Mediterranean breeze on your cheeks, pick up the phone and call Aris or George. They'll have you there before you can say *"Opa!"*

Skyway TOURS LIMITED

484 DANFORTH AVENUE (416) 469-5101

Avli courts discerning clientele

From the street, Avli is easy to spot, with its blue and gold sign and smiling sunflowers. When you step inside, you'll immediately notice the refreshing coolness. Here's a place to relax over a fine dinner and wine on a summer evening.

The whitewashed walls with their dried flowers and vines suggest a village in the Greek Islands or Asia Minor. The earthenware vessels which grace the room, with their warm colours, are based on classic Cypriot designs which unite simplicity and beauty.

A poster with labels from Greek villages invites you on a wine-tasting tour of Greece, and a hand-painted wall map shows major Greek islands and vineyards.

Owner/chef Lambro Vassiliou is constantly expanding the already-impressive wine list. He especially recommends the *Gerovassiliou*, a white blend of Greek grapes which has won Gold Medals in Canada and Europe, and is now so popular it's hard to keep in stock.

Lambro takes pride in cuisine which is hearty, healthful, and light, blending flavours from Greece and the Middle East. Avli is renowned for its Lamb Shank, and Rabbit and Chicken Pies prepared in special clay dishes. Order these dishes early; main courses are not pre-cooked, but prepared individually for you.

Avli also offers a fine selection of fresh fish. Fresh Atlantic Salmon is always on the menu, along with two or three other varieties, which may include Red Snapper, Sea Bass, Swordfish, Kingfish or Mahimahi. Vegetarian dishes and a variety of excellent dips such as *Taramosalata, Meltzanosalata* and *Kopanisti* round out the menu. Desserts are opulent and delicious.

Ever the innovator, Lambro has added venison, caribou and other wild game to the menu. These are served mainly as grilled steaks with fine sauces and chutneys.

Many touches add to Avli's appeal. Some evenings, for example, there's a pianist with a range of music from Greek to classical. This is not a loud and boisterous place, but a destination for quiet conversation and the company of family and friends, to be enjoyed over cuisine that is distinctively different from the mainstream.

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Benmurgui a man of many talents

By DOROTHY LICHTBLAU
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — You might not have expected Ralph Benmergui to be the guy playing background percussion in the recent Toronto Fringe Festival production *Higher Ground*.

But he was. Actor, comic, broadcaster, the host of CBC Newsworld's *Benmergui Live* was a back-up musician for his friend, film and television actor, Chas Lawther, who, with actor/writer/director Ditch Dickinson, wrote the show.

The drummer originally scheduled to play was unable to do the show. "I'm the sub," Benmergui says.

What he liked about participating in the Fringe Festival, he says, "was that there were four mature men [including musician Stuart Clow] standing on stage being sincere."

It is appropriate that he was in *Higher Ground*, a mixture of music and monologue that starts as a parody about evangelical entertainment but soon emerges as a weave of parables about moments when we awake to what it means to be human.

Lawther's script addresses coming to terms with death and mortality, issues in Ralph Benmergui's personal life that seem to have brought him a new understanding of what is valuable.

Almost 43 and recovering from an operation on a vertebral disc, Benmergui says he is grateful for life's fundamentals, "for my children, my wife, who is kind enough to have stayed married to me… grateful that my mother is still alive, and my siblings. Grateful I'm working and that there are those who like what I do."

Born in Tangiers, Morocco, to a Spanish speaking, Sephardi family, Benmergui immigrated with his parents to Toronto when he was two. Proud and fond of the North African community in which he was raised, he grew up in a midtown Jewish neighborhood, where he felt foreign because his mother tongue and cultural practices were different.

Benmergui, his wife Kathryn and their two sons, Joshua and Chas, belong to an egalitarian Ashkenazi synagogue. "I'm not comfortable in a community which exalts one gender spiritually and leaves the other to make the home their place of worship," he says.

Kosher and vegetarian himself, he says he perceives religion as, "a codified series of concepts that will give you a disciplined path to your own spirituality."

He says he suspects that people who avoid religion really don't want to deal with the demands of spirituality, yet he advocates following the middle road and giving regard to the material world we inhabit. Though he strongly identifies with Judaism, he has studied other religions and finds "comfort and wisdom" in Buddhism.

His career has not been linear either. Devoted to music (he includes genres as diverse as Sufi devotional music, jazz and early rock and roll in his personal collection), he was the lead singer for the group The Stingers. He has studied acting at the University of Alberta, worked in film and television, been a stand-up comic, and studied journalism at Ryerson Polytechnic University.

His association with the CBC began with a research job in Winnipeg. Over the past 13 years, he has been a late-night radio host and a host on CBC Television's *Midday* before becoming a national performer with his own television program.

Today, he says, the things that drive him are different. "When I was younger my dream was to be King Kong in some way, to project out and far enough and often enough to let you know I was here. Now, I don't care about that. I just want to have fun and enjoy my life and work on things like not yelling at the kids. That's tough enough."

He says he is excited about the new weekend show *Not Just The News*, which he will host on CBC Newsworld this fall, because it uses satire to analyse current events. Satire, he says, "allows people to wake up, because it grabs you by the nose and twists it and you go, 'ow.' It gets you away from the way you often see things or the way authority would like you to see things."

But don't ask Benmergui about his plans for the future. He is content with savoring the present and wants to avoid tempting fate. "I'm not foolish enough to think I can control what I'm going to be doing in the next five years," he says.

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Consultant helps businesses prepare for trade shows

A good-looking booth is not enough

BY JAMES PASTERNAK
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Many companies rely on trade shows to help increase their sales. With shows becoming more sophisticated however, these companies must work harder than ever to get their message heard.

Barry Siskind, president of International Training and Management Company, headquartered in Terra Cotta, Ont., has been a trade show consultant for 17 years.

His innovative approach to exhibiting in trade shows has been adopted by thousands of companies around the world.

Siskind says most companies make three mistakes when planning to enter a trade show: they do not take the pre-show planning process seriously; they enter into a show without a clear set of objectives; and there is little follow-up on leads captured during the show.

He says that many companies do not know what to take to the show, they do not know how to put the booth together properly, and they do not budget wisely.

In 1997, Siskind conducted 180 workshops, about 50 percent of them in Canada, and the rest in Asia, South America, India, Mexico, Europe and the United States.

Barry Siskind

His book, *The Power of Exhibit Marketing,* is now in its 4th edition and he has written over 200 articles on trade show marketing. He also writes an annual supplement for *The Globe and Mail*.

About 3,000 companies attend his open workshop, which he gives 15 to 18 times a year. As well, he works directly with companies such as banks, insurance companies, pharmaceuticals and manufacturers to help them prepare for trade shows.

International Training also works with trade show managers and associations to teach them how to help their exhibitors get ready.

"I used to [take part] in 10 to 12 shows per year and I watched people who had booths much bigger than [mine]. I realized very quickly that having a good-looking booth was not enough."

Meeting prospects at a trade show is a company's main objective, but merely capturing names is not enough, Siskind says.

The key is "talking with a prospect and finding out what they want. This is a three-minute process," he says.

Siskind says that companies have less than three seconds to grab someone's attention, so the right booth setup is crucial.

Siskind also trains staff how to work at the booth. "It goes beyond not chewing gum and not sitting down," he says.

He says that one of the most important benefits of the trade show is that it provides one-stop shopping, and therefore shortens the sales cycle.

"The Centre for Exhibition Industry Research reports that exhibitors who understand the unique selling environment of the show and develop skills to achieve their objectives are the most successful," Siskind says.

In the past 10 years, says Siskind, trade shows have changed tremendously. There are more shows to choose from and people go to fewer of them. The cost of shows is also increasing tremendously.

Siskind tells companies that shows "should not be taken lightly. They are coming into the forefront and are becoming serious, sophisticated and professional."

He predicts that Toronto, with several exhibit halls, is on the verge of a trade show boom.

"We are going to attract world-class shows to Canada. "We're learning very quickly. Our shows are coming up to world standards very fast."

Film looks at Hungarian family

By TOM TUGEND
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

LOS ANGELES — Toronto-based Alliance Communications Corp. is producing a movie in which Ralph Fiennes plays the parts of three Jews in a multi-generational saga.

The triple role in *The Taste of Sunshine*, currently filming in Budapest, represents a major switch for the British actor, who brought the sadistic Nazi concentration camp commander Amon Goeth to life in Schindler's List.

Fiennes won an Academy Award nomination for that performance and a second one for his role in *The English Patient*.

The new film centres on the Sonnenschein family, which rises from humble beginnings to positions of wealth and power in the crumbling Austro- Hungarian Empire. Fiennes plays three of the Sonnenscheins.

Also starring are Jennifer Ehle, Rachel Weisz, Molly Parker, William Hurt, Rosemary Harris, Miriam Margolyes and James Frain. Istvan Szabo, who directed *Mephisto* is directing. *Mephisto* was voted best foreign film in 1981. Szabo co-wrote the screenplay with American playwright Israel Horovitz.

Shooting will continue through the summer and fall in Budapest, Vienna and Berlin. No release date has been set.

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Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

SPIELBERG ISSUES WARNING ON 'PVT. RYAN'

Steven Spielberg, one of the most commercially successful filmmakers in American cinematic history, has gone on his first road tour to promote a film since 1982.

The film, *Saving Private Ryan*, stars **Tom Hanks**, **Edward Burns** and **Matt Damon**. It focuses on the D-Day invasion of Normandy and a difficult military mission in which a group of soldiers attempt to retrieve an American private whose brothers have been killed in combat.

Steven Spielberg

The opening scenes of *Saving Private Ryan* depict the war in a far more grisly and violent way than American cinematographers have usually done in the past.

"The reason I'm going across the country on this one is to warn parents and young people that this film may not be their cup of tea," Spielberg recently explained to the *Los Angeles Times*. "I have a real responsibility to do that, especially because of the first 24 minutes of this film."

Spielberg said he felt it was important to show the war in a graphically realistic way without hiding any of the violence.

"You know, in this age of disclosure, it would have been irresponsible for me to undercut the truth of what that war was like," he said. "There have been 84 World War II films that showed something else. This would have been the 85th slap in the face to the men who died knowing the truth."

* * *

Composer Honored: Ben Steinberg, composer-in-residence at Temple Sinai has been awarded the degree of doctor of humane letters (honoris causa) by Hebrew Union College, Jewish Institute of Religion, New York.

The seminary of the Reform Movement honored Steinberg for his research on Jewish music and for his own compositions and body of work. He is one of "the truly creative spirits of the American synagogue," the seminary said in conferring the degree.

* * *

Cantorial Correction: Ted Labow, who sings in Summer Opera Lyric Theatre's upcoming production of *La Traviata*, is a "cantorial soloist" and not a "cantor," as he was described in a recent column.

"At some very near date, I will probably pursue a certification from the powers that be to be eligible for the title 'cantor,'" he explains. "Until then, in order to keep peace with my colleagues who slugged it out for several years in graduate school, I must content myself with the soloist handle."

* * *

In the Spotlight: For more than half a century **Irving Howe** was a commanding, if controversial, figure in American intellectual life.

Born in 1920, Howe grew up in the East Bronx of New York, became a Trotskyist socialist as a teenager, and served in the U.S. army during World War II. From 1946 on, he became a regular contributor of literary articles for important journals like *Partisan Review* and *Commentary*.

In the early 1950s, he published the well-known *Treasury of Yiddish Stories* and founded the socialist magazine *Dissent*, which he edited for nearly 40 years. During the 1960s and early 1970s he took part in major intellectual debates over such hot topics as the Vietnam War, the New Left radical movement, the racial question, feminism, and Israel; he also became a sharp critic of such writers as **Ralph Ellison** and **Philip Roth**.

In 1976, Howe published *World Of Our Fathers*, a history of immigrant Jewish culture that won the National Book Award.

Howe, who died in recent years, is remembered in a new biography, *Irving Howe: Socialist, Critic, Jew*, by author **Edward Alexander**, a professor of English at the University of Washington. The story of Irving Howe's intellectual growth "is a chronicle of lost causes, as he himself would have been the first to admit," Alexander asserts. Socialism failed as a political force in America and was irreparably besmirched by the Soviet regime; and Howe's brand of secular Jewishness was overtaken by Zionism, religion, and assimilation.

Alexander corresponded and debated with Howe for 20 years. "I always felt that I was learning something by listening to Howe's voice, a kind of life-wisdom that went beyond political differences," Alexander said.

Irving Howe: Socialist, Critic, Jew is published by Indiana University Press.

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD ANSWERS

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Robert Barkin

Jan Russel

The Creative Planning Financial Group is pleased to announce that Irwin Wortsman, President of Irwin Wortsman Insurance Ltd., Jan Russel, President of James B. Russel Ltd. and Robert Barkin have joined the firm.

Mr. Wortsman, a member of the Court of the Table of MDRT is currently President of the Men's Service Group of Baycrest Centre and a long term volunteer in the Toronto Jewish Community.

Mr. Russel is a professional engineer and has several financial planning degrees. He is president of James B. Russel Limited – an insurance agency founded 50 years ago by his late father Jimmy Russel.

Mr. Barkin is a member of the executive committee of the Canada - Israel Children's Centres. He brings his life insurance and estate tax practice to CPFG.

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It was created by Australian David Atkins and co-choreographed by *Tap Dogs*' Dein Perry.

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Budapest Jewish community is still thriving

By VIVA PRESS
Special to The CJN

BUDAPEST — On a recent trip to Budapest, I discovered District VII or Erzébetváros, the traditional Jewish quarter of the city.

It was established in the 18th century when Jews were still forbidden to live within the city walls, and became a ghetto in 1944-45 under Nazi occupation.

Although 700,000 Hungarian Jews were murdered in the Holocaust, the Jewish community in Budapest, estimated at 80,000 people, still thrives today.

Like many of the other buildings in this city that date from the latter half of the century, the Central Synagogue (1859), on Dohány utca is grandiose. It is the largest synagogue in Europe, second largest in the world, with a capacity of 3,000. (New York's Temple Emmanuel is the largest.) The building is so enormous that it cannot be heated and has never been used in winter.

The Central Synagogue's facade has been restored and the brickwork glows red, blue and yellow. Gold leaves glimmer on Moorish domes, their orientalism a reaction against Austrian rule.

Once I passed through the metal detectors, I was overcome by the beauty of the synagogue's interior. On the ceiling, Stars of David are outlined in gold leaf, and intertwined on the floor are eight-pointed stars.

A 10-year, $10-million (US) facelift was financed by the Hungarian government and Tony Curtis' Emmanuel Foundation.

Next door is the National Jewish Museum. Here one can find beautifully crafted Judaic objects but there are no signs explaining when or where they were made. A small Judaic bookshop is located at the entrance of the museum and there is a small Holocaust exhibit in a separate room.

Upstairs from the main exhibit room is a small collection of Jewish art from past and present artists. The museum is housed on the site of Theodor Herzl's birthplace.

From the museum, I walked around the corner to the small Heroes' Temple (1931), a memorial to Hungarian Jews who died in World War I. This shul, located behind the Central Synagogue in the Garden of Remembrance courtyard, is one of several synagogues still active today. In the courtyard is a memorial to those who died in the Holocaust. A silver sculpture by artist Imre Varga, erected in 1990, depicts a silver weeping willow tree with each leaf inscribed with the name of someone who died in the Holocaust.

Varga also created a statue of Raoul Wallenberg, the Swedish diplomat who saved more than 20,000 Budapest Jews. It stands in Buda in District 2, on Szilágyi Erzsébet, because Communist authorities insisted it be placed far from the city centre.

The Orthodox synagogue on the corner of Kazinczy and Dob utca is in desperate need of restoration. Many of the windows are broken and there was KGB spray painted in yellow on the front doors of the shul. This synagogue, while still in use, is closed to the public.

The Budapest Jewish community has seen some revitalization in the past 10 years. Eastern Europe's only rabbinical centre is at VIII József körút 27 and there are also four Jewish day schools here.

From the Orthodox synagogue on Kazinczy, I walked along Dob utca until I came across Frohlich Cukrászda, a kosher pastry shop, at number 22, where I bought apple strudel for 40 cents (US).

The oldest synagogue in Budapest, dating back to medieval times, used to be in the Castle District at I Táncsis utca 26.

When I visited this shul, I was disappointed to find the only Jewish remnant was the mezuzah on the door. Now a museum, there was nothing inside suggesting it had ever been a synagogue.

The dome of the Central Synagogue in Budapest [top] and the interior [left]. The shul was completed in 1859. [Viva Press photos]

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2	Broadview & Gerrard (Kentucky Fried Chicken)					10:15AM	6:00PM
3	Dragon Centre (Hong Kong Bank)	9:45AM	Yorkdale Subway (Bus Lane 13)	10:15AM	Jane/Wilson (Coffee Time)	10:30AM	5:00PM
4	Commerce Gate (505 Hwy 7 Second Cup)	10:15AM	Kennedy & Steeles N.E. Corner (Tripmate Tours)			10:45AM	6:00PM
5	Bathurst & Steeles (Mac's Milk)	9:45AM	Miss. Golden Sq Ctr (Rear Entrance of Fuji Optical)	10:15AM	Miss. Chinese Ctr. (Rear Entrance of HK Bank)	10:45AM	6:00PM
	AFTERNOON						
6	Spadina Chinatown Centre (Furama Bakery)					2:15PM	9:00PM
7	Kennedy & Steeles N.E. Corner (Tripmate Tours)					2:15PM	10:00PM
8	Jane/Wilson (Coffee Time)	2:15PM	Mississauga Chinese Centre (Rear Entrance of HK Bank)			2:45PM	11:00PM
9	Kennedy & Steeles	4:15PM	Broadview & Gerrard	4:45PM	Chinatown Centre	5:15PM	1:00AM
	MIDNIGHT						
10	Spadina Chinatown Centre (Furama Bakery)					7:45PM	3:00AM
11	Kennedy & Steeles	8:45PM	Yorkdale Subway (Bus Lane 13)	9:15PM	Jane/Wilson (Coffee Time)	9:30PM	4:00AM
12	Spadina Chinatown Centre (Furama Bakery)					10:30PM	5:00AM

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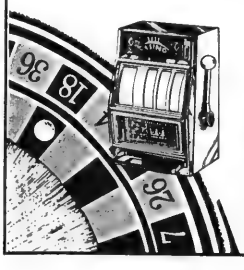

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FOREST HILL VILLAGE $1,395,000
3 sty., 5 bed., 60'x152' south lot. Gary Mitchell** 488-2875

FOREST HILL – NEW CUSTOM TOWNHOMES
Georgian facade & elegant interior! Choice of fab. finishes - Bellini kit., elevator, 2 car gar. Gary Mitchell**/Morris Simon* 488-2875

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Upper Village custom built dream home. Reesa Sud* 488-2875

208 RICHVIEW – LOWER VILLAGE $775K
Reduced to sell. Prof. landscaped much reno inside & out, Marley tile roof. Call Mark Cowan* 226-1987

UPPER VILLAGE! GRAND HOME!
All room oversized! Cathy Kwinter* 488-2875

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Immac.4 bdrm. home. C. Himelfarb*/F. Sversky** 488-2875

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Fabulous new custom home approx. 3400 s.f. highest quality. Great design mag. 50' lot. Patti Pollock* 226-1987

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4 bdrms., 5 baths! Custom built beauty! Lynne Elkind* 488-2875

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Central location. A must! Cathy Kwinter* 488-2875

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4 bdrm., finished basement, den, library, large kitchen, 2 walk outs. $445,000. Phyllis Shapiro* 226-1987

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1ST AD! 345 HORSHAM AVE! $268,800!
Updated 3+1 br., 2 bath bungalow w/sep nanny ste. on fab 54'x132' lot! Call Sandon Schwartzben** 226-1987

PRIME LAURELCREST AVE. $ 259,900
Spacious & sp[SOLD] bedroom bungalow. Fin. bsmt., cantral air, attached g[SOLD]ge. Patti Pollock* 226-1987

FAB. LOWER VILLAGE RENTAL!
4 bdrms., 4 baths, hdwd. flrs., lge yard. Lynne Elkind* 488-2875

BAYVIEW PROPERTIES

BAYVIEW/MOORE PK. – RAVINE $1,350K
Elegant 4000' + w/up[SOLD]ool. Carolyn Feldman** 488-2875

BAYVIEW/YORK MILLS $995,000
Fab. 5 br., new 4000'. [SOLD]ool. Carolyn Feldman** 488-2875

YORK MILLS/BANBURY - BRANDY CRT.
5+ bdrm. Must sell! Carolyn Feldman**/Barbara Jacobs* 488-2875

291 UPPER HIGHLAND CRES.
4 bedrooms. Totally reno'd w/pool. Julie Gofman* 488-2875

EDWARDS GARDENS! NOW $498,818!
Wow! Fab. 4+2 br. mn. fam! Nanny ste/office! Spectacular 90'x146' irreg. lot! Sandon Schwartzben** 226-1987

REDUCED DRASTICALLY FOR QUICK SALE!
Bayview N. 16th. $428K for approx. 4400 sq. ft. Immaculate! Extras impossible to list. Call Ruth Trachter* 226-1987

1ST AD! 33 NORTHWOOD DR! $298,000!
Bayview/Cummer 4+1 br., 3 bath, fab. 100'x75' treed corner lot! Value+++! Call Sandon Schwartzben** 226-1987

NORTH PROPERTIES

130 LISA CRESCENT NR. BATHURST
3 bdrm, 4 baths, 2 kit. nr. synagogue. Julie Gofman* 488-2875

ATKINSON & CENTRE - DETACHED $259,900
3 br. + fam. rm. w/fireplace, 4 pc. master ensuite + 2 car gar. near park, bus + day schools! Hedda Zaionz* 226-1987

AFFORDABLE LOT - ARNOLD AVENUE AREA
Build approx. 2500 s.f. in hertage area, trees+privacy, priced to sell at $229,000! Hedda Zaionz* 226-1987

CONDOMINIUM PROPERTIES

BAYVIEW/FINCH FREEHOLD T.H. $489K
Great end unit-2800', 4 br. Carolyn Feldman** 488-2875

1ST AD! 1818 BAYVIEW AVE! $438,888!
Wow! 2 storey penthouse! 3+1 br., 3 bth., mn. fam! 3 car prkg! Move right in! 10+! Sandon Schwartzben** 226-1987

1ST AD! 260 HEATH ST. W. $365,000!
Fab. 3 br., 2 bth., w/large terrace o/l's panoramic ravine views! Won't last! Call Sandon Schwartzben** 226-1987

260 HEATH STREET W! $348,800!
Immaculate 3 br., 2 bth., corner ste! Nat[SOLD]br! Move right in! Call Sandon Schwartzben** 226-1987

18 CLARKE AVE. W. T.H. #146
3 stry., 3 br., immaculate, $$upgrades. Julie Gofman* 488-2875

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$157,500! Updated 3 br. w/priv. prkg! Only 4 units in bldg! Move right in! Sandon Schwartzben** 226-1987

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BATHURST/GLENCAIRN/LAWRENCE
$488,000 Large handsome 3 sty., centre hall, excellent spaces, family rm. Needs remodelling. Jeffrey Joseph**

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Wonderful 2 bdrm., 2½ bath condo in move-in condition. 1900 sq. ft. in best downtown location. Jack Solomon*

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Bathurst/Centre - 4250 sq. ft. for $565,000. Huge 5 bdrm., 2 ens. Completely fin. basement, 2 staircases. Maxine Povering**

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$579,000 Top location! St. Clair/Yonge/Avenue Rd. Amazing value! Elise Kalles** & Toby Farb*

OUTSTANDING RAVINE SETTING
Bayview/York Mills - Totally redone. Elegant 4+1 bdrm. Centre hall Georgian. W/out lower level. $925K. Elaine Chelin*

OASIS IN THE HEART OF THE CITY
YorkDowns - 70'x413" ravine lot. Build your dream home or renovate. 4 bdrms., 4 baths, fam. rm. & den. Gert. Kerbel*

NEW PRESENTATION $1,680,000
Stunning 2 year new York Mills home. Over 6000 sq. ft., with all the finest finishes. Michele Noar* & Elise Kalles**

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Magnificent property - impressive landscaping - finest craftmanship. Pool, pizza oven, 5 bdrms. Elise Kalles**

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Uncompromising privacy - 2 acre estate with indoor pool/sauna and exercise room. 7903 sq. ft. M. Alberga * & S. Stern*

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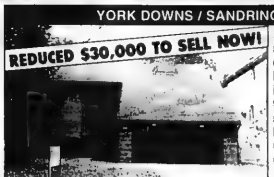

Prestigious serene setting! Custom spacious family home: 5 bdrms., 4 baths, family room, ideal for entertaining, sauna, 2 separate zones for heating & central air, 60 x 168 ft. lot (irreg.). Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

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Lots of home — low price! 4 + 2 bdrms., 5 baths, parquet floors, 55 x 122 ft. lot, sep. entry to in-law suite, only $339,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

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3 bedroom home, 50 ft. frontage, separate entry to in-law suite, only $259,000. Call Esther Rubenstein (416) 787-1712.

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Detached brick bungalow on 50 x 117 ft. lot, 3 + 1 bdrms., sep. entry to in-law suite, hardwood floors, modern white kitchen. Fabulous location, close to all amenities. Only $329,000. ACT NOW! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

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40 x 133 ft. lot in desirable central location, close to TTC, shops, schools ++, detached brick 2 bedroom bungalow presently on property, only $249,900. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

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BATHURST / GLENCAIRN — BRAND NEW CUSTOM HOME!
Prime location, close to many luxury new homes, approx. 3400 sq. ft. of luxury, 5 bdrms., fam. room, library, loaded w/ upgrades, dream maple kit., granite & hardwood floors++, only $679,000. Call Richard Cash (416) 787-1712.

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Executive 5 bdrm. on great street! Shows like a model! Loaded! *L. Langer-Gross

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EXCLUSIVE LISTING IN "ROSEDALE NORTH"
2 storey beauty on quiet crescent, large kitchen with pantry, built-in hot tub, landscaped. *Neil Bocknek

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BATHURST-STEELES LARGE SEM! $289,900
4 bdrms., fin. bsmnt., L-shaped LR & DR, eat in kit. Immaculate! **Joan E. Landy

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BATHURST-CLARK - JUST REDUCED TO $269,900
Detached 3 bdrm., family room, finished basement, appliances +++ *Larry Wronzberg

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DUFFERIN-CLARK - LOADED!
Det. 3 bdrm., oak floors, finished bsmt., nice lot - $265,000! *Lenna Langer-Gross

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BATHURST-CLARK ONLY $249,900
3 bdrm. starter on great street! Move-in condition, new windows. *Perry Waisglass

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BATHURST-CENTRE - WALK TO SYNAGOGUE
Detached 3 bdrm., fin. basement, great starter, near park! *Lenna Langer-Gross

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CONDOMINIUMS FOR SALE

BATHURST-STEELES - 7 TOWNGATE
Largest unit in bldg! Appliances, locker, marble entry, 5th flr, close to all amenities! $259,900. *Ted Waxman

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BATHURST SOUTH OF STEELES - GREAT VIEW!
Beautiful large 2 bdrm., 2 full bath, marble, ceramics, parking! *S. Bzowski

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YONGE/STEELES
$279,500. 2 storey link, 4 bdrms., 3 bths., den, fam. rm., w/o to yard, modern kit., fin. bsmt., dble. drive gar., A-1 buy. Don't miss!

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WILMINGTON-FINCH
Lg. split level, 3 bdrm., fam. rm., 3 bths., L-shaped liv. & din., fin. bsmt., 2 car gar. Steps to all!

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OVERBROOK-WILMINGTON
3 bdrm. bung., huge liv. & din., fam. sized kit., 2 bths., fin. bsmt.

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BATHURST-WILSON
Triplex. 2x3 bdrm. + 1x1 bdrm. apts., balcs., gars. + pkg., move-in 1 apt. & income from 2 apts. A1 LOCATION!

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FINE HOMES

AVENUE RD/LAWRENCE - $698,000.
Stunning, quality built home. 4 great bdrms. (master ensuite). Family room. Finished lower level. Central air. Double garage. *Leslie Dennis.

• • •

ALLENBY SCHOOL - $369,000.
Charming 4 bdrm. Tudor. Features 2nd level open sitting area w/skylight. Beautiful leaded windows & wainscotting. Private drive & garage. *Linda Rose.

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HILLHURST BLVD. - $698,000.
Exceptional 5 bdrm. home. Spacious principal rms. Kitchen w/walkout & breakfast rm. Main fl. family rm., laundry & powder rm. Double garage. Private drive. CAC. *Leslie Dennis.

• • •

LYNDHURST AVE. - $575,000.
Very special 3 bdrm. townhome overlooking a picturesque ravine setting. Features large family rm. w/walk-out, double built-in garage. *Edith Weiss.

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SPADINA/ST. CLAIR - $599,000.
Walk to Village shops. Spacious 3 bedroom townhome with family room. Fabulous 3rd flr. retreat w/skylight. High ceilings. Landscaped garden. *Elaine Pike.

• • •

HEART OF THE CITY - $249,000.
Wonderful 3 bdrm. Victorian semi awaits your touch. High ceilings. Original mouldings. Parking. Located close to College St. cafe strip & TTC. *Donna Taylor

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GRANITE PLACE CONDO - $699,000.
Prestige residence at Yonge/St. Clair. 2 Bedrooms + Den. 3 baths. Large balcony. Thousands in upgrades. Fabulous view of city & Lake. *Edith Weiss/*Judy Nathan

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BAYVIEW - $629,000.
Handsome 4+ bdrm. home. Main fl. family rm. + panelled library. Lower lvl with rec. rm. + extra bdrm. Fireplaces. CAC. Double garage. *Betty Cohen/*Lena Rauchwerger.

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STUNNING 10 ACRE ESTATE - $585,000.
Showplace landscaping. Sculpture garden. Swimming pool. Tennis court. 3 bedrooms & baths. Close to Stouffville. *Bobby Simpson.

• • •

ROSEMARY RD. - $689,000.
Gracious Tudor. 5 bdrms. SOLD principal rms. w/main floor family rm. addition. Leaded windows. *Ruth Kerbel.

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COULSON AVE. - $629,000.
Stunning 2 sty. townho SOLD bdrms. Family rm. Landscaped yard. 2 car garage. CAC. *Barbara Kaplan/*Jacqueline Yaffe.

• • •

WILSON HEIGHTS/FAYWOOD - $249,000.
Spacious centre hall t SOLD on large lot. 3+ bdrms. Fin. lower level. CAC. Private drive & garage. *Betty Cohen.

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10 HOUSES FOR SALE PRIVATE

Bath./Centre - off Beverly Glen, like new, 2 stry., 4 bdrm., mn. flr. lib., 2 1/2 bth., jac., 5 appl., sec., CAC, lge. fenced pool size yard, hrdwd. flr., many upgrades, spotless move-in condition. $399,900. 905-882-4770.

15 HOUSES FOR RENT

Bathurst/Glencairn - top location, $3500/mo., spacious 8 rm. sd. splt., 3-4 bdrms., master ens., self-contnd., nanny quarts., fin. bsmnt., 64'x136' lot.
RUTH RYBAK
RYBAK REALTY LTD.
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25 HOUSES WANTED TO RENT

Shomer Shabbat family needs 3-4 bdrm. house. 416-635-7031

30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE

130 NEPTUNE DR.
Spacious, Bright 2 Bdrm., 2 Bath, Immediate
*Call . . . ED GELERNTER
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SKYMARK II
$255,000 - Open balcony - 1700 s.f., 2½ bath, 2 pkg.
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was designated as the **#1 Real Estate Agent** in Toronto in the C06 area, for the first six months of 1998, based on the number of M.L.S. listings sold and the dollar value of M.L.S. listings sold. This information was provided by IMS Incorporated, North America's largest independent Real Estate auditor.

WE WISH HER CONTINUED SUCCESS!

30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE

Bath/Steeles-Townsgate,2 bdr, 2bth, huge cor $249K 736-8007

35 CONDOMINIUM FOR RENT

Bath./Glen Cairn - Lge. 1 bdr, den, 5 appl., 2 bths., sec., $1,225 + util. Aug. 1. 491-1094.

55 ACCOMMODATION WANTED

Nice Orthodox family near Vancouver, B.C. wishes to relocate to Toronto. Own lux. 5 bdrm. home w/kosher kit., close to frum shule with eruv. **Want to buy or rent or exchange homes** (need 4-6 bdrm.) in TO or Thornhill for 1 year from Aug. Call Rabbi Taub at 1-800-455-9777 days, 604-275-5905 eves.

60 SHARED ACCOMMODATION

Senior male, vegetarian, interested in sharing apartment or home in Lawrence & Bathurst area. 416-256-9966.

U of T. 2 bdr. + sol. bdr. 1st yr. female dental student seeks 2 F n/smkrs., n/pets. Sec., pool, sauna, excse. rm. etc. University & Elm. Jaclyn 416-224-5229.

70 UNIVERSITY ACCOMMODATION

Thornhill, room & kitch., BAYT, TTC,male, $375. 905-886-2273

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

Bath./Wilson, 1 bdr. bsmt. apt., newly reno'd., full kit. + lau., 5 min. from subway. $750 incl. Avail. Sept. 1. 905-882-9267.

Yonge/Clark - bsmt. apt., $400 per mo. all incl. 905-886-8670.

78 FURNISHED APARTMENTS FOR RENT

Bath./Shepp., bright bsmt. apt., modern, n/smkr, pkg., sep. entr., near TTC, business person preferred. 416-638-4070.

105 COTTAGE FOR SALE

WATERFRONTS

BELLE EWART
1223 Maple - SOLD
1291 Maple - SOLD
1211 Maple - new 2-stry., 3 bed., 21/2 bath., yr. rnd., f/place, air, dock & boat lift.
1395 Maple - 4 bed., 124' lot, well, breakwall, boathouse, marine rail, motivated vendor.
LAKE OF BAYS - 10 bdrms., 6 baths, 3 kit., air, tennis crt., winterized, near shul; 100'x600'.
SANDRA ROTH (BOTNICK)
RYBAK REALTY LTD.
(416) 782-0598

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

Bath./Glen Cairn - furn. bsmt. apt., sep. entr., near subway, female. 905-882-2132.

Bath./Lawrence - 4 bdr., walk-in closets, 2 bth., eat-in kit., lge. liv/din. rm., hrdwd. flrs., balc., coin lau., pkg., $1300/mo. Avail. Sept. 1. 905-794-2808.

BATHURST WILSON
CONVENIENT NORTH YORK LOCATION

NEWLY DECORATED SPACIOUS 2 BDRMS.
- Large balconies
- Central air conditioning and heating
- Hardwood Floors
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- Surveillance cameras and card access system
- Outdoor swimming pool
- Close to conveniences and TTC
- Underground parking available

125 Neptune Dr.
(416) 787-7171

BATHURST-SHEPPARD
Very lg. 1, 2, 3 Bedrms., ample closets, some 1½ baths & 2 balc., roof, laundry, ravine setting, pool, ind. pkg., 6 apts. per flr. From $850.
960-3238 - Bus.
631-9377 or 631-0388 - Super

112 FURNISHED COTTAGE FOR RENT

Lake Simcoe, rustic 4 bdrm, ikfront, scrnd porch, privacy, 90 min from TO, avail. August 16 for 2 wks, $1500. 416-487-6050

112 FURNISHED COTTAGE FOR RENT

Belle Ewart on Lake Simcoe, 4 bdr., lkfrnt., within 1 hr. of TO, great for kids, shallow & sandy wtrfrnt, city sewers. $4500 for summer. Bernie 705-456-2999.

125 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE

West Palm Beach
LANDS OF THE PRESIDENT

Highrise 1/1½	from	$45,000
Senate 2/2	from	$55,000
Tower 2/2	from	$75,000
Tower 3/2	from	$145,000
Consulate	from	$200,000
Envoy	from	$225,000

Call for further details
Charlotte Sharkey Real Estate
561-640-4199

Exclusive Williams Island in North Miami Beach, 1 bdrm. conv., 1350 sq. ft., prof., dec. in absolute finest. This stunning apt. overlooking the water is being sold furn. by the original owner $259K US 905-881-9067

Lands of the President, West Palm Bch. 3 bdr., 3 bth. twnhse in lux. gated community. Next to pool & walking distance to golf club. Excellent cond. with lots of extras. $145,000 US. 203-322-9792 evenings after 6:00 pm.

West Palm Beach, Century Village, 2 bdrm., 1 1/2 bth., grnd. flr., CAC, clean w/new carpet, near pool. $26K US negotiable. Call 416-486-8388, message.

130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT

Aventura - Lux. 1400 sq. ft. 1 bdr., 2 bth. condo. Spectacular view of ocean and intercostal. To share independently on a regular basis. 416-497-7333.

HOLLYWOOD, Hallmark 2 bdr, 2 full bath, corner, pkg., valet etc. 3 mos min. Avail. 1998/99 season. 905-731-0609.

Singer Island, 2 bdrm. apt., appl., avail. Jan, Feb, March. Joe at 249-0762, 905-833-1974

Miami Beach - Beautiful condo, one convertible. Video avail. 1 1/2 baths. 17 flr. facing ocean. 24HR. security. 514-672-5251

135 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT

ANBER MOVERS
(LOCAL MOVING)
SPECIALIST IN:
TORONTO ↔ VANCOUVER
NEW YORK ↔ FLORIDA
(514) 735-8148
1-800-561-MOVE

140 FLORIDA ACCOMMODATION WANTED

Required in highrise at Century Village Deerfield for responsible couple. References. 514-489-7798.

140 FLORIDA ACCOMMODATION WANTED

Palm Aire area for Feb. or March, 2 or 3 bdrm. furn. apt. Call Ray Kizell at 613-548-7919 or 613-548-8834 eves, wkends.

160 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR RENT

Jerusalem, 3 bdr. apt., Shomer Shabbat bldg., choice location, shul on premises. Avail. 6-12 months. 635-0640, 486-0409.

217 RETAIL OPPORTUNITIES

Bathurst/Wilson - 1500 sq. ft., suits any business, pkg., fabulous corner location. 787-9670.

230 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

This is a small ad with a **BIG OPPORTUNITY**. Call Susan 416-410-1715/905-826-9949

240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Office Admin. & Customer Care Support, (F/T)
Telesales business req. assertive, well-spoken prof. with strong telesales and/or business-to-business sales exper, marketing savvy, business writing skills & PC proficiency (Windows '95, Word, ACT!). Position req. generating qualif. sales leads & providing inside sales & office support.
Tel: 416-635-6325

240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

BILINGUAL A/P CLERK

A dynamic, fast growing property management company requires an individual with a min. of 2 yrs related exp. with the capability to learn quickly, handle a busy work load, liaise with field and corporate office staff. Previous property management experience preferred. French/English oral and written a must. Monthly posting, cheque processing. Previous experience in a computerized environment an asset.

Forward your résumé indicating salary expectations to:

Realstar Management
77 Bloor St. W., Ste. 2000
Toronto, Ontario M5S 1M2
Attn: Michelle Ferguson
Human Resources
FAX: 416-923-9315

Lady experienced in Jewish home cooking to work flexible hours for new food production company opening up in North York. Salary based on experience. Neil at 661-1895, days.

MUSICAL JOB. Looking for upbeat, presentable person. Must play portable instrument, have great singing voice, car, good communication skills, want to interact with moms and tots. Unique teaching experience. Reply to CJN Box # 7078.

TENORS and BARITONES wanted for choir for high holidays. Fluent Hebrew reading & musical experience essential. Please phone 782-4495 or 783-9492.

240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Experienced, Dynamic, Creative, well organized individual to run established After School, School Break, Camp Programs. This is a permanent part-time position. Reply to Program Director, Bloor JCC, 750 Spadina Ave., M5S 2J2 or Fax 416-924-0442. No phone calls please!

Opportunity for self starter. Ideal for student, homemaker, semi or retired. P/T can develop into F/T. Computer, sales, office exp. important. 416-544-3516.

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

NEED A NANNY?
• No Fee to Employer
APPLE
DOMESTICS
(416) 730-0127

GOLDEN CARE LTD.
There's *no place* like HOME!
Live-in & live-out Caregivers & Nannies. Staff training in safety, appropriate behaviour and even Jewish cooking!
On-going contact with you after placement.
LOW RATES WITH THE BEST PERSONAL SERVICE
Honey Hecker
665-1435, 665-4229

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

DOMESTIC SEARCH
Our Company is dedicated to fulfilling the domestic needs of your family. Tired of searching for the right nanny, housekeeper, elderly caregiver? We pre-screen, interview & verify references personally. Why not let the search end here?
CALL (416) 630-3773

I will clean your house/apt, any day of the week. Call 638-9654.

Lady seeks job babysitting or elderly care, live-out. 724-5582.

Looking for weekdays cleaning job. Few years experience. Call 416-651-0632 or 428-1349.

Maria's Italian Cleaning Team. Mature Italian & Portuguese cleaning women. **For a free estimate,** please call 416-446-0856 and leave a message!

Nannies, housekeepers, companions for elderly, cleaning ladies, live-in or out. Sponsorship from overseas. No fee for the Sponsor. **Excellent Placement Agency**. **222-4912.**

Nannies, live-in/out, full/part-time, in-home elderly care, FT, PT, RN's, nurses aides, cleaning. Bonded,refs. **416-630-0674 or 416-224-9907. #1 Domestic.**

Nanny, nice Jewish lady seeks work with a nice Jewish family. Hrs. negot., pref. am. Exper. Call Kati at 416-968-6781.

Home cleaning. Introductory special offer including all cleaning products. 2 people will clean for $15/hour, minimum 4 hours. Fully insured. 7 days a week. *Call Sharon* 416-783-8068.

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

The **Meeting Place**

To **Listen** & **Respond** To Ads **call 1-900-451-4552 *Ext.#* 65**
The cost of the 900# is only $2.29 per minute
To Place Your **FREE** Ad **call 905-276-6167 *Ext.#* 65**

Brought to you by the Canadian Jewish News

Women seeking Men

SHARE SAME INTERESTS
Single Jewish female, 35, 5'5", non-smoker, brunette, blue eyes, enjoy movies, dining in & out, quiet evenings cooking, baking, long walks on the board walk, seeking a Jewish male, 30-43, nonsmoker Ad# 1378

ROMANTIC MOMENTS
Single female, 50, passionate, caring, sincere, enjoy working out, travelling, dining out, dancing, seeking male to share romantic moments Ad# 1468

ONE OF A KIND
Single Jewish lady, 5'5", attractive, kind, sincere, seeking Jewish gentleman, 40-55, tall, with a great sense of humour & traditional sense of values & professional attitude. Single dads OK. Ad# 1380

DESIRES OF THE HEART
Young lady, Jewish, 25, vegetarian, nonsmoker, good sense of humour, kind, sincere, enjoy outdoor activities, seeking gentleman, Jewish, 28-35, nonsmoker, loves pets & has similar interests Ad# 1381

LOVE CONNECTION
Single female, Jewish, great smile, love pets, kids & life, looking for Jewish gentleman 38-45, honest, sincere, caring to share the sunshine with. Ad# 1384

DINING & DANCING
Divorced female, 40, 5'2", teacher, enjoy exercising, plays, concerts, dining & dancing, nonsmoker, looking for male with similar interests.
Ad# 1382

FOR YOUR EYES ONLY
Attractive, adventurous, upbeat lady, 53, mother of 2, seeking gentleman, down to earth, sincere, nonsmoker, good listener, solid values, very understanding. Ad# 1367

DESIRES OF THE HEART
Attractive, petite, modern Orthodox lady, early 30's, enjoy hiking, camping, movies, long walks, good conversation, looking for gentleman, handsome, intelligent, strong sense of humour, with similar interests Ad# 1371

AVAILABLE
Female widow, 40 something, with 3 grown up boys, sexy, humourous, enjoy music, walking, dancing & fishing, seeking an available Jewish male who sensual & enjoys movies & dining out & in Ad# 1369

ROMANTIC GOALS
Single female, tall, long legged, open minded, real woman, seeking unattached male 35-55 slim, single dad's & smoker's are welcome for long term relationship Ad# 1373

FRIENDSHIP
Single petite Jewish female, healthy, financially secure, attractive, enjoy dining out, dancing, arts & theatre, seeking male 63-73 with similar interests for friendship & companionship.
Ad# 1331

FRIEND FOR THE SUMMER
Single female, 45, like dancing, dining out, music, long walks, nature, travelling, seeking a male with similar interests. Ad# 1333

DREAMS CAN COME TRUE
Single Jewish female, 35, cute, slim, petite, enjoy long walks, good conversation, dining out, dancing, seeking a Jewish male 32-39 with similar interests. Ad# 1343

LIVE LIFE TO THE FULLEST
Single Jewish female, 43, 5'3", long auburn hair, blue eyes, nonsmoker, sense of humour, enjoy moon lit walks, travelling, seeking professional Jewish male, 43-54, 5'9" or taller, caring, honest, stable to spend quality time with. Ad# 1337

To renew your ad call 416-236-6644

VARIETY OF INTERESTS
Single white Jewish female, 28, educated, bright, fit, active, have a variety of interests, seeking a male with similar qualities, Jewish, professional who enjoys life. Ad# 1338

ARE YOU OUT THERE?
Attractive, warm, caring, appealing Jewish lady, mid 40's, divorced, no dependents, well travelled, cultured, good sense of humour, enjoy the finer things in life, seeking gentleman for those special moments in life Ad# 1345

SPECIAL MAN
Single Jewish lady, mid 40's, attractive, caring, sincere, seeking gentleman for relationship.Ad# 1346

FULL OF LIFE
Petite, canng, sincere, bit of a romantic Jewish lady, independent, strong sense of humour, seeking gentleman, very down to earth, with similar outlook for friendship Ad# 1349

ATTRACTIVE LADY
Jewish lady, 38, petite, never married, nonsmoker, very down to earth, laid back, quiet lifestyle, seeking gentleman, 36-40 for friendship & possible life partner Ad# 1354

YOUNG AT HEART
Professional attractive widow, late 50's, petite, sincere, kind, enjoy movies, dining, dancing, outdoor activities, animal lover, music, looking for gentleman 58-63, nonsmoker, well established, secure, kind & caring. Ad# 1316

COMPANIONSHIP
Jewish lady, 33, single, warm, sensitive, caring, sincere, enjoy music, long walks, dining & dancing, seeking gentleman for companionship, possible relationship. Ad# 1406

CLASSY LADY
Divorced white female, 130lbs., petite, 5'4", one child, blonde hair, hazel eyes, enjoy hockey, music, cowboy boots & blue jeans, looking for male 37 or older with similar interests. Ad# 1327

FRIENDSHIP
Slim, fit & active Jewish lady, Belgian descent, enjoy travelling, dancing, seeking male, 60-74 with similar interests Ad# 1402

VERY ROMANTIC
Single lady, 27, Jewish, 5'8", short brown hair, brown eyes, nonsmoker, nondrinker, enjoy sports, very outgoing, movies, dining & dancing, seeking Jewish gentleman, 27-36 for serious relationship Ad# 1291

LONG TERM RELATIONSHIP
Attractive, single Jewish lady, green eyes, petite, enjoy travelling, swimming, kind, sincere, trustworthy, seeking loving male, Jewish, 35+ Ad# 1298

Men seeking Women

OUTGOING & CARING
Single male, outgoing, caring, enjoy live theatre, seeking a female for a relationship, someone who is honest, trustworthy, loyal, good listener & communicator. Ad# 1379

ROMANTIC AT HEART
Gentleman, sincere, sentimental, affectionate, love to cuddle, enjoy movies, music, romantic times & winters in Florida, seeking a slim, attractive lady, 55+ with similar interests. Ad# 1383

WHAT A CATCH
Single jewish male, 33, 6', brown hair, blue green eyes, slim, handsome, spontaneous, enjoy dining, dancing, movies, outdoor activities, travelling, seeking a single Jewish female 28-34, attractive, slim, easy going, brunette. Ad# 1387

ENJOY LIFE
Single male, 54, tall, romantic, easy to look at, athletic, nonsmoker, enjoy sports, quiet evenings, seeking a single Jewish female who enjoys life. Ad# 1391

KIND & HONEST
Jewish gentleman, sincere, kind, honest, not into bar scene, seeking companionship of nice Jewish girl with strong sense of humour, kind & sincere. Ad# 1364

AN ORIGINAL
Gentleman, kind, sincere, intelligent, easy going, professional, enjoy dining, dancing, quiet evenings, seeking lady with similar interests for long term old fashioned relationship. Ad# 1409

STAND BY ME
Gentleman, 26, Jewish, police officer in Toronto area, educated, hoping to return to college, seeking good natured lady with good sense of humour, no more broken hearts Ad# 1368

AMBITIOUS
Single male, 30, ambitious, outgoing, enjoy travelling, sports, long walks, dining out, seeking a warm, compassionate female who is sensitive & outgoing.
Ad# 1370

DRIVES IN THE COUNTRY
Very conservative gentleman, 5'8", stock analyst, enjoy art auctions, drives in the country, looking for a lady or single moms, you don't have to be slim.
Ad# 1348

SEEKING GOOD COMPANY
Gentleman, Jewish, 51, very good natured, witty, creative, professional, seeking lady, pleasant, kind, sincere, very good sense of humour, for future relationship. Ad# 1351

GREAT TIMES TOGETHER
Single Jewish male, 63, 5'9", 160 lbs, like to give a lot of tender loving care, enjoy arts, sports, seeking a slim Jewish lady who is elegant & proud of her Jewish heritage & religion. Ad# 1357

GOOD CONVERSATION
Single Jewish male, 56, enjoy travelling, movies, walks, have a good sense of humour, goo conversation & romantic, seeking a female who is attractive with similar interests. Ad# 1372

MARRIAGE MINDED
Gentleman, 70, widower, sincere, trustworthy, kind, seeking lady up to 65 years for possible future relationship.
Ad# 1318

LASTING RELATIONSHIP
Divorced male from Eastern Europe, handsome, sincere, fit, professional, enjoy movies, dancing, biking, seeking a kind & affectionate female in 30's, slim & attractive. Ad# 1388

PLAYFUL
Single white Jewish male, no dependents, 175 lbs., blonde hair, blue eyes, fit, secure, well educated, seeking lady, slim, attractive, under 40 years Ad# 1319

BRIGHT BLUE EYES
Gentleman, 50's, caring, romantic, handsome, slim, blue eyes, brown hair, good sense of humour, seeking lady, age & religion not important, attractive, should look good in jeans. Ad# 1322

DINING & DANCING
Gentleman, 33, 6', brown hair, green eyes, well established, financially secure, enjoy travelling, dining, dancing, movies, seeking a Jewish female, 28-34, 5'5" or taller, slim, attractive, well read with strong sense of humour. Ad# 1307

TRADITIONAL & KIND
Traditional, down to earth Jewish man, good sense of humour, fun to be with, healthy, good looking, kind & easy to get along with. I seek someone for a relationship, maybe marriage. Ad# 1265

LIKE AUCTIONS IN THE COUNTRY
Single male, 45, still have all of my black hair, I like art auctions, car drives & antique auctions in the country, I'm not choosy & children are OK. Ad# 1264

MOVIES & DINING OUT
Single Jewish male, 40, short brown hair & brown eyes, work out with weights, like movies, dining out, sports & walks, seeking a Jewish lady, 34-45 with similar interests. Ad# 1272

HARD WORKING
Jewish gentleman, late 40's, hard working & successful, like quiet times, movies, music, travelling. Ad# 1278

Questions ??? 416-236-6644

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

A complete cleaning service for homes, offices. Refs., ins. & bonded. Sylvia, 416-740-3034.

Cleaning lady avail. weekdays for homes & apts. 398-2918.

Cleaning lady avail. with 5 yrs. exp. & refs. 416-787-5458.

Cleaning lady with exp. Good references. Call 416-658-7161.

Cleaning lady with refs. avail. eves & weekends. 782-8240.

Exp. lady w/refs. avail. to care for elderly, live-in/out. 249-4089

Frustrated by trying to find a suitable nanny? Let us help you. We have dependable, caring nannies who are thoroughly qualified, personally interviewed & pre-screened. All refs. are checked. Some are CPR trained. Low finders fee.
Wee Care Placement Agency
416-789-3070

High quality house cleaning. Call Dora, 736-1179.

Reliable, exp. cleaning lady with references. Call 281-9756.

Solid, exp. Polish cleaning person for houses. 416-699-3265.

Housekeeper avail. for Tues., Wed., Fri. & Sat. 780-9755.

Overnight position desired in infant or elder care, $150/wk. Sunday to Thursday. Cheerful, responsible refs. 416-760-5556

255 DOMESTIC HELP WANTED

38 year old, partially disabled male, seeks live-in caregiver, driver, downtown. 920-0013.

Bath./Wilson. Warm, nurturing housekeeper req'd. 4 dys/week. 4-6:30pm. Cooking, caring for 10 yr. old. Drivers license req'd, car helpful. Risa at 927-2822.

Mature caregiver for elderly lady req'd. Live-in, shopping, prepare meals, light laundry and cleaning. 416-781-7163.

Nanny, part-time, weekdays, flex. hours, refs req'd. 787-5468

257 HEALTHCARE AVAILABLE

Affordable nursing grad, exp., mature, car, refs. For senior care, foot care. 416-667-7117.

Exper. lady with HCA seeks live-in job looking after elderly, also cleaning. F/T or wkends. 416-690-9761 between 4-6pm.

RPN, non - smoker, private duty, Monday - Friday. Salary negotiable. 416-783-7045.

258 HEALTHCARE WANTED

Exp. cargegiver for elderly, orthodox lady. Live-in 5 days, light housekeeping, references. No Saturday calls. 398-8847.

260 BUSINESS PERSONALS

B"H
"At Soulmates we know that for every soul G-d created he also created their mate!" Find your mate now! **SOULMATES INC.**
***Call* 905-709-3868**
www.soulmates.net

Bringing People Together. The top-rated service that puts your needs 1st. Ruth 905-731-5204.

Jewish Singles Registry, over 1630 members. Website, www.total.net/~jsreg. 483-4151

264 SOCIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Marty & Terri Garson and **Donnie & Ophra Strarkman** are thrilled to announce the engagement of their children **Tami to Jordan Cary.**

264 SOCIAL ANNOUCEMENTS

Gold & Weisman - Lisa & Barry Gold and Ella & Eric Weisman are delighted to announce the engagement of their children **Jennifer and Michael.** Proud grandparents are Milla & Gary Dorchik, Mollie Moldofsky, Rosa & Alex Imber and Esther Weisman. The wedding date has been set for Spring 2000.

270 PERSONALS

Looking for energetic & adventurous female travel companion, 25-45. Eastern or Western Canada for some time in August. Barb at 416-638-1532.

Seeking intermediate tennis partner in the Eglinton, Wilson, Yonge, Bathurst corridor. To play early am or later pm and weekends. Ronit, 416-631-6937

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

• CJN Boxes for Personal Companions Wanted ads are valid for 30 (thirty) days only (from 1st publication date). Replies must be received within this time frame in order to be forwarded to the correct CJN Box #.

A woman, mid 60's seeks a decent man for lasting companionship. Call 416-787-2878.

Some say.. cute, getting chubby, too positive, a do gooder female. Others.. pretty, good figure, assertive, easy, witty, a good friend. Take your pick, you can't lose. You are a kind, intelligent, fun male 65-75. Come on take a chance! CJN Box 7076.

Youthful JSM, 45, social services prof., Pisces, seeks SJF for serious relationship. Interests: Cottage, blues music, motorcycling, photography, pets. Call Barry at 416-653-4376.

Do you complete me? DJM, 30, seeks kind, sensitive, fun loving, traditional Jewish woman. You love dining, theatre, movies & quiet nights at home, family oriented & have a good sense of humour. CJN Box #7074.

"Poised Attitude," keen mind, voluptuous interest, single prof., Jewish lady 43, seeks the company of a n/smkr, SPJM, 43-54. Quiet dinner, lingering, conversation and mutual exploration can be ours. Let's bring some candlelight into our lives. Reply to CJN Box # 7072.

CLASSIFIED ADS/ SERVICE DIRECTORY ADS
· CUSTOMER SERVICE ·

The CJN requires that advertisers check their advertisement upon publication, as *The CJN* will not be responsible for more than one incorrect insertion, and there shall be no liability for non-insertion of any advertisement. Liability for errors in advertisements is limited to the amount paid for the space occupying the error. All copy is subject to the approval of the management of *The CJN*. *The CJN* reserves the right to classify all advertisements.

Service Directory & Classified Ad Deadlines are Wednesday, 8 days previous to the issue, by 4 pm.

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

Replying to a Companion ad with a CJN Box Number?

Address your mail to:

The Canadian Jewish News
1500 Don Mills Rd.
Suite 205
North York, Ontario
M3B 3K4
Box # _____

SJF, 27, intelligent, sensitive, classic beauty, would like to meet a golden hearted, refined and gracious Jewish gentleman, 25-45, n/smkr. for companionship. Photo appreciated. CJN Box # 7070.

SJF, 37, 5'7", frequents Bal Harbour/Aventura, successful prof., (M.ED.) seeks marriage minded SJM 5'8" +, 34 - 53, Dr., lawyer, etc. CJN Box # 7069.

SJM seeks SJF to join my Quest for Hope & Truth. Together, we will explore the universe of ideas, navigating boldly between the shores of romantic idealism & pragmatic necessity. But know: this is a journey suited *not* to the weak of heart or mind, for we shall battle the demons of cynicism & mediocrity that arise from the wounds of exposure to Humankind. Prepare to form & grow as reason & compassion, imagination & self-knowledge coalesce into the noble wisdom that, perhaps, will one day be sought by all. To prove your mettle, send me your words, your tales of war, your weltanschauung, your true heart. CJN Box # 7079.

Gay & Jewish looking for a nice guy, 30-45, for good times, friendship and more! (If you want to send along a picture - Thanks.) CJN Box # 7075.

Jewish lady, classy, divorced, early 40's, blonde, attractive, 1 adult son, dreams about love. Reply to CJN Box # 7067.

300 ARTICLES FOR SALE

Concord Stair Chair - Almost new. The perfect way for a person with wakling difficulties to navigate a stairway. Reasonable. Phone 416-977-2570 or 416-862-7061.

TO PLACE AN UNVEILING NOTICE PLEASE CALL AT LEAST 14 DAYS PRIOR TO THE DATE OF THE UNVEILING

330 OBITUARIES

BENJAMIN'S LANDMARK MONUMENTS

ALL MONUMENTS ARE NOT CREATED EQUAL

BENJAMIN'S LANDMARK MONUMENTS
3429 Bathurst (corner of Melrose)
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SHOPIRO, Anne - on July 2, 1998, late of 831 West 24th St.
RUBIN, Esther - on July 3, 1998, late of 3270 Bathurst St., #514.
GORDON, Sylvia - on July 14, 1998, late of 35 Canyon Ave., #1905.
KOPANSKI Eliau - on July 14, 1998, late of 6040 Bathurst St., #404.
SCHALLER, Arthur - on July 14, 1998, late of 18 Constance St.
ADLER, Alfie - on July 15,

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BARSKY, Sam - on July 9, 1998, late of 18 Blairville Rd.
BAUER, Morris - on July 10, 1998, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
HINDEL, Berek - on July 10, 1998, late of 90 Fisherville Rd.
FRANSCHMAN, Roza - on July 11, 1998.
HADIDA, Mercedes - on July 11, 1998, late of 6250 Bathurst St.
IZSO-RODAK, Helen - on July 12, 1998, late of 251 Betty Ann Dr.
GELBARD, Hyman - on July 13, 1998, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
MAGDER, Estelle - on July 13, 1998, late of 329 Brighton Ave.
ZUSMAN-INGHEL, Pnina - on July 13, 1998, late of 90 Fisherville Rd.
BLANARU, Dina - on July 14, 1998.
FISHER, Steven - on July 14, 1998, late of 141 Palm Dr.
MALINSKY, Rosa - on July 14, 1998.
RINDE, Eleonora - on July 14, 1998, late of 555 Sheppard Ave. W.
WOLFE, Jack - on July 14, 1998, late of 25 Canyon Ave.
AZULAY, Sandra - on July 15, 1998, late of 17 Greenwin Village Rd.
SHIFF, Issie - on July 15, 1998, late of 645 Castlefield Ave.
SALAMON, Joseph - on July 16, 1998, late of 104 Frontenac Ave.
FRANKFURT, Dezso - on July 17, 1998, late of 530 Fairlawn Ave.
SHAMIR, Yardena - on July 17, 1998, late of 118 Franklin Ave.
BORTS, Pearl - on July 18, 1998, late of 35 Canyon Ave.
BLUSTEIN, Irving - on July 19, 1998.
KATZ, Dolly - on July 20, 1998.
MENKES, Sarah - on July 20, 1998.
STRASBERG, Ralph - on July 20, 1998, late of 205 Cummer Ave.

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Lodzer Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
SARAH ROSENHOLTZ ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, August 2nd, 11:00 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Zaglembier Society, Section #47
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
MAX GUTTMANN ז"ל
will take place
Monday, August 3rd, at 3:00 p.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
(Bathurst, South of Steeles)
Husiatyner Klaus Beth-Israel Congregation Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

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Features

Artists & *Creativity*

What inspires creativity in the artist? Is creativity in the artist the inevitable expression of an accumulation of experiences? Or does creativity flow from a single, watershed experience? In this, the first in a series of sketches on Artists and Creativity that will explore such questions, Bill Gladstone has interviewed two renowned and experienced worldly visual artists.

Next week, an interview with poet Robyn Sarah.

By BILL GLADSTONE

It was the 1936 movie *Rembrandt* starring Charles Laughton that persuaded then-14-year-old student Aba Bayefsky to switch from an academic stream to the art department at Toronto's Central Tech High School, but it was his experience as an official war artist in Europe during and immediately after World War II that instilled a deep and permanent sense in him of what he should be doing as an artist.

Accepted into the Royal Canadian Air Force, Bayefsky was on assignment at the 39th Reconnaissance Wing in Germany, situated next to Belsen concentration camp. It was the end of the war and Belsen had just been liberated. Bayefsky arrived there with his sketchbooks and witnessed first-hand some of the horrors that had befallen the Jewish people.

"I saw pits with thousands of dead bodies piled in them. They were just lumps, that's all. They had trucks backing up to these pits and they were just throwing them in. It had a profound impact on me. My impressions of Belsen have never gone away. They're with me today and I see them even more clearly as I grow older. It was a major experience of my life."

Bayefsky has been painting for at least 60 of his 75 years. Some of his Belsen canvases are on display at the Canadian War Museum in Ottawa, and his work is found in the Art Gallery of Ontario, Hart House, corporate halls and private homes. He has been exhibited in New York, Chicago, London, Tokyo and India.

His studio on King Street West in Toronto is filled with canvases and natural light. Having just returned from a visit to Israel, he has been producing a series of small pieces showing scenes from the Holy Land – the gates and greenery of Jerusalem, the mountains and plains of the Judean desert. The animated shapes and vibrant colors that mark his work are evident. So is the shining passion for life that jumps from the canvas.

"I'm concerned about making a statement with my work, about what I say as an artist. In the work that I did at Belsen and the post-Belsen work, I want to be clear in what I'm saying. How can I paint things other than those things that have some association with reality for me? I won't be critical about what other artists do, but art that doesn't say anything is just meaningless to me."

In seeking subject matter for his work, Bayefsky returns often to biblical and talmudic themes. He published a portfolio of paintings called *Tales From The Talmud*; the Canadian government gave a copy of the portfolio to the late Israeli prime minister Menachem Begin when he visited Canada.

Bayefsky has also made thousands of sketches and paintings of Kensington Market, the colorful downtown neighborhood that was once predominantly Jewish.

Bayefsky's compositions are also shaped by the mythologies, folk legends and tales of other cultures. He is as apt to explore talmudic subjects as he is to probe Indian or Islandic legends. He did a series of portraits of people with tattoos, even venturing to Japan where the tattooing art has reached a zenith. He's also made paintings related to the legendary North American outdoorsman Paul Bunyan.

"He's Canadian, by the way," Bayefsky declares with evident pride, referring to the larger-than-life folkloric woodsman. "Although the Americans claim him, he's from a lumber camp in Quebec."

If eclectic, colorful, contemporary and universal are words that might be used to describe Aba Bayefsky, another is accomplished. A member of the Order of Canada, he is a former president of the Canadian Group of Painters, the successor group to the famed Group of Seven. He is also dedicated to his craft. Although the necessity of a twice-weekly dialysis treatment has slowed him down lately, he still usually spends five or six full days a week in his studio.

"I am never blank. I have more material in my mind today than I can possibly use in a lifetime. Years ago, I made the philosophical decision of who I am and what I wanted to do. In other words, I'm not under any pressure for inspiration. I don't have to stimulate myself; it's all there.

"It took a lot of time for me to decide that reality was central to my thinking, that art and politics go hand and hand. I'm not talking about party politics, I'm talking about what life is. I don't like to think I'm affected by fashions or fads. I'm very serious about my work and I think it's not trivial. I believe that what I have to say is important, and I take strength from that."

* * *

Aba Bayefsky

Schwartze Chassane (Black Wedding) for instance, shows a group of Jews dancing and drinking eerily in a cemetery. The story supposedly originated in the era after the War of 1812 when Opatow was struck with a devastating cholera epidemic.

"The rabbi decided to have a wedding in the cemetery to petition the dearly departed to intervene with the Lord to help them with the epidemic," Kirshenblatt explains. "They danced and drank amidst the graves until late at night, and sure enough, two days later the epidemic subsided."

One painting shows another wedding, this one involving a hunchbacked bride in an advanced stage of pregnancy; Kirshenblatt claims it is based on a real episode. "The groom didn't want to marry her but he was forced into it. Twenty minutes after the marriage she had a nice baby boy."

When he began painting, Kirshenblatt enrolled in art lessons but quit after the first lesson. "They have nothing to teach me," he told his wife Dora. Then he began producing his extraordinary canvases, which seem the work of a Jewish male counterpart to Grandma Moses. The perspectives are flattened, the figures stylized, the somewhat surrealistic compositions laden with telling details. The works are narrative in the sense that each one tells a story.

"My husband, he's the kind of person who when he looks, he sees," says Dora Kirshenblatt. "We were after him for 10 years to get him to paint."

Kirshenblatt is nothing if not prolific. The walls of his house are covered with his creations and dozens more are in storage. In conversation, he gives the impression that his brain is equally overflowing with artistic ideas. Yet when asked where his creativity comes from, he shrugs. "I don't know, it's just there." How does he choose his subjects? "I don't consciously decide on a subject. It just comes to my mind and I do it."

His goal, the spry octogenarian declares, is to leave a legacy of works that reflect the richness of life in pre-war Poland. "I certainly do not wish to minimize or diminish the experience of Holocaust survivors, but they talk as though there was no life in Poland before the war. I say there was a life in Poland before the war, a very rich cultural life."

Mayer Kirshenblatt

The more he contemplates and discusses that lost world, the more he remembers of it, he says. And his art seems to spark more art. "I have a dialogue with each of my paintings," he says, explaining that he would rather keep them than sell them. So far he has sold only a few works and has priced the others high to discourage would-be buyers who encounter them in exhibitions.

"The purpose of the paintings is to perpetuate the memory of Jewish life in the small towns of Poland. For someone to take one of them and hang it in his room, where no one else would see it, wouldn't be fulfilling the purpose. That's not what I want."

Kirshenblatt has had major shows at the Koffler Gallery, the Royal Ontario Museum, the YIVO Institute in New York and other important venues. Toronto-based filmmaker Jack Kuper made a short documentary, *Shtetl*, on Kirshenblatt several years ago, and an American publishing house is currently producing a coffee-table book about him and his art for release next year. He eventually intends to bequeath his collection of works to a major Jewish institution, perhaps the Jewish Museum in New York.

In the meantime, he seems content to continue with his art. "My wife thinks I'm an artist, my children think I'm an artist, but me, I don't know," he offers. "I don't paint because of the money. I paint because I have a compulsion to paint. It beats watching TV."

For most of his adult life North York resident Mayer Kirshenblatt's hobby was sailing and taking camping trips into the bush. But at his family's repeated urging, the retired paint-and-wallpaper merchant took up the painter's easel about 1990 to record on canvas the many colorful scenes he remembered from his boyhood in Poland.

Kirshenblatt was born in 1916 in Opatow (Apt), a town he left with his mother and siblings in 1934 to join his father who was already in Toronto. Sixty-four years later, he spends much of his time creating primitivist folk paintings that recount in loving detail how life was in the world he left behind – a world that is no more.

His paintings show diverse scenes of Jewish life, such as the busy marketplace, the interior of the synagogue, an old-fashioned klezmer band, a funeral procession with professional mourners, and family groupings on ceremonial occasions. The paintings are vivid, colorful, richly detailed, and imbued with the sort of magical varnish that only a lifetime of memory can supply.

Some of the paintings illustrate old folk tales about Opatow.

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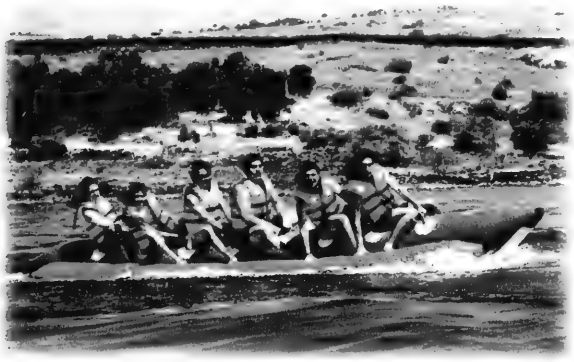
Canada Day on the Kinneret



Yom Canada (Canada Day) the largest gathering of Jewish youth in the world took place two weeks ago in Israel at Kfar Nofesh Amnun on the shores of Lake Kinneret. Sponsored by the Canada Israel Experience Centre, hundreds of Canadian youths in Israel for the summer on various Canada Israel Experience programs met at Amnun to celebrate Israel's 50th anniversary. Their celebration included watersports, a rock concert, live theatre, a barbecue and fireworks display. It was an opportunity for all Canadian participants in the Israel Experience programs to meet.

[All photos, save lower left, by Isranet]

Parliamentarians carry the flags. Seated, from left, Rob Ritter, executive director of the Canada-Israel Committee, John Baird, Dwight Duncan and Albina Guarnieri. Standing, from left, unidentified woman, Canadian Ambassador David Berger, Norman Doyle, Paddy Torsney, Carolyn Bennet and Marlene Jennings. *[UIA Federations Canada photo]*

Charles R. Bronfman, Naomi Abraham and Gavy Kroo light a torch.

The Inside Back

Preventing sexual harassment

The latest scandal involving alleged improprieties and intimate relationships among a district court judge, a member of the defence team (who had been his articling clerk) and the prime minister's spokesperson raises all sorts of legal and ethical questions.

It would be prudent to avoid making too many conclusions before we actually know what happened, but the story does raise the issue of sexual harassment in the workplace.

According to North American standards in recent years, virtually any relationship involving an employee and the person with power over her (or him) can be construed as harassment, since it is assumed that the employee is not in a position to make a real choice when a career is on the line.

On the other hand, Israeli attitudes have been different, looking to see whether there was in fact consent. The issue of whether the consent can be real in such situations has not been taken into account, and people have generally assumed that rational adults have the ability to make choices.

Thus, while many ethical issues have been raised in the context of the judge making overtures to his articling student leading to a relationship, few have suggested that she was a victim of sexual harassment.

In fact, a law passed recently bears directly on the question. The Law to Prevent Sexual Harassment, 5758-1998, passed reading in the Knesset on March 10. Section 3 (a) defines a list of actions which would be considered sexual harassment, including (but not limited to) repeated suggestions of a sexual nature to a person who has demonstrated that he or she is not interested.

The question, of course, is whether someone in a subservient position would feel free to demonstrate that he or she was not interested. Thus, the section creates certain presumptions, i.e. that such suggestions made to the following people, in the situations described, are considered harassment:

- a minor or helpless person, when the one making the suggestions takes advantage of a position of authority, dependency, education or treatment;
- a patient in the context of a medical or psychological treatment, when the person making the suggestions takes advantage of dependency;
- an employee in the context of an employment relationship or military service, when advantage is taken of a position of authority in such relationships.

Thus, when a person in authority takes advantage of the position to make sexual advances, it is considered sexual harassment, and in the employment situation, carries a punishment of two years imprisonment. If the victim can show that damage was caused as a result of the harassment or of the complaint, the jail term is three years. The victim may also receive compensation of up to 50,000 shekels (about $20,000 US). The statute of limitations is three years.

Furthermore, employers are now statutorily required to take steps to prevent sexual harassment in the workplace, including creating procedures for dealing with complaints and solving any such problems which arise. An employer who did not take these steps will be held liable for sexual harassment against employees in the place of work, even if the employer was not the one committing the harassment.

Opposition has been raised to the law, with critics arguing that it will stifle any real consensual relationships which might develop between people in the workplace, since if there is any kind of authority involved in the relationship, it is by definition illegal. To this, supporters of the law point out that when both parties consent, no complaint will be lodged. It remains to be seen whether that holds true after the relationship is broken off.

In any case, supporters of the law say that the chill it might place on office romance is a price worth paying to get the message across that sexual harassment is forbidden, and that there can be no real consent when one party is subject to the authority of the other.

The law may receive far fewer headlines than juicy stories of possible courtroom romances. Its supporters hope that it will nonetheless do much more to change attitudes and behavior, long after the recent scandals are forgotten.

Jonathan Shiff practises law in Jerusalem.

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1/3 cup butter	1 3/4 cups all-purpose flour
2/3 cup sugar	1/2 cup miniature semisweet chocolate pieces
2 tsp. baking powder	1/4 cup finely chopped walnuts
2 eggs	1 beaten egg yolk
1 tsp. vanilla	1 tblsp milk or water
1/3 cup unsweetened cocoa powder	

Beat butter until softened. Add sugar and baking powder. Beat until combined. Beat in eggs and vanilla. Beat in cocoa powder and as much flour as you can with the mixer. Stir in chocolate pieces and walnuts. Divide dough in half.

Lightly grease cookie sheet. Shape each portion into 9"x2"x1" loaf. Place loaves 4" apart on prepared cookie sheet. In small bowl stir together egg yolk and milk. Brush mixture over loaves. Bake 25 mins. at 375°F. Cool on cookie sheet for 30 mins.

Cut each loaf diagonally into 1/2" thick slices. Lay slices cut side down on cookie sheet. Bake 15 mins. at 325°F. Turn slices over. Bake 10-15 mins. more or until dry and crisp. Remove from cookie sheet and cool on wire rack. Store in airtight container at room temperature for up to 3 days.

About Life

Dear Ella,

Sonia and I have been best friends since we were in grade school. We've shared an apartment for three years, travelled through Europe, double dated together and have done almost everything there is to do while growing up. We are both 24 years old.

Sonia recently met a guy at a Jewish dance party. He seems nice; however, he certainly wouldn't have been my choice for her.

Since she met him about four months ago, I hardly ever speak to her and never get to see her anymore. She spends all her time with him and the excuses she has for not meeting me are endless.

I can't believe she has taken this guy, put him on a pedestal and tossed away our whole friendship.

I am angry and hurt and would like to know if you think I am out of line to feel this way.

Second to None

Dear Second to None,

I can understand the anger and hurt you are feeling. You are probably feeling a little left behind; however, you must realize that the two of you were going to Jewish dances to meet men. It's not realistic to think both of you would have met someone at exactly the same time.

The first thing you have to do is come to terms with the fact that there is someone new and obviously very important in Sonia's life. It's a new and exciting experience for her, and she is exploring and enjoying her relationship with this new boyfriend.

I believe the friendship the two of you had, has turned a corner onto a new road. Her head is probably in the clouds right now. However, it is not right for her not see or speak to you.

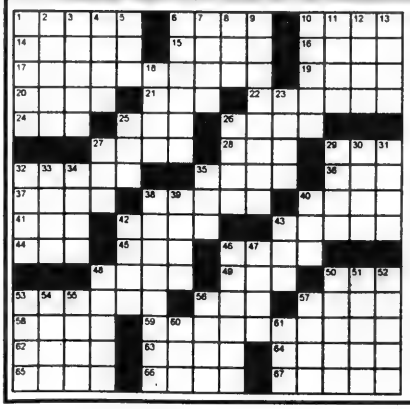
Try to be patient and let her explore this new avenue in her life. The things the two of you did together may be altered, as she is no longer looking for a mate and it's probably still a priority in your life.

Find new friends to do things with like going to singles dances.

Sonia probably doesn't realize how much she is hurting you. She is blissfully planted in her new world for the moment but the bond you and Sonia share goes far back. Give her some time and don't give up.

Readers may submit their questions to Ella at The CJN. *But Ella is not a professional counsellor. She brings to the questions posed by readers her unique brand of earthy wisdom. Her advice is not a replacement for medical, legal or any other advice. For serious problems, consult a professional*

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



Across

1. Cane for Moses
6. Leah and Zilpah
10. Hatikvah, The __
14. Rubenstein
15. Diary writer Frank
16. King of Judah
17. Actress
19. Moses' camouflage
20. Make the bagels
21. Shikker's choice?
22. Shofar blasts
24. Likely
25. Galilee to Golan (dir.)
26. Musician Getz
27. Refuseniks' home
28. Airport
29. "__ Promise", by Potok
32. Abba to Marceau
35. Name on towel
36. Parted Sea
37. Usurer's tool
38. Sounds the Shofar
40. Composer in the 30's
41. Asner and Koch
42. Banner designed by Wolffson
43. Birthplace to Amos
44. Soak
45. Rim
46. Commandment word
48. Minyans
49. Dotted vavs
50. Marceau character
53. Marranos' Jewishness
56. __ Carte
57. Afikoman action
58. Own
59. Temple builder from Babylon
62. Jan Peerce specialty
63. Twelve wells site
64. Scuba diving city?
65. Cut
66. Four to a dreidel
67. Delilah cut Samson's

Down

1. Murray lesson
2. Tsahal section
3. Israeli city
4. Overflowing
5. Make the Latkes?
6. Writer Norman
7. One time
8. Alphabet run
9. Ribicoff and Javits
10. Abram's brother
11. Grain measure
12. Nelly Sachs specialty
13. Tsitsit site
18. Cookingutensils
23. Yeladim (Eng.)
25. Haifa to Jerusalem (dir.)
26. Killed biblically
27. Vase
29. "Star__", Nimoy's series
30. Mordechai
31. Writer Ferber
32. Worked for El Al
33. Borne
34. Mizrach location
35. Chazzer
38. Blinis
39. Rounds for Spitz
40. Oakland A's Holtzman
42. Exodus
43. It is
46. Decibels
47. Seventh king
48. Nosh (Eng.)
50. History of the Jews
51. Einstein specialties
52. Jacob's disguise
53. Political party
54. Royal title
55. 107
56. Negev climate
57. Samson's strength
60. Wallach
61. Genesis starter

These puzzles are the work of Kathi Handler of Waterbury, Connecticut.

(Last week's answers are on page 38.)

On Campus

Lessons of unity mission being felt in Toronto

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — An innovative campus program run as a pilot project earlier this year is expected to have a long-term ripple effect.

In her capacity as religious affairs chair for the University of Toronto's Jewish Students' Union (JSU), Nesya Goldberg, a student at U of T, is already putting into practice what she learned on a Unity Mission run by Jewish Campus Services (JCS).

Goldberg, who is beginning her second year in the position, says the mission – a weekend study trip to New York that included visits to Jewish pluralist organizations like CLAL - The National Jewish Centre for Learning and Leadership – has given her a new perspective.

"I don't think I've been changed as a Jew, but I think I've been changed as a person," said Goldberg. "The more I learn, the better person I become. If we're going to be the leaders of tomorrow, it's a good start.

"There are certain things we'll never agree on. I won't try to have a joint [Orthodox-Reform] prayer service, but I would add something to the blessings at the end of a meal. The lesson I took out of it is that we should be focusing on points we have in common."

The weekend was spent in "constant intense conversation," said student Sarah Kligman. Although as a Reform Jew she felt proud when the group visited Hebrew Union College, she said the most important lessons the students learned were from each other.

The trip opened Noam Samson's eyes to Conservative and Reform Judaism, the Orthodox student said. "I never really heard the theology from [rabbis and lay people] within the movements."

York University student Sidura Ludwig, the driving force behind the literary magazine *Dorot*, found the trip "challenging. It made me realize I'm not as tolerant as I like to think I am. Even I, who strive to be very tolerant, I have my boundaries."

For Tally Wolf, the importance of the trip was in coming together with others she would not have met otherwise, and learning that they can work together despite their differences.

Plans are under way for a second unity mission. The pilot, funded with a one-time endowment from Hillel International, has paved the way for JCS to receive a $5,000 grant from UJA Federation to underwrite this year's program.

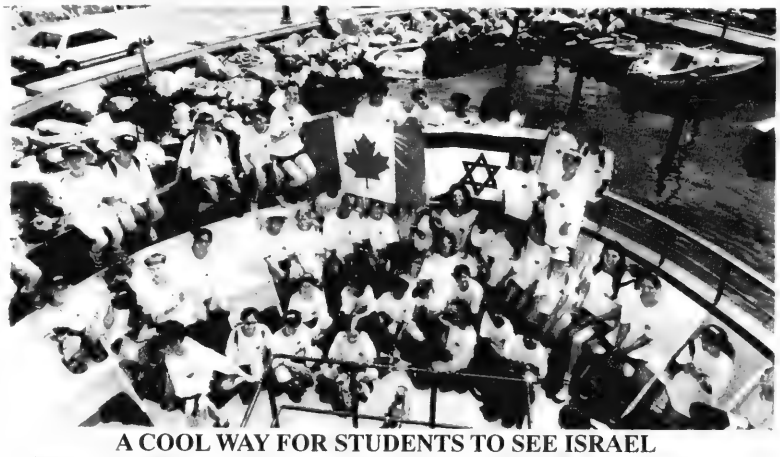
Applicants must demonstrate leadership qualities and a relationship with and commitment to Jewish life as well as to their particular movement, said Lance Davis, who was recently appointed JCS director of education. (Previously he served as program director at U of T's JSU.)

This year, as last year, said Davis, participants will explore Reform, Conservative and Orthodox Judaism. This year, however, the program will take place in December rather than late January to give students more time for follow-up activities. This year's alumni worked together to plan one program, a beit midrash in honor of Rabbi Michael Skobac, when he left JCS to work for Jews for Judaism.

The venue will also change this year. Participants will travel to Boston, where Davis hopes to tap into resources including Brandeis University and the local federation, which is "really a dynamic one in their approach to pluralism."

Davis based the program on one for lay leaders run by the Synagogue Council of Massachusetts. He participated in it about four years ago as a graduate student in Boston.

"We're really looking towards the future," said Davis. His hope is that the Unity Mission and programs like it will foster debate and ultimately dialogue.



A COOL WAY FOR STUDENTS TO SEE ISRAEL

Participants on Kefiada enjoy an excursion along Israel's coast. The summer program, whose name is derived from the Hebrew word meaning fun or cool, is sponsored by UIA Federations Canada and brings Canadian Jewish university students to Israel to work with youngsters at community centre camps.

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Diaspora education debated

By LIAT COLLINS
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Some 70 percent of Diaspora Jewish youth get no Jewish education, according to figures presented last week to the Knesset Immigration and Absorption Committee, which discussed Jewish education in the world.

The committee also reviewed a plan that would bring Jewish youths to Israel for 10-day visits in the year 2000, in a project jointly funded by the state and foreign donors.

"The state should take more responsibility on itself for the whole Jewish people, and be much more involved in the overseas communities," committee chair Naomi Blumenthal (Likud) said. "It's almost the only guarantee of the continued existence of the Jewish people in the Diaspora."

Israel to try to reduce Jewish school tuitions

Amos Hermon, who chairs the board of the Jewish Agency's education division, reported that only 30 percent of Jewish youth in the Diaspora get any Jewish education.

He said some 15,000 young people from western countries visit Israel annually at the initiative of the Jewish Agency, and another 100,000 Jewish youths take part in summer camps abroad operated by the Jewish Agency.

He said the Jewish Agency's operations are dependent on donated funds, which are dropping.

"The government must recognize that the young generation in the Diaspora represents a strategic asset and should invest suitable resources to bring the younger generation closer to Israel," Hermon said.

The prime minister's adviser for Diaspora affairs, Bobby Brown, told the committee the premier had agreed to establish a fund run by the state, Jewish groups and Jewish donors "which aims to bring every Diaspora Jewish child for a visit to Israel as early as by the year 2000."

He said the government is also acting to try to reduce the high tuitions in Jewish schools abroad.

Continued on page 29

Ukraine Jews surprise rabbi

By LEV KRICHEVSKY
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

KHMELNITSKI, Ukraine — Rabbi Adin Steinsaltz knows a lot about Jewish life in Ukraine.

But on a recent trip to Jewish communities and sites in southwestern Ukraine, the acclaimed talmudic translator and commentator still found a few surprises – one being that a large number of Jews here speak Yiddish.

In the small town of Shargorod, Rabbi Steinsaltz spoke Yiddish with Jewish passers-by in the old part of town, which once had a thriving Jewish community and now has only about 100 Jews.

Feature

Rabbi Steinsaltz, who usually lectures in Hebrew, also spoke in Yiddish to the communities he met on this trip.

While some of the Jews in their 40s and 50s here understand Yiddish, most of the speakers of the language of eastern European Jewry in Podolia, as this region is known, are older.

For Rabbi Steinsaltz, the lesson is clear: "The fact that Yiddish is widely understood here means that the process of assimilation in Ukraine is one generation behind the assimilation in most of the former Soviet Union," he said.

Rabbi Steinsaltz, a 61-year-old Jerusalem rabbi and talmudic scholar who has served as a spiritual leader for Jews in the former Soviet Union since 1995, travelled through the region earlier this month with a group of 20 Jewish community leaders from the former Soviet Union.

The group, known as Chaverim, consists of individuals who take part in Rabbi Steinsaltz-led seminars throughout Russia and Ukraine.

This time, most of the seminar was conducted on the bus while the group was travelling between cities.

Rabbi Steinsaltz told the students – aged 25 to 52 – about the life and writings of the chassidic leaders who once lived in the area. The students also studied parts of the Talmud.

Continued on page 29

Rabbi Adin Steinsaltz confers with friends as he walks through one of the towns he recently visited in southwestern Ukraine. *[JTA photo]*

INSIDE

The Knesset has recessed for three months. It closed with a rare vote for dissolution won by the opposition 60–6. *Please see page 9.*

Iranian missiles worry Israel — please see page 27

The News in Brief

CANADA

Artifacts exhibited

TORONTO — Military artifacts from Israel's War of Independence are on display at the Silverman Heritage Museum of Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care.

The items are on loan from Yael Dunkelman, whose husband, Ben, was a distinguished colonel in the 1948 war of liberation. Among the artifacts are military insignia from all the brigades that fought in the War of Independence.

ISRAEL

Canadians Honored

JERUSALEM — At the 25th graduation exercises of the Jerusalem College of Technology – Machon Lev (JCT) two Canadians were recognized for their outstanding work on behalf of the college.

Henry Zieleniec was honored with the highest award the college presents, the Honorary Fellowship, for his longtime service to Jewish causes in general and to JCT in particular. Honorary Fellowships are awarded for outstanding achievement, professional excellence and dedicated community service.

Preceding the graduation ceremony, David Anisman was honored for his years of devotion to the college, the with dedication of the Sandra and David Anisman Garden on the JCT campus.

Immigrants Live in Poverty

HAIFA — Israel's absorption minister said steps must be taken to remedy a situation in which more than "90 percent of Ethiopian immigrant children live below the poverty line and 85 percent of them grow up in slums."

Yuli Edelstein made the comment during a ceremony honoring Yitzhak Dasa, a graduate of the University of Haifa Law School, who is the first member of the Ethiopian immigrant community to become a lawyer.

Dr. Avi Yizhak, the community's first doctor, was also honored at the ceremony.

Israel Softens Demands

JERUSALEM — Israel softened some of its key demands in negotiations with the Palestinian Authority, according to Israeli media reports. But Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said major issues were still in dispute, including the scope of a further Israeli redeployment in the West Bank and Jerusalem's demand that the anti-Israeli clauses in the Palestinian charter be rescinded.

Number of Apartments Up

JERUSALEM — Israel built twice as many apartment buildings in settlements in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip during the first quarter of 1998 as it did in the same period last year, according to the Central Bureau of Statistics. Israel built 730 apartment units, as opposed to 310 in 1977, the bureau said.

Israeli officials said the construction reflected natural growth in already-existing settlements. The Peace Now organization said the building activity proves that Netanyahu was not interested in peace with the Palestinians.

Israelis Urged to Fly BA

JERUSALEM — Haredi newspapers are urging their readers to fly British Airways instead of El Al or other carriers. The papers cite the modest dress of stewardesses on the British carrier and the film-free seating areas it has set up for its Tel Aviv runs. The call came as British Airways announced it would soon add one flight to its Tel Aviv-London route, bringing the weekly total of such flights to 15.

WORLD

Crosses Erected

AUSCHWITZ — Polish Catholics recently erected more than 50 crosses near the Auschwitz death camp. The crosses, which were reportedly put up by a Catholic workers group as part of a campaign, are standing near a crucifix set up a number of years ago to commemorate a visit by Pope John Paul II. Jewish groups have been seeking to remove all Christian symbols from areas surrounding the camp.

Workers Not Compensated

BERLIN — One of Germany's largest construction companies said it refused to compensate slave workers from World War II who helped build an airstrip for the company. Officials from Zueblin said the company was not liable because the laborers had worked for the Nazi SS. Volkswagen announced earlier this month it would create a fund to handle the claims of former slave workers.

Woman Chaplain Dies

NEW YORK — Rabbi Chana Timoner, the first Jewish woman to serve as a full-time chaplain in the U.S. army, died recently at age 46. Rabbi Timoner was endorsed to serve in the army by a chaplaincy division of the Jewish Community Centres Association of North America.

Rabbi Timoner began her religious training at the age of 33. She received her ordination from the Academy for Jewish Religion in New York City and studied for her doctorate at the New York Theological Seminary. She joined the Army Reserves at 39 and began her first full-time assignment a year later at Fort Bragg, N.C., where she served Jewish soldiers and their families, arranged holiday celebrations, conducted religious services, and directed children and adult Jewish education programs.

CJC Salutes Dominican Republic

JERUSALEM — At a special Israel Council on Foreign Relations meeting held here recently, Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) joined other leaders in paying tribute to the Dominican Republic on the 60th anniversary of the Evian Conference.

CJC president Moshe Ronen and national executive director and general counsel Jack Silverstone recalled how 31 countries convened at the French resort town in July 1938 to discuss ways to find sanctuary for Jewish refugees fleeing from Nazi Germany and Austria. The Dominican Republic stood out among the rest and agreed to accept a significant number of involuntarily emigrants and provide facilities for their settlement, they noted.

"Sadly, even our own country of Canada was unwilling to help. The Canadian delegate announced that his country was only interested in accepting farmers, which was the equivalent of Ottawa barring Jews from seeking refuge there," said Ronen.

The event honored Dominican Republic Minister of Foreign Affairs Dr. Eduardo Latorre, who later met with Ronen. "I told him that Canada has a large number of Holocaust survivors and that they appreciate the efforts of [his] country.

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CNE to feature Israel at 50 Pavilion

DANIEL WOLGELERENTER
Student Intern

TORONTO — Tired of the midway and sick of the Food Building? Need a good reason to spend your hard-earned dollars on the Ex this year?

The organizers of the Israel at 50 Pavilion at the upcoming Canadian National Exhibition (CNE) think they have one for you.

"It's the largest celebration of Israel's 50th outside of Israel... It's the next best thing to being in Israel itself," says Karen Morton, chair of the Israel at 50 Pavilion.

In the planning since last August, the 107,000-square-foot pavilion in the new National Trade Centre (NTC) just inside the Princes' Gate is presented by the Israel at 50 consortium of 175 Toronto-area organizations, under the auspices of UJA Federation and the Consulate General of Israel.

Morton says the pavilion is aimed at non-Jews as well as Jews, given that organizers expect 1.5 million visitors and there are only about 160,000 Jews in the GTA.

The NTC will also house the CNE's feature country, the Philippines, which will occupy 60,000 sq. ft., and a 57,000-sq.-ft. international vendors pavilion.

Morton's 115-member committee originally envisioned a much smaller Israel at 50 exhibit that would tour local shopping malls. But CNE officials were excited when approached about featuring Israel, Morton says, since it's "one of their hot-button countries." She says CNE polling consistently ranks Israel among the top six potential feature countries people would like to see.

General manager David Bednar says the CNE expects the pavilion to help its overall attendance, but it's very difficult to know how much until exit and entrance research is done during the fair.

"Obviously, we think [the pavilion's impact on attendance will be] significant," says Bednar, adding that the Israel exhibit is one of four main attractions being promoted this year, along with the Philippines, a Disney show and a car show.

And although the CNE has received no advance indication of problems resulting from the Israel at 50 Pavilion, Bednar says, "It's fair to say that we're at a little higher security watch with this than we have been with others in the past."

The pavilion has been financed from corporate donations, volunteering and private "gifts in kind," such as lumber and gravel, Morton says, and the CNE is providing infrastructure and matching funds up to a yet-unspecified amount.

Because of the heavy volunteer contingent and gifts in kind, as well as the still-to-come donations, she says "there's just no way to give a price tag" for the exhibit, except that "it's the largest undertaking that the Jewish community has ever taken on."

Abraham is asked to sacrifice his son Isaac in this Greek-inscribed detail from a fifth-century Galilean mosaic to be featured at the Israel at 50 Pavilion at the 1998 CNE. [UJA Federation photo]

The pavilion's marquee attraction is a fifth-century mosaic from an excavated synagogue in the Galilean town of Tzippori, Israel. It depicts scenes relevant to Christianity, Islam and Judaism – including the sacrifice of Isaac by Abraham from Genesis.

Discovered in 1994 by a team of Hebrew University archeologists, it's the 45 ft. x 13 ft. mosaic's first trip abroad to a non-museum setting. The Royal Ontario Museum (ROM) is overseeing the mosaic's installation.

Another key piece of artwork is *The Mission*, a 38 ft. x 7 ft. mural by Toronto artist Dubi Arie depicting 4,000 years of Jewish history. To be featured in the pavilion's 12,000-sq.-ft. desert exhibit, it took the Israeli-born Arie 20 years to complete.

Morton expects the desert "is going to be a huge draw.

"When you see the the number of plants that are going in and the amount of sand, it's mind-blowing," she says.

[Cont'd. on page 22]

Dispute simmering over kosher meat

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A dispute is simmering between Levitt's meats of Montreal and Toronto-based COR.

Levitts, which has been under the supervision of MK, recently came under that of Star-K of Baltimore as well. Spokesperson Lorne Brookman told *The CJN* that the second hechscher would help the company sell its products in international markets.

Although details are sketchy, the dispute with COR appears to be about COR's refusal to allow Levitt's fresh meats to be sold in Toronto, although its packaged and vacuum-packed meat is available here.

Rabbi Mordechai Levin, executive director of COR, said that the kashruth of Levitt's is in no way in question.

Murray Brookman, owner of Levitt's, said that he has been told by COR at various times that the reason for the refusal is that he is not shomer Shabbat, or that Toronto is a "closed city." This term means that only meat slaughtered in Toronto can be sold in Toronto.

Brookman objected to both explanations. He said that Levitt's has been in business for 60 years, and so MK, the supervisory body in Montreal, which also insists on the owner of a kosher food business being a Sabbath observer, has invoked a grandfather clause in its hechscher.

As to Toronto being a closed city, Brookman pointed out that there is already a company under COR that imports meat slaughtered elsewhere.

Contrary to rumors circulating in the city, a lawsuit has not been commenced.

The problem is currently in the hands of lawyers for both sides. A meeting is planned for sometime in August.

Rabbi Levin said that he did not wish to comment on the situation until after that meeting.

The CJN will be following the story.

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From the editor's desk

A look at recent events

I write these words on the eve of Tisha b'Av. As everyone knows, on the tear-stained parchment pages of Jewish history, many national sadnesses and calamities have been inscribed on this date. The rabbis therefore marked the day with melancholy and set it aside for individual and collective introspection.

Inasmuch as Tisha b'Av demands honesty and humility for true and sincere introspection, it is an appropriate backdrop to reflect upon recent developments in the Jewish world.

Israel is the centre of the Jewish world. It therefore makes sense to look there first.

Israel is an exciting, dynamic place, at the cutting edge of many educational, scientific, medical, artistic, military and industrial fields. But there are deep and very worrisome societal tensions.

Some of these tensions converged last week around the final stormy debate of the Knesset before it recessed for summer.

The opposition parties had tabled a resolution calling for the dissolution of parliament, a tactic normally seen as a precursor to an election. The final vote was 60-6 in favor of the resolution. The prime minister and most of his coalition colleagues boycotted the vote, but even so it was viewed by most commentators and, more importantly, by the public, as a stunning rebuke to him.

Four members of the coalition supported the opposition proposal, including former finance minister Dan Meridor and three members of the Third Way party among whom was Prof. Alex Lubotsky, one of the seven members of the Ne'eman Committee who labored so hard and so purposefully to bring forward recommendations aimed at bridging the divide among the three streams of practising Judaism.

Also voting with the opposition was the former foreign minister of the government, David Levy, and the three other members of his Gesher party.

Opposition gambits and parliamentary ploys are the common stuff of all democracies. There was, therefore, nothing "new," in last week's opposition manoeuvre in the Knesset.

But still somehow, the one-sided outcome and the severely hostile nature of the verbal exchanges preceding the vote were symptomatic of a larger malaise with government and public institutions that appears to have grabbed hold of the country.

The peace process of course is the first tug upon the country's existential angst. The vast majority of Israelis support the process but are divided essentially into two camps as to the manner in which they should do so.

Thus the process drags, if not stagnates. And May 1999, the date by which the Oslo accords were to have been implemented, looms as a potential flashpoint.

But the peace process is "merely" the first of these existential tugs. There is also the ever-present, ever-tragic security situation on the northern border. Last week another soldier was killed and five more were wounded in southern Lebanon.

The economy is another tug. The exuberant industrial and commercial growth of the past half decade appears to have virtually halted. Unemployment is at a record high. Despite the rate of unemployment, however, there is the anomalous and particularly piercing fact that Israel employs a relatively high number of foreign workers. As of the end of 1996 there were nearly 160,000 foreign workers in the country, of whom, the Central Bureau of Statistics states, some 74,000 were in the country illegally.

The most disheartening development last week however, was the "reinjuring" of old ethnic wounds.

In an inexplicable demonstration of crude, self-indulgent pique, Knesset member Ori Orr chose to cast aspersions on an entire group of people, namely Jews of Moroccan extraction.

In an interview published last Wednesday in *Ha'aretz*, Orr made wildly generalized, outrageous comments about Israel's Moroccan Jews.

"I am really sad because I thought it would take less time to bridge the gap between us and the immigrants from the '50s," Orr said. "I now understand that the gap is still too wide. I expected a new leadership from the Sephardi community, sufficiently open to talk to people like me unreservedly, but this has not happened. High calibre individuals…have not emerged from among them."

Orr was clearly expressing frustrations, malign and misguided, that stemmed from the political failure of his party. "I am depressed because everything we have done for them has not helped at all. The fact that we raised the level of education, lessened poverty, set up a momentum for development and furthered the weaker layers, does not mean anything to them. You see, they voted for [Benjamin] Netanyahu in the last elections."

Orr's outburst was petulant and harmful. It perpetuated stereotypical, ignorant judgments about an entire group of people. This was inexcusable. He apologized. He was suspended from all official party positions. He may soon also be expelled from his party.

But far worse, as has been happening in other areas of collective Jewish society, Orr drew false and needless distinctions between Jews. He divided Jews. He created categories of Jews. He spoke of *us* and *them*.

The Knesset has recessed for three months. In the interim, and especially on the eve of Tisha b'Av, we must all reflect on whether we are relieving or contributing to the deep and very worrisome societal tensions.

—MBD

Israel's Jubilee 50 — *from the archives*

FORMER "PRISONERS OF ZION" REUNITE

Natan Sharansky hugs and greets Ida Nudel at Ben-Gurion Airport upon her arrival in Israel in 1987.

[Keren Hayesod – UIA Communications photo]

* * *

For the latest in *Israel at 50* news, check out the *Israel at 50* Web site: [www.feduja.org] or call the *Israel at 50* hotline 416-635-2883 ext. 706.

Greater Toronto Area

School shows immigrant kids the beauty of Judaism

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — For 20 years, Russian immigrant children have spent their Sundays at Orah School, discovering their Jewish heritage.

In the process, they also make new friends and have a great time, said Rabbi Yosef Michalowicz, co-principal, along with Dina Polyak.

The school is trilingual – English, Russian and Hebrew – and serves children who have just come from the former Soviet Union (FSU), have come via Israel, or those who have been in Canada for a while.

The difficulty of dealing with students who are working at different levels is addressed by the low student-teacher ratio. Every class has both a senior teacher, accredited by the Board of Jewish Education, and an assistant teacher, often a student from Bais Yaakov or Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto (CHAT).

The school day goes from 9:45 a.m. to 3:45 p.m., and includes a kosher lunch. Judaic studies, including davening, history, Jewish ritual and practices, and Hebrew language, are taught until 2:15, after which there is an hour and a half of Russian heritage.

"We really try to make the day fun," said Rabbi Michalowicz. There are a lot of games and "experiential learning," which is done through such activities as the Pesach carnival.

The school is very reality oriented, he said, with the students going to a matzah factory, visiting the kosher departments at IGA or viewing videos.

The children are often sent to public school because their parents want them to be Canadian, Rabbi Michalowicz said. "We want to show them that they can be both Canadian and Jewish. We want them to see the beauty of Judaism."

Attempts are made to make the students feel part of the community, and they participate in such things as the United Jewish Appeal Walkathon, a concert at Cheltenham Nursing Home, or in community contests.

Orah, which originally met at Eitz Chaim's Patricia campus, is now located at Associated Hebrew Schools Finch branch. There are 65 students enrolled between kindergarten and bar or bat mitzvah age.

The fee, for those who can pay, is $600. Many are on partial or complete subsidies.

Up to now, funding for Orah came mainly from Federation, through an Integration grant. Other funds come from the North York Board of Education International Languages program, from tuition, and from some fundraising.

Federation is now insisting that the school itself raise some $15,000 to $20,000, a daunting task considering the proportionately few Russian Jews who opt for a Jewish education for their children.

And that in itself is a concern, Rabbi Michalowicz said, noting that of the approximately 3,000 children of the 30,000 Russian Jews who are halachically Jewish, only about 500 are getting any Jewish education, whether at Orah, the Jewish Russian Community Centre, Aish Hatorah or in the day school system.

"That means the silent majority has nothing."

Besides fundraising, Federation wants to increase involvement by the Russian community. Currently, only one-quarter of the board is Russian.

Rabbi Michalowicz insisted that "it is the community's responsibility to help them. They maintained Yiddishkeit [in the FSU] for three generations – then they come here and lose it."

Tax rebate program a success for Mazon

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A program in which taxpayers donate their Ontario tax rebates towards the alleviation of child poverty and hunger has proven a roaring success, according to figures released recently by Mazon Canada.

Since being inaugurated in the spring of 1997, the program has raised more than $30,000. Mazon allocated $9,800 of that sum last spring, part of its $149,550 distribution to Canadian organizations addressing the issue of hunger in the community.

The spring allocation was Mazon's highest in its 11-year history, bringing to $1,389,045 the accumulated total of distributions since its launch in the spring of 1987.

The tax rebate program is the brainchild of Rabbi Arthur Bielfeld, a member of Mazon's board of directors. Together with the social action committee of Temple Emanuel, Rabbi Bielfeld conceived of the tax rebate plan.

In other developments, Mazon continues to attempt to raise awareness of the issue of hunger in Canada. Mazon, which bills itself as the Jewish response to hunger, offers a speakers bureau, an educational program for children and a youth poster contest. It is planning a kosher gourmet food and wine tasting for the spring of 1999 and it is considering launching a Web site, if it can find a volunteer to design and set up the site.

At its annual meeting recently, Susan Davis was elected Mazon's president, taking over from Roger Hyman. Davis is former executive director of Jewish Immigrant Aid Services. Jeff Zeifman is Mazon's vice-president and Tammy Anklewicz continues as secretary/treasurer.

Toronto Jewish Teachers' Seminary

מדרשה למורים

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יום ראשון	יום שני	יום שלישי	יום רביעי	יום חמישי
הספרות העברית בעת החדשה: מתקופת ההשכלה ועד ימינו.	הוראת היסטוריה: גישות ודרכי הוראת היסטוריה יהודית בתקופות שונות.	ספרות ילדים עברית; תכנים, ערכים, נתוח ספרותי ודרכים להוראת ספרות עברית לילדים.	מתודולוגיה של הוראת פרק בתנ"ך; דיון והצעות מעשיות להוראה.	הדרכה רעיונית ומעשית להוראת המקרא; הוראת התנ"ך וגיבוש זהות יהודית. מה ללמד וכיצד.
מ. פז (10-12)	ש. שאנני (7-9 בערב)	י.זליגר (7-9 בערב)	ס.אילת (7-9 בערב)	הרב י.אונטרמן (7-9 בערב)
עולם התפילות; מבנה ומבוא לסידור רקע היסטורי ודיון פילוסופי. דרכים ומתודות להוראת התפילה.	שיטה חדשנית להוראת תנ"ך; הבנת פרקי תנ"ך דרך המבנה הכללי ובחירת פרשנים בהתחשב בשיקולים פדגוגיים.	Jewish Family Education Sessions T.B.A. (7 - 9 pm)	חגי ישראל וארץ ישראל; הוראת מועדי ישראל תוך כדי עיון במקורות, ביסודות מקומיים ובנתיב הזמן.	חמש מגילות - דרכי הוראה. בחינת המגילות מזוית הסטורית, ספרותית ודתית. דמויות ומסרים חינוכיים.
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מדרש האגדה; לימוד משותף במדרשי האגדה תוך הדגשת הצד החינוכי-פסיכולוגי. הנחייה מתודית להוראת מדרשים בכיתה.	ארון הספרים היהודי; היצירה היהודית לדורותיה. הכרת פרשנות התנ"ך, עולם ההלכה (שולחן ערוך, וכו') ודרכים בהוראת טקסטים.			
הרב א.מאירמן (2-4)	ש. קרש (2-4)			
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FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT; Yael Seliger at (416) 633-7770 ex. 236
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Jews for Judaism

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Frank Mayer and his family
on the loss of Mr. Mayer's father.

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Horrors of apartheid regime prompted woman to action

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A dead child considered unimportant and its mother's grief insignificant, because both were black. A child with a cleft palate sent home after major surgery with no instructions or supplies for care, for the same reason. Apartheid.

Experiences like these in her work at Capetown's Groote Schuur Hospital opened the eyes and changed the life of speech pathologist Helen Lieberman, a native of South Africa.

"I was appalled at the attitudes I saw from the staff. I couldn't figure out why there was a different feeling about black people." Even she felt that way, she told *The CJN* during a recent visit to Toronto.

She began to look around her, and didn't like what she saw: synagogue officials who didn't understand the situation; segregated care, doors, elevators in her hospital; family maids who couldn't sit on the couch or use the indoor toilet.

"I couldn't live knowing that a few kilometres away there was decay. I became a wanderer, trying to change a situation enforced by a maniacal system."

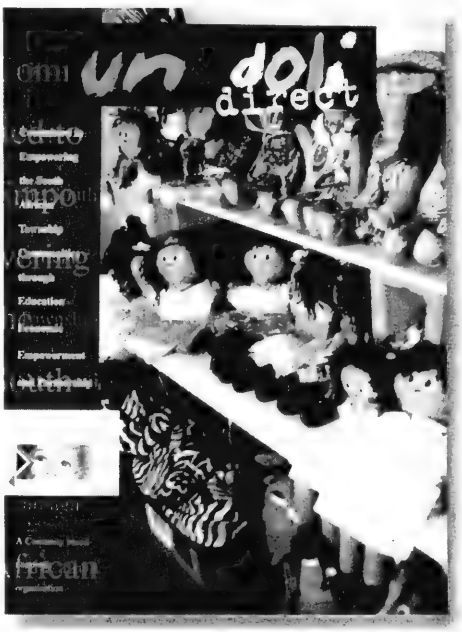
Lieberman began to make secret visits to the black townships. She learned that 100 people lived in a tiny area, with one toilet and one tap. Hundreds of children whose mothers were working for the affluent white community were cared for by untrained women in a room with no ventilation or light, and forced to stay quiet by the threat of being beaten.

Housing was primitive at best. Those who worked in the cities had long, arduous commutes. Education was virtually non-existent.

She began, privately, "as a Jewish woman," to try to help the people in the townships by bringing medical supplies, teaching, founding schools (one school, Crossroads, was the first school Nelson Mandela went to after his release from prison), establishing seniors' centres.

Official reaction to her work was swift and uncompromising. She was threatened, constantly followed, and had her phone tapped. The police created a massive file on her. Periodically she was arrested.

She was especially hurt by the members of the Jewish community who cut her and her husband off, partly in disgust with what she was doing, partly in fear of being involved in illegal activity.



The *unodoli direct* catalogue produced by the non-profit community-based South African organization Ikamva Labantu features dark-skinned dolls made in disadvantaged South African black townships.

With the end of apartheid, she was asked to be partners with the government in various projects. "It was a tribute not to me, but to the process and the people," Lieberman said wryly.

She realized, she said, that although people had the vote, they were still locked in the cycle of poverty.

An organization called Ikamva Labantu (the future of the nation) was formed as a way of bringing financial stability to residents of the townships, especially the elderly and disabled.

Its workshops turn out dolls (black dolls, which, she said, were never available before) with colorful, sometimes native costumes, stuffed animals and puppets and dresses and backpacks in the shape of a lion, a zebra or a doll.

They are all handmade (stuffed by blind workers), in vibrant blues, greens, yellows, pinks, oranges.

One of the most popular dolls is Madiba, the original Nelson Mandela doll, dressed in the distinctive African shirt preferred by Mandela.

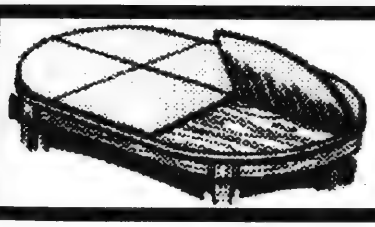
Other workshops produce pottery, bricks, jewelry. A choir has achieved great results.

Why is she doing all this? First, she believes that "a Jew is not just a Jew for other Jews, but for all the world."

Even more so, though, is her blunt assertion, "I am African. I relate to [other] South African citizens as a part of me."

While here, Lieberman tried to get the products of Ikamva Labantu into gift shops and craft shops.

For more information about Lieberman or Ikamva Labantu, call Edye Troper, 416-531-7444, or fax 416-531-1666.



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Blackmail too?

The Swiss government has written to the leaders of every American state and to the leaders of 15 major cities, strongly suggesting that they rethink the possibility of imposing sanctions on Swiss banks as a result of the still unresolved Holocaust-related claims upon the banks.

In a letter to the Americans, Alfred Defago, Swiss ambassador to the United States, and Thomas Borer, head of the Swiss committee dealing with Holocaust-related claims, warned that sanctions would be "a major mistake."

"We understand the strong emotions raised by this issue. But we are also deeply concerned that sanctions imposed against the Swiss economy could trigger a vicious circle of threats and counter-measures that could endanger the Swiss-American relationship, adversely affect open markets in financial services and ultimately derail a process that is designed to achieve justice for the survivors of the Holocaust," the two men wrote.

As reported in *The CJN* last week, a number of American states, including California, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Florida, have already taken punitive measures against Swiss banks for their unwillingness to arrive at a reasonable and honorable settlement. New York State and New York City may soon impose sanctions of their own. They have set Sept. 1 as the deadline for the Swiss banks to reach an agreement with the claimants.

Ironically, the Swiss government is not the only party urging a retreat from sanctions. The Clinton administration has also appealed for restraint in the matter. Washington has observed the hardening of attitudes within many circles in Switzerland – in high bureaucratic offices and in the low gutters of the street – on the subject of the unresolved Holocaust claims, and is worried lest U.S.-Swiss financial ties be impaired. Of course, the uppermost concern for Washington is jobs, specifically, the approximately half a million American jobs that are directly tied to Swiss firms.

But the uppermost concern for the claimants, for the Jewish community and, it is heartening to add – as attested by the bold actions of some American states – for countless, ordinary, decent Americans, is justice. It is, therefore, wistfully ironic to note the reference in the Swiss letter to the letter-writers' worry that the "process designed to achieve justice for the survivors of the Holocaust," might be derailed by sanctions.

The process is already derailed.

Talks between the Swiss banks and the claimants have broken off. They were suspended when the banks presented a take-it-or-leave-it offer of $600 million (US). By even the most conservative of estimates, their figure is many hundreds of millions of dollars inadequate.

But "the issue is not one of money," as Israel Singer, general-secretary of the World Jewish Congress, has repeatedly told the Swiss. The issue is "moral restitution."

Singer minced no words in describing the negotiating behavior of the banks. "We are ashamed of the lies that have been used to scuttle the talks. These talks did not break down by mistake. They were broken down by an absence of good faith, by an absence of fair play, by an absence of attempting to deal with the question of moral restitution."

Perhaps moral restitution is a concept the Swiss bankers do not comprehend. There is no line item for it on a financial statement; nor is it a required disclosure to shareholders and potential investors.

But it is a concept on which justice rests. And justice, as our sages have taught us, is one of the vital pedestals supporting the very survival of the world.

The record has amply shown, going back to the 1940s, that the Swiss banks have acted with deceit and dishonor. Will they now add blackmail to that list too?

WISDOM OF THE AGES

"What bothers you a little before the wedding, will bother you a lot afterwards." ***Yiddish saying***

Dry Bones

IN THIS POST SOVIET-AMERICAN COLD WAR PERIOD...
INDIA-PAKISTAN
THE INDEPENDENT NATIONS OF THE PLANET HAVE SHOWN THEIR ABILITY
ETHIOPIA ERITREA
TO BOMB, KILL AND THREATEN EACH OTHER
YUGOSLAVIA ALBANIA
ENTIRELY WITHOUT THE ASSISTANCE OF ANY SUPER POWER SUPPORT!

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Singles frozen out of Toronto Jewish community

Your recent article, "In Search of the 'perfect' Jewish Mate" (*CJN*, July 16), gave a limited and unremarkable account of the Toronto Jewish singles scene.

Let's get to the point here and mention what does not speak well of the Toronto Jewish community. A couple of simple questions expose its efforts as only parsimonious.

Which singles have the most difficult time connecting? Those that don't come from Toronto. And why? Because Torontonians are not very good at outreach or home hospitality with unaffiliated individuals whose backgrounds they do not know. And all the organized groups in the world do not bring out complaisant, home-based Torontonians. Those who already have circles of friends and routines have no need or desire to explore or extend themselves to those who may initially have a different status.

The same single people take part in all the services listed in the article. Different groups do not cater to different people. No matter which group it is, however "interesting" the speaker or event, most people are there with the same agenda – they want to meet someone and need help to do so. So called "artsy" people are not, as suggested, in a special category. The plain fact is that "organized" Jewish groups for single people in this city do not work. Those going to groups would really prefer to be with those who have no need to do so. But those circles are, in most cases, "closed."

And as for age boundaries, the new under and over 35 distinctions leave those in the 35 to 40 bracket on the cusp, and more displaced than ever. Ironically, it is they who are in most urgent need of connection.

The sad thing about all this is, according to Rebbetzen Esther Jungreis, "all the unborn babies waiting to be born, that won't be." Single Jewish women in their late 30s and early 40s, and there are many of them transplanted in Toronto, do not have time for articles such as "In search of the 'perfect' Jewish mate." No, they have not been "sitting around!" On the contrary…

Your article is unconstructive. Nothing new is discussed or suggested. Actions speak louder than words. For such a large Jewish population, we will have little to be proud of in terms of continuity possibilities through our singles! A "crisis" is already upon us!

Name withheld
at writer's request

Seeks residents of Polish orphanages

I recently came upon files and photographs of Jewish children who lived in several orphanages in Poland. They were admitted in 1945 and 1946. There's reason to believe some of them now live in Canada or the United States.

I would like to hear from them. They were as follows:

- 12 children in Otwock, born between 1934 and 1943;
- seven children in Srudborow, born between 1934 and 1938;
- tree children in Pietrolesie, born in 1935 and 1936;
- one child in Bielsko, born in 1936.

Altogether, there were 17 girls and six boys.

The files also contain the names of their parents' addresses and children's material circumstances before the war. The children's teachers comment on how they survived the war. There are also five letters dated 1948 and written in Yiddish, expressing thanks to an unknown benefactor.

Anyone who has information about this is asked to contact me at 416-636-9858.

Ann Szedlecki
Toronto

Fears fatal traps in multiculturalism

Re: Editorial, "Multiculturalism is now part of the essence of our way of life." (*CJN*, July 9)

Has the *CJN's* editorial policy finally become a footnote to that of the *Toronto Star*, the CBC and the "anti-racism/multiculturalism" establishment?

This whole subject and its potential for fostering illusions and defencelessness in the Jewish community must finally be subjected to the cutting edge of open debate. Perhaps a wider cross-section of the Jewish community ought to be heard from than those who cannot stop chanting the mantra that multiculturalism is a win-win situation for all?

After all, is there anything more "multicultural" than the General Assembly of the UN? Has *everyone* forgotten the "Zionism is Racism" resolution of 1974? Are we setting ourselves up for a replay of the Buenos Aires slaughters of 1992 and 1994? At the hands of the same people? Let in the light on this subject. It's long overdue! Neglecting it may be fatal.

Norman L. Roth
Toronto

Goldhagen's answers to his critics

Those of your readers who might be interested in Daniel Goldhagen's answers to his critics, in particular, Norman Finkelstein and Ruth Bettina Birn, whose latest book, *A Nation on Trial: The Goldhagen Thesis and Historical Truth,* was reviewed by Sheldon Kirshner (*CJN*, July 9) should look at the Internet Web page [www.goldhagen.com].

There under the title, The Fictions of Ruth Bettina Birn, Goldhagen gives a detailed refutation to an earlier article she wrote on the subject. He gives 30 points where he claims his book is misrepresented by her.

Peter Heichelheim
Toronto

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures. Letters sent by E-Mail must also include the sender's municipal address.

Knesset members call a recess

By DAVID LANDAU
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

The Knesset has cast a dark cloud over Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's political future.

In a 60-6 vote last Wednesday, the Israeli Parliament gave preliminary approval to a bill to dissolve the legislature, forcing new elections ahead of their slated 2000 date.

Observers have called the bill the most serious threat so far to Netanyahu's two-year-old government, though the measure still faces three additional votes, each of which will require support from at least 61 of the 120 Knesset members.

If the bill ultimately passes, new elections for the Knesset and for prime minister will be called.

"Let's see them get 61 votes," Netanyahu said the day before the preliminary vote, which he dismissed as "insignificant."

Just the same, the Knesset ended its summer session in a defeat for the prime minister that seems to augur a politically hot three-month recess rather than the relaxed break that some of the lawmakers, and perhaps Netanyahu himself, might have hoped for.

The move comes amid growing disenchantment from the opposition – and from within the governing coalition – with Netanyahu's handling of the peace process. Indeed, as the Knesset adjourned last week, the long-awaited redeployment accord with the Palestinians remained elusive.

No breakthrough was reported in the ongoing discussions between Israel and the Palestinian Authority on the U.S. proposal regarding a further Israeli redeployment from the West Bank. But the two sides agreed that the talks would continue.

Netanyahu's discomfiture, however, was softened somewhat by a furor that arose before the vote around remarks made by Labor Knesset member Ori Orr, who disparaged Sephardi Jews, and Moroccan Jews in particular, in an interview with the Israeli daily *Ha'aretz*.

The prime minister, addressing the Knesset, sought to focus public attention on Orr's remarks and away from the early elections bill. Orr was roundly criticized across the political spectrum.

Labor Party chair Ehud Barak, who last year publicly apologized for the suffering Jews from Middle Eastern and North African countries endured in the early years of the state, said it would take a long time to mend the damage Orr had caused the party. Barak immediately removed Orr from a high-powered Labor delegation that went to Washington.

While Orr later apologized, the controversy over his remarks momentarily stole the thunder from the opposition's achievement on the Knesset floor.

Netanyahu's efforts in the run-up to the vote to persuade coalition rebels not to break ranks failed abysmally. Together with the chief coalition whip, Likud Knesset member Meir Sheetrit, the premier ordered coalition members to stay away from the vote.

But three members of the Third Way party voted for the bill, and the fourth member, Public Security Minister Avigdor Kahalani, made it clear that he, too, supported the measure. His position as a Cabinet member barred Kahalani from voting with the opposition.

Two former members of Netanyahu's cabinet – David Levy and Dan Meridor – also joined with the opposition.

Levy and three other members of his Gesher party cited the latest unemployment figures as evidence of the government's failed economic and social policies.

Likud Knesset member Meridor, with his vote, signalled publicly for the first time his irrevocable breach with the premier, and, in the view of many observers, his intention to challenge Netanyahu for the premiership.

Veteran parliamentary observers recalled that when a bill of this kind passed a preliminary vote on previous occasions, representatives of the two main parties would subsequently get together privately and begin looking for a date to hold new elections.

Even if those precedents are not repeated this time, last week's vote was important.

In terms of political substance the bill represents for Netanyahu an ominous ad hoc coalescence of the left and right.

Binyamin Alon, of the far-right Moledet Party, for instance, fully intended to join with the left wing, including the Arab parties, in voting to bring Netanyahu down. Only Netanyahu's last-minute decision to boycott the vote prevented this hemorrhaging on his right flank – Moledet's two votes would have brought the total in support of early elections to 62.

Both sides of this anti-Netanyahu front have cited, but for different reasons, his stance in the stalemated peace talks as the justification for seeking to bring him down.

Members of the Yisrael Ba'Aliyah party, which is headed by Trade and Industry Minister Natan Sharansky, were also contemplating voting for the bill – on the grounds that the prime minister's oft-repeated promises to conclude an agreement with the Palestinian Authority by the end of the month were melting under the torrid summer sun. But they too were saved, for the moment, by the boycott tactic.

On the face of it, the hard-core right could allow itself a satisfied sigh of relief at the passing of the end-of-July deadline without the premier's having concluded the accord with the Palestinians.

Netanyahu is understood to have agreed, after months of hesitation and pressure, to the U.S. proposal under which Israel would withdraw from an additional 13 percent of the West Bank in exchange for Palestinian steps to improve security.

But there is still argument over the precise conditions under which three percent of that total would be turned over to the Palestinian Authority.

At the urging of Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai, Israel's position reportedly softened this week, and direct talks with the Palestinian side resumed with a sense that the redeployment issue was nearing resolution.

But Netanyahu, despite the urgings of Mordechai and other cabinet moderates, was still digging in his heels over an Israeli demand that the Palestine National Council, the PLO's parliament-in-exile, be convened to abrogate the anti-Israeli provisions of its charter.

The far right, however, was not prepared to rely too confidently on this last holdout by Netanyahu. As a result, some of its members favored the bill for new elections.

The right's distrust of Netanyahu on the redeployment has also prompted the National Religious party and others in the "Greater Israel caucus" to insist that Netanyahu promise in writing that if he reaches an agreement with the Palestinian Authority during the three-month summer recess, he will bring it before a special session of the Knesset and regard the vote on it as vote of confidence in his government.

But because Knesset rules say there cannot be a confidence vote during the recess, some on the right fear that Netanyahu may deliberately reach a deal with the Palestinians within the next three months, comfortable in the knowledge that the Knesset cannot vote to bring him down.

All this hardly reflects an atmosphere of mutual trust among coalition members.

While the Netanyahu government is still intact, it's unlikely to be a peaceful summer for the premier as the early election bill's proponents prepare to move forward on the legislation in the fall, when the Knesset reconvenes.

Even as issues were being disputed and protested inside the Knesset last week, these protesters took up their cause outside the Knesset, demanding the immediate withdrawal of the IDF from Lebanon. [Israel photo]

Prime Minister Netanyahu mocks hecklers during the debate over the dissolution resolution. [RNS/Reuters photo]

Opinions

Don't know much about history...

By Jean M. Gerber in Vancouver

Famous sayings about history: History is more or less bunk (Henry Ford); those who do not study history are condemned to repeat it (Santayana); just one damn thing after another (anon.); history is a nightmare from which I am trying to awake (James Joyce's Stephen Daedelus quoting Schopenhauer).

Or Modris Ecksteins, in describing the post World War I literature that reinterpreted the war experience for the so-called lost generation, "The real war had ceased to exist in 1918. Thereafter it was swallowed by imagination in the guise of memory."

Also: "History was not in the past; history was a magical dream that motivated men to action in the present."

Miracles are the antithesis of history. They are by definition occurrences with no natural or rational explanation or origin, out of our control, and history, we are taught, is created by the actions of humankind: David and Goliath; Moses in Egypt; Macabbees against the Greeks; conquering Canaan; rebuilding the Temple (once); finding the way back from exile; finding the way back to Israel.

As Jews, we dote on history, citing it for every holiday we celebrate, every dollar we contribute. History, the ordering of past events in some sensible fashion in order to better understand them, is not for the faint-hearted. There is always someone ready to hit you with a bigger stick, a better explanation, or, in our case, a miracle that history can't explain.

Maybe in our present state – I am talking about that current impasse, progress in peace talks between the Israelis and the Palestinians – we'd be better off to heed Carlyle: "happy the people whose annals are blank".

Everyone can hardly wait to get their piece of history up front in order to prove that history is on their side:

Bibi: History teaches us that if we don't hit hard and first we'll get whacked, and end up like the last time, exiled or dead.

Yassir: History is on our side; we have the world's ear, we have been here longer than the Jews, and besides they stole it from us and everybody knows it. The Jews declared their state without permission and so will we.

The Settlers: God gave us the right to bulldoze every square inch of the land from the sea to the river Euphrates and we are gonna do just that. If you don't like it we'll shoot you.

Hamas: Ditto, but we'll blow you up.

The Religious Right in Israel: God gave us this land and it was a miracle that Israel came into being even though at the time we were dead set against it. Now we love every rock and holy place of which there are thousands where miracles occurred and we need money for our students to study them.

The Left: If we give back a reasonable portion of land for peace we can work this out, and besides history teaches us that we defended ourselves before and we can do it again.

I go with Ecksteins on this one. Everyone in this mad scramble to come up with a solution acts as if "history was not in the past; history was a magical dream that motivated men to action in the present."

What are some elements of that magical dream? One, that modern Israel is a miracle. No. Israel was born out of Jewish desperation after a horrible Holocaust; but if the British Empire had not been destroyed by that conflict, there would have been no state. It was a vicious struggle, but the Arab armies were no match for the Jewish guerrillas, being themselves divided and without a coordinated war plan. Similarly, the Hasmoneans conquered a Syrian Greek kingdom, weakened fatally by internal bleeding.

When the Jews took on Rome at the height of her power they were squashed like bugs, albeit inflicting a sting to Rome's heel.

Two, that 1967 was a second miracle. Again, no. A tough battle but not a miracle. A war won by real soldiers bleeding real blood against a poorly coordinated enemy. If 1967 was a miracle, what was Israel's sin in 1973 that she almost got whacked?

If we are expecting another miracle – the Palestinians will get tired and go home, then we are going to be very surprised and disappointed.

History and miracles don't mesh. We can have "imagination in the guise of memory" and think that next May some great miracle will save us. We are fooling ourselves. But not anybody else.

We should be concerned about ICC

By Bruce Elman in Edmonton

For many people around the world, July 17, 1998 will be heralded as a great day for the protection of human rights. In Rome that day, 127 nations signed the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (ICC), setting the stage for the establishment of a permanent Nuremberg-style international court to try war criminals and perpetrators of genocide, crimes against humanity and crimes of aggression.

These same people will, undoubtedly, herald the creation of the ICC as a fitting tribute to the 50th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. UN Secretary General Kofi Anan, for example, called the Rome agreement "a gift of hope" and "a giant step forward…towards universal human rights and the rule of law." Canadian diplomat Phillippe Kirsch called it "humankind's finest hour."

Canada played a leading role in drafting the Rome Statute and in ensuring its overwhelming adoption. The United States and Israel, however, objected to the statute's text and were among the seven nations who opposed the agreement. As Canadian Jews supportive of Israel, this should give us cause for concern.

The fact is that the Rome agreement suffers from serious flaws. On a general level, the agreement is flawed in terms of the court's jurisdiction and apprehension powers. Most war crimes tribunals suffer from these two problems. For example, the UN War Crimes Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia has failed to bring any of the serious war criminals to trial.

A third flaw with the Rome Statute is that it permits public interest groups to ask the court to initiate proceedings. This will undoubtedly generate numerous frivolous and vexatious complaints. The prosecutors' office will determine which complaints will be pursued as meritorious. This gives great power to a group of functionaries who, unlike our domestic prosecutors, are largely unaccountable to any elected body.

In regards to Israel, there are two major difficulties with the Rome agreement. The first is the inclusion of crimes of aggression within the Court's mandate. Unlike such terms as genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes, which have a well-understood meaning and are further defined in the statute, the definition of crimes of aggression is unclear and ill-defined and is susceptible to political interpretation and manipulation.

The second and more serious problem is a clause by which the transfer of population of an occupying country to the territory of an occupied country would constitute a war crime and anyone who was directly or indirectly involved with such an action would be considered a war criminal. This clause was promoted by the Arab states with the sole purpose of labelling Jewish settlements in Judea, Samaria and Gaza as war crimes.

These Arab states want to equate the establishment of settlements with the Nazi policy of forced transfer of populations and the Serbian policy of ethnic cleansing. These Arab states want to equate Ariel and Efrat with Auschwitz and Majdanek. Whether one agrees with the establishment of the settlements or not, the idea that they constitute a war crime is absurd and laughable. That my country has agreed with this absurdity is an affront to me as a Jew and as a Canadian.

Imagine this scenario: An Israeli political, industrial or military leader who has been involved in some way with the decision to create a settlement in the territories comes to Canada at the behest of one of our Zionist groups. An Arab organization asks the ICC to investigate this individual as a war criminal because of his involvement in settlement creation. Canada as a signatory to the Rome Statute is asked to hold the individual while an investigation proceeds because the individual is alleged to be a war criminal. Canada might actually feel bound to hold the individual or – given the way that Israel is usually treated in UN organizations – even transfer him or her to the ICC if a decision is made to prosecute. Is it any wonder that Israel voted against this absurd possibility?

All is not lost, however. The Rome Statute needs 60 countries to ratify it before it comes into existence. Three major powers – China, Russia and the United States – voted against the Rome Statute. The United States in particular is opposed to the court in its present form. One can hope that these countries will prevail on other states not to ratify the agreement. In Canada, treaties do not come into force unless enacted domestically. This gives us an opportunity to lobby our legislators to make changes to the text of the statute. Perhaps discussions with our members of Parliament will produce some sober second thought on these matters.

July 17, 1998 – Humankind's finest hour? I think not!

Bruce Elman is Belzberg Professor of Constitutional Law and Chair of the Centre for Constitutional Studies at the Faculty of Law, University of Alberta.

Do you know about dyspraxia?

By Rabbi Gunther Plaut in Toronto

At a recent rabbinical conference in California, I attended a seminar dealing with Jewish responsibility toward mentally and physically challenged persons.

The sponsor of the seminar was a group called Lehiot (pronounced Lee'yot), a Hebrew word which means "to be." The idea behind it is simple: all people have the right to strive for whatever they are capable of being.

Although I was familiar with many of the issues involved, I learned a great deal. One of the speakers told of a child who, when talked to, was incapable of answering and therefore was dismissed as "retarded."

In fact, the youngster had a condition of an entirely different kind. It was not that he was "a slow learner," but rather that he was a different learner. His condition is identified as dyspraxia (also sometimes called apraxia). In a way, it may be compared to dyslexia,which prevents a reader from reading in one direction because his mind skips to the other direction (in time, the condition can be overcome through adaptive learning). So it is with dyspraxia: no retardation of any kind is involved, merely a difficulty in coordinating the muscles needed for speech. This too can be overcome once it is recognized, but meanwhile the youngster is likely to be subject to neglect and often abuse, because children have a tendency to be cruel.

Our seminar aimed at raising our awareness of irregularities that affect many people in various ways and at various ages. Human rights codes have come around to recognizing that "handicaps" (as the codes call such conditions) can lead to discrimination of many kinds, and that society is obligated to give every person a proper chance.

The Torah warns us not to curse someone who is deaf or put a stumbling block in front of someone who is blind (Leviticus 19:14). Literally understood, making buildings, personal facilities, telephones, drinking fountains and many other things available to those who might otherwise be unable to use them, can be seen to be addressed by the biblical command.

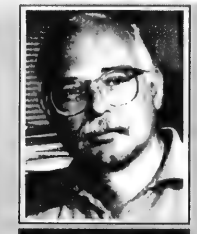
I was no different from most others – I tried to support all the right things and still did not see everything that I should have seen. The turning point for me came when my mother (may she rest in peace) fell one day, and thereafter had to use first a walker and then a wheelchair. With that, I became aware of various obstacles I had never noted. It is easier to learn when such matters affect you personally.

Nowadays I look around wherever I go, to see whether facilities are accessible – but physical barriers are really the least of the problems. More important are the barriers to awareness, the lack of interest and concern. "It's too expensive" is the usual response when changes are asked for. But once awareness reaches its full dimension and our religious obligations become commanding forces in our lives, accommodation is rarely too expensive or too difficult. All of this gives me a special opportunity to say thanks to Rabbi Joseph Kelman who has been a pioneer in this area and who, by establishing Reena, has put all of us in his debt.

The Kirshner File

Palestinian state is taking shape

Last month, the Palestinians took another step forward toward statehood when the General Assembly voted to upgrade their status at the United Nations.



By Sheldon Kirshner

By a vote of 124 to four, with 10 abstentions and 26 countries not present, the UN granted the Palestinians' observer mission the right to participate in General Assembly debates, to co-sponsor resolutions on Mideast issues and to take part in UN meetings and conferences.

Apart from Israel, the only nations voting against the resolution were the United States, Micronesia and the Marshall Islands, an indication of the fact that Palestinian statehood in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip is increasingly viewed as an essential component of a fair and realistic Middle East peace agreement.

The Oslo accords do not contain a provision for a Palestinian state, one of the reasons the present Israeli government adamantly opposes full-fledged statehood. But the Palestinians joined the Oslo process on the implicit understanding of ultimately achieving it.

On this question, the Palestinians are absolutely firm.

"This is a matter of justice and practicality," A.S. Khalidi, a leading Palestinian intellectual, wrote last year. "If a truly lasting and stable peace is the goal, there is no other option."

Nabil Abu Rudeina, an advisor to Yasser Arafat, president of the Palestine Authority and chair of the Palestine Liberation Organization, is just as emphatic. "We feel that there will be no security and no peace for anyone without the establishment of a Palestinian state..." he said in a recent interview.

Arafat himself has set the tone by promising to declare statehood, unilaterally if necessary, at the end of the five year interim period of Palestinian autonomy in May 1999.

The transitional period was set into motion when Israel and the PLO signed the Oslo accord in Cairo on May 4, 1994. Under its timetable, Israel and the PLO were to have entered into permanent status talks two years ago in May to resolve such incendiary matters as final borders, Jewish settlements beyond the Green Line, Jerusalem and Palestinian refugees.

The previous Israeli prime minister, Shimon Peres, launched ceremonial final status negotiations on the eve of his narrow defeat in the May 1996 general election. Benjamin Netanyahu, his successor, has left them in abeyance as bilateral talks between Israel and the Palestine Authority have come to a grinding halt.

Public opinion in Israel is sharply divided with respect to a Palestinian state, but in a recent survey, just over 50 percent of Israelis came out in favor of one.

The Labor party, after years of opposition and waffling, now supports the formation of a Palestinian state. Peres, its former leader, said recently that statehood is inevitable.

On the other hand, the Likud and its right-wing coalition allies remain appalled by the idea of a full-blown state, claiming it would jeopardize Israel's existence. But even here, opinion is gradually shifting.

In a series of statements, Netanyahu has declared that he prefers a "third way" between "subjugation and unbridled self-determination," a solution that will balance the Palestinians' yearning for freedom with Israel's need for security.

The closest he came to spelling out his vision was when he proposed "a model of a state like Puerto Rico or Andorra" without "complete sovereignty." The Palestinians, he said on another occasion, "should have all the powers to run their lives and none of the powers to threaten Israel."

David Bar-Ilan, Netanyahu's director of communications, has been more specific.

A Palestinian entity, he said, should not be able to form military alliances with Israel's enemies, should not allow foreign forces on its territory, should not control the air space over Israel and should essentially be demilitarized.

In this sense, both Netanyahu and Bar-Ilan have shifted public debate. In principle, they are no longer against a Palestinian state per se. As hawkish cabinet minister Ariel Sharon put it last November: "Despite the fact that Israel does not want it, a Palestinian state is coming into existence."

The focus now is how Israel can drastically limit such a state's capabilities, a far cry from the days when the Likud was inalterably against Palestinian statehood in any form.

Although the Likud is still full of diehards who cringe at the very thought of Palestinian independence, the party's whip, Meir Shitreet, has called for the creation of a Palestinian state. In another sign of the times, Avraham Stern of the National Religious Party and Yehuda Lankri of the Gesher faction said that they support statehood under certain circumstances.

For all intents and purposes, the Palestinians have already embarked on statehood. The Palestine Authority fully or partially controls 27 percent of the West Bank, including all its major towns, and about two-thirds of Gaza. If Israel finally accepts an American plan calling for a 13 percent redeployment from the West Bank, the Palestinians will be in charge of 40 percent of its land mass, but on a non-contiguous basis. They seek total control of these territories.

Within the autonomous areas, the Palestinians also fulfill other prerequisites of statehood. They rule more than 90 percent of the Palestinians of the West Bank and Gaza. They have their own political, judicial, administrative, economic, social and religious institutions. They have a police force, a flag and a national anthem. They issue postage stamps. And they enjoy widespread international backing.

In other words, a Palestinian state is taking shape before Israel's eyes, a fact increasing numbers of Israelis recognize. Asked whether a Palestinian state would pose a strategic threat to Israel, Gen. Amnon Shahak, the former chief of staff, was revealingly tight-lipped. As he put it: "We have to learn to live with (the Palestinians)."

Photographs of a nation

Micha Bar-Am is indisputably one of Israel's finest photographers, having been The New York Times' photographic correspondent in Israel from 1968 to 1992.

In honor of Israel's 50th anniversary, Bar-Am has produced a handsome coffee-table album entitled *Israel: A Photobiography* (Distican), with a thoughtful essay by Thomas Friedman, an award-winning American journalist with whom he has worked.

Bar-Am's photographs, in black and white and in color, convey drama and poignancy, and cover topics running the gamut from everyday life and immigrant absorption to war and peace-making.

Flipping through its glossy pages, I was particularly struck by his kinetic compositions of a jumble of Israelis scanning the sky during an Independence Day flyover; of David Ben-Gurion at work and at leisure; of newly-arrived Soviet women exchanging gossip on an empty street; of an Israeli man, a gun protruding from a holster, barbecuing a meal.

I was also impressed by Bar-Am's piercing photographs of an Israeli soldier, bullets draped over his shoulders, at the Western Wall in the wake of the Six Day War; of a group of Israeli troops and Egyptian prisoners of war caught together in a Yom Kippur War bombardment; of a group of Israelis looking down at the Sea of Galilee from a former Syrian fortification on the Golan Heights; of Menachem Begin and Anwar Sadat deep in conversation; of Ethiopian immigrants bunched up in an airplane during Operation Solomon; of Israeli soldiers evacuating Yamit, the doomed Sinai settlement; of beehives near Mt. Tabor; of an Israeli family, gas masks on their faces, waiting out the Gulf War with their unprotected cat.

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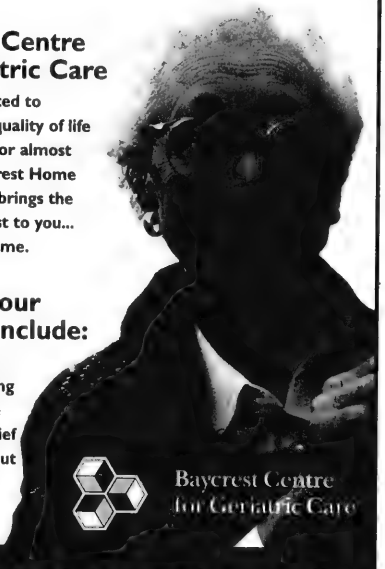

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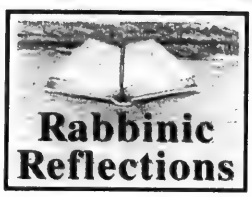

Our sense of history weighs heavily on us

By RABBI YEHIEL BEN AYON

It is said that Napoleon would periodically don commoner's garments and venture out amongst the people. This he did to maintain his sense of those he led and sometimes felt far removed from.

During one of these outings, he chanced on a dimly lit synagogue full of wailing worshippers. Intrigued, he entered, and like everyone else, sat on the ground. At the conclusion of the soulful service; he inquired as to what wretched tragedy had befallen these people that would cause them to grieve so.

Upon hearing that it was Tisha b'Av, a day commemorating the destruction of the Temples, 1,900 years and 2,400 years ago respectively, Napoleon is said to have exclaimed: "If this people, year in and year out, commemorate their defeats of millennia ago, then they truly are an eternal people."

Napoleon was impressed with our sense of history. While mighty nations have come to occupy centre stage, these same mighty nations have all dimmed and fled. The Jewish people on the other hand persist.

Our sense of history weighs heavily on us. As a people belonging to a nation, our fortunes wane and wax. History repeats itself, and history is a powerful teacher. Mistakes, too, are powerful teachers. One can learn from the mistakes of history. As serious students of the past, we have no reason to repeat again and again the wrongs of yore.

Our attachment to our past sets the course for our future. For those who participated in and experienced the commemoration of Tisha b'Av as a painful day of remembrance, this week of Shabbat Nachamu will follow with its message of comfort and encouragement. To those who do not pause for the tragedies of our people, the consolations too are just as meaningless. Our sense of history is synonymous with our sense of destiny as a people. To be an eternal people is to live today with the past of yesterday.

Our God, too, is a God of history. "I am the Lord your God, Who took you out of Egypt." This introduction is not one of God the Creator, or the God of heaven and earth, but the God of history.

Jewish history records that Jewish destiny belongs exclusively to those who choose to study and practise their Jewishness. Only in this manner will we join and become one with the eternal nature of our people. "For it is a tree of life to those that grasp it."

Zionism is dead, long live Zionism

By SHAWN ZELIG ASTER

A hundred years after Theodor Herzl prophesied the establishment of the State of the Jews, and 50 years after David Ben-Gurion did so, no one can say that Zionism has not been a success. But is it alive?

Guest Voices

In honor of the 100th year of Zionism, the World Zionist Organization could come up with no better slogan than "Zionism is doing – today, tomorrow and in the future." To do what? They didn't say.

In a sense, Zionism has succeeded itself to death. The State of the Jews has been established; Israel is secure, has a high standard of living and is no longer the most endangered state in the Middle East. What remains for Zionism to do?

Zionism began as a solution to a particular historical problem. The Jews of Europe at the end of the Emancipation yearned for an end to persistent anti-Semitism, an end to discrimination and a chance to live like any normal nation.

But that historical problem is no longer relevant. Are there any countries left where Jews live as a persecuted minority?

In its place we have a new historic problem. No Jewish state in history has survived more than a century. Seventy years after David established his rule over all of Israel, Solomon's kingdom split into north and south. The Maccabean kingdom fell victim to a civil war after a similar period and became a Roman protectorate. And when the Jews rose in revolt against the Romans in 67 CE and declared independence, internecine fighting ended the revolt faster than the Romans might otherwise have done.

The plain truth is that more divides Jews than unites us. We were once divided by tribal origin. Now we are divided by ethnic origin, and we are still divided on issues of politics and religion, albeit in different ways.

If you will it, it is no dream

A nation-state requires a common conception of nationhood in order to survive, especially a nation-state that is geographically isolated. At minimum, it requires a way to deal with differences that place a premium on the desire to live together.

Can such a formula be found? Is it possible to convince people as radically different as Aviv Gefen and Moshe Gafni that they have enough in common to make being part of the same nation worthwhile? Is it possible to convince the far left and the extreme right that a way to live together is worth finding?

This is the challenge of Zionism today. For 100 years, Zionism has been led by a desire to solve a historic problem that is now solved. But though that problem is solved, a new one has been created. The State of Israel will celebrate its 100th jubilee only if some progress is made on this issue. We do not need to eliminate disagreement. But we do need to have a sense that what unites us is greater than what divides us. And we do need to agree on ground rules to deal with conflicts created by the chasms in Israeli society.

It is possible to create these two conditions? Fifty years ago, Communists such as Meir Wilner and members of Agudat Yisrael signed Israel's Declaration of Independence, emphasizing their striving towards a common goal. Could this be brought about today? *If you will it, it is no dream.*

Shawn Aster is a native of Montreal studying for a PhD in Bible at the University of Pennsylvania and at Bar Ilan University.

Jewish Life

Good news — relatives in Israel are doing well

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Mollie Posen was so delighted to receive a recent family photo from her cousin Shlomo Bogner in Haifa that she called *The CJN* in the hope of having it published.

"Here is something joyful," said the energetic 88-year-old, aiming to counterbalance more distressing news that makes it into print.

The photo was taken at Bogner's uncle's 80th birthday celebration, with the celebrant (also a relative of Posen's) surrounded by members of his family and Bogner's.

Posen now has over a dozen relatives in Israel, she notes, pointing to the picture. After the Holocaust, she knew of only four surviving family members who made aliyah.

Although Posen, née Malka Pomerantz, immigrated to Canada with her father in 1920, in some ways she too feels like a survivor, she says, because of the relatives she lost during the Holocaust.

In fact, she is determinedly seeking to have a Jewish organization take on a tzedakah box project in memory of the million and a half Jewish children who died in the Holocaust.

Bogner – known to Posen as Salek, not Shlomo – was born in 1937 in Narajow, Poland, and spent his early years in the nearby village of Buszcsze, where Posen had spent her childhood.

Mollie Posen shows a recent picture of her Israeli relatives. [Frances Kraft photo]

Posen's mother had died when she was two; a younger brother lived only a few months. As a young girl in Poland, Posen lived with her grandmother and was taught by a hired teacher who lived with the family. Her dozen classmates were her cousins, among them Bogner's father.

Posen spent her first two years in Canada living with an aunt in Peterborough while her father, who had been a melamed in Europe, sought to make a living in Toronto as a tailor.

Although Posen knew no English when she arrived, she soon excelled in school and was a frequent customer at the public library.

In Toronto, she continued living with her aunt until late high school, when she moved in with her father, sleeping on a couch in the kitchen of their rented quarters.

Now a grandmother of five, she married in her early 20s and raised two daughters.

Meanwhile, Bogner's father was shot dead outside his home in 1941, and life as the young boy knew it – living with his parents and extended family on their large property – was over.

He and his mother went to her parents in the Narajow ghetto. When his mother heard of an imminent Nazi round-up, she sent her young son to hide in the forest with neighbors, not wishing to abandon her ailing parents. He never saw her again.

The neighbors took him to his paternal grandmother and uncle, with whom he spent the war in hiding. At one point, they were hidden in a church attic by a priest who knew the family. After German officials set up shop next door, they moved on.

The Polish couple who hid them in a basement, Jan and Olga Morozowski, were subsequently honored by Yad Vashem.

Bogner, now a surveyor at the Technion, moved to Israel in 1957. He and his wife Rachel have two grown sons, a grandson and a granddaughter.

It wasn't until 1968, when Posen visited Israel for the first time, that the two cousins met. She has been back three more times.

"I was so excited," she recalls of her first visit. "I grabbed Salek's hand and I kissed it. I had never met him, but [his family] never left me. This was the family I was bonded with."

Bogner's elderly grandmother, whom Posen recalled from her childhood as "a very charming lady," took one look at Posen and called her by her mother's name. Posen has never seen a picture of her mother, but muses, "I must look exactly like her."

Now she looks at the recent picture from Israel. "Look at them," she says. "Just look at them."

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Finding Sephardi music on-line

By MARK MIETKIEWICZ

The saddest period of the Jewish calendar is finally over. Tisha b'Av and the three weeks preceding it mark the destruction of the Temples and many other tragedies that have befallen the Jewish people.

With that period of semi-mourning behind us, we can now raise our spirits and look forward to this week's joyous holiday of Tu b'Av **[http://www.virtual.co.il./city_services/holidays/tubav/]**. So what better time than now to travel the Jewish Highway and listen to Jewish music with a Sephardi flair.

To understand the development of Sephardi music, I highly recommend two sites. Take a look at Exhibition Sefardic Music which was created to coincide with last November's International Jewish Music festival in The Netherlands, Belgium and Germany **[http://www.joods.nl/jmf/en-exsefard.html]**. And don't miss Moshe Denburg's Jewish World Music site **[http://www2.portal.ca/~jsiegel/jm.html]**. Denburg traces the evolution of the various streams of Jewish music. What I found most interesting is that he differentiates between "Sephardi" and "Mizrachi" music. Sephardi refers to music that originated around the Mediterranean, from Spain and North Africa to Turkey and Greece, that can trace its origins to the thriving Jewish culture of Spain. Much of the musical repertoire is in Ladino (Judeo-Spanish), a 15th-century version of Spanish **[http://www.jcn18.com/scripts/jcn18/paper/Article.asp?ArticleID=547]**.

Mizrachi alludes to to the music of eastern Jews, from the eastern Mediterranean eastward into Israel, Egypt, Jordan, Syria, Lebanon, Iraq, Iran, and as far as India. In song, the main language used is Hebrew, although local languages have also been used, most notably Arabic.

Denburg suggests that lumping Sephardi and Mizrachi together to refer to any non-Ashkenazi music is a mistake. "The Mizrachi element is much more involved with non-western modes, instruments and forms of expression; it also has no inherent connection with Ladino. The Sephardi tradition is somewhat of a bridge between the Mizrachi and the Ashkenazi – it has some connection with both eastern and western forms of musical expression, as one might expect from a culture sprung up on the shores of the Mediterranean."

Incidentally, Denburg himself is a member of a Vancouver-based musical group with the wonderful name of Tzimmes. You can sample Tzimmes on-line **[http://www2.portal.ca/~jsiegel/ discs.html]**.

Continuing on this food-and-Sephardi-music theme, Shakshuka is the name of a trio of Chicago-based musicians who love Jewish music and grew up influenced by the jazz, rock and soul music of their youth **[http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/Shakshuka/]**. Shakshuka presents Israeli and Sephardi songs in Hebrew and Ladino with an updated twist. Elements of jazz, rock and soul are added to their arrangements. You can listen on-line to hear how all those influences synthesize to form a new style of music in a song like *Eit Dodim* (A Time For Love). As a bonus, the band's Web site even has a recipe for the other kind of Shakshuka, eggs in a spicy tomato sauce.

Speaking of spices, Za'atar is a herb mixture composed of savory, thyme, sumac and sesame seeds. It is also the name of a Berkeley-based band dedicated to the performance of the vibrant music of the Jewish Mizrachi and Sephardi cultures **[http://www.nuc.berkeley.edu/students/scott/zaatar.html]**. Unfortunately, there are no musical samples at this site.

Next week, we'll continue sampling Sephardi music. But if you just can't wait, the links at the SephardiConnection should keep you tapping and humming until next week **[http://sephardiconnect.com/links-music.htm]**.

* * *

Mark Mietkiewicz is a television producer in Toronto with an interest in the Internet. He can be reached at [mdm@inforamp.net].

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Jewish Life

Digging deep reveals Jerusalem's Jewish past

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Dan Bahat digs Jerusalem.

The Israeli archeologist and historian is busy excavating what he describes as "the most exciting archeological site in Israel."

For the past 13 years, he has directed excavations at the Western Wall tunnels, whose dusty remains and artifacts reveal the panoramic sweep of Jewish history in ancient Israel.

Bahat, a senior lecturer at Bar-Ilan University's Land of Israel Studies Department, has discovered the weathered walls of a Maccabean palace, the ruins of an aqueduct and a system of cisterns which supplied water for the local population.

The tunnel excavations are nowhere near completed, said Bahat in an interview prior to delivering a lecture on the topic for Canadian Friends of Bar-Ilan University at Beth Tzedec Congregation.

Two years ago in September, the tunnels made headlines around the world when the Israeli government opened one of them to the public. Palestinians rioted, thinking that the tunnel passed under the Dome of the Rock mosque.

Demonstrations spread to the West Bank, resulting in the deaths of 15 Israeli soldiers and some 70 Palestinian civilians and police officers from the Palestine Authority.

"No matter what we do in Jerusalem will be opposed by the Palestinians," said Bahat, who admits he was surprised by the outbreak of fighting. "Both sides – Israel and the Palestinians – are trying to improve their positions before final status talks on Jerusalem."

Earlier this year, Bahat, author of *The Illustrated Atlas of Jerusalem*, began work on the City of David in an attempt to shed further light on two legendary biblical figures, David and Solomon.

Dan Bahat

Archeologists pored over the City of David in the 1920s, but Bahat believes they were not thorough. "I hope to find places untouched by previous digs," he said.

David looms large in Bahat's imagination. About 30 years ago in Tel Dan, an excavation in northern Galilee, he stumbled upon an inscription directly relating to David.

Bahat, a Hebrew University graduate and a specialist in the medieval history of Palestine, said that archeologists still have much to uncover in Jerusalem.

Mt. Zion, an integral part of the city during antiquity, is but one example. Bahat thinks that Mt Zion was an exclusive neighborhood dotted with the villas of rich merchants.

He also believes that the area around the Temple Mount contains an archeological treasure trove.

According to Bahat, the nature of archeology in Jerusalem has changed since the 1967 Six Day War.

Until then, Israeli archeologists were mainly interested in Jerusalem's Jewish historical dimensions, namely the first (1000 BCE to 586 BCE) and second (167 BCE to 70 CE) Temple periods.

But since 1967, they have broadened their horizons and investigated Christian and Muslim sites.

Six years ago, Bahat himself came upon the foundations of a Crusader church adjacent to the Temple Mount.

Meanwhile, colleagues have unearthed major Muslim structures, most notably Omayad palaces south of the Temple Mount.

In his view, archeologists already have found the most important Muslim archeological sites within Jerusalem's municipal boundaries.

To the best of his knowledge, Palestinian archeologists have not applied for excavation permits because they do not recognize Israel's authority in Jerusalem.

The Antiquities Authority, he claimed, would " not hesitate" to grant such permits.

Bahat, a field director of the famous Masada dig, said he has never had a negative experience with Haredim trying to block an excavation.

"I found a path to their hearts. When you talk, you don't shoot."

In closing, Bahat said he is in need of volunteers and financial support from contributors abroad. Volunteers must be at least 16 years old and should be able to pay for their passage to Israel and their expenses there.

Bahat can be contacted at Bar-Ilan University in Ramat Gan.

Every Jewish child is our child

By RACHAEL TURKIENICZ

As we near the end of the Jewish year, we read the last chapters of the book of Deuteronomy. Moses, knowing his final days are approaching, tries to emphasize the importance of learning, safeguarding and remembering God's messages.

One of Moses' statements is included in the Shema, but we are so accustomed to it that perhaps its meaning has been dulled: "And you shall teach them to your children and you shall speak of them." Why is the word "you" rendered in the plural form? Would it not be more appropriate to speak to the individual when addressing the personal relationship of parent and child?

Jewish law teaches that we are all responsible for the education of our children. If particular parents are negligent in this regard, it ultimately becomes the community's responsibility. No Jewish child should be without an understanding of the values and ethics of Judaism. Yet there are also philosophical implications to the plural form of "you."

If you educate your child in the morals and values of Judaism and send that child to a Jewish school, is that not sufficient? If the community has set up a scholarship fund to ensure that all Jewish children can attend Jewish schools, is that not sufficient?

The answer is no. Imagine that your child, properly raised with Jewish values, now attends a Jewish school with other children whose parents have not instilled the same values. Many times parents are confronted with stories of their children's classmates behaving in ways clearly not reflective of Jewish morals.

Increasingly, schools feel hesitant to intrude into the social or extra-curricular lives of their students. Should the parent speak to the other children? Is it proper to discipline another person's child? Should the parent speak to the other parents? Is it better to allow your child to sort it out, hoping it will build character? These are all difficult questions and of course it is dangerous to generalize. Yet, the Torah speaks to this issue.

By using the plural form of the word "you," Moses, our greatest Torah teacher, has conveyed an important lesson. If we do not all strive together to instil the same values into our children, we have weakened ourselves internally. It is not sufficient to see that a desk is provided in a classroom. A Jewish education must involve both books and real life issues.

For example, we are all aware that a milestone in a Jewish child's life is their bar/bat mitzvah. If we know that a celebration is being held and every child was invited except one, or two, or three, perhaps a phone call should be made. It does not have to be your child that is excluded in order to justify placing the call. If we hear a child is being teased, perhaps a phone call should be made. It need not be specifically your child. "You (plural) shall teach it to your children..." We (plural) are all Jewish parents and every Jewish child is our child.

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Agudath Israel (O)	129 McGillivray Ave. (416) 789-5514	8:17 PM	7:30 AM & 8:45 AM	7:00, 7:30 8:00, 8:30	Mon. Thurs. 6:25, 6:50, 7:15 Tues. Wed. Fri. 6:30, 6:55	8:35 PM
Anshe Minsk (O)	10-12 St. Andrews St. (416) 595-5723	8:45 PM	9:15 AM	9:15 AM	7:30 AM	----------
Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am (C)	55 Yeomans Rd. (416) 633-5500	7:00 PM	9:00 AM	8:30 AM	7:00 AM & 8:00 AM	6:00 PM
Beth Jacob (O)	147 Overbrook Pl. (416) 638-5955	7:15 PM	9:00 AM	8:00 AM	6:40 AM & 7:30 AM	8:40 PM
Beth Tikvah (C)	3080 Bayview Ave. (416) 221-3433	6:00 PM	9:00 AM	9:00 AM	7:15 AM	7:30 PM
B'nai Torah (O)	465 Patricia Ave. (416) 226-3700	7:10 PM & 8:40 PM	7:30 AM & 8:45 AM	7:00 AM & 8:00 AM	Mon. Thurs. 6:30, 6:45, 7:10 Tues. Wed. Fri. 6:30, 7:00, 7:20	8:45 PM
Shaar Shalom (C)	2 Simonston Blvd. (905) 889-4975	7:00 PM	9:00 AM	9:00 AM	7:00 AM	7:00 PM
Soleil Congregation (R)	2399 Folkway Dr. (905) 820-5915	8:30 PM	10:00 AM	----------	----------	----------
Temple Kol Ami (R)	36 Atkinson Ave. (905) 709-2620	7:30 PM	10:30 AM	----------	----------	----------

This is not a comprehensive listing of the synagogues in the Greater Toronto area. The information is provided by the Vaad Harabonim of Toronto and the Toronto Board of Rabbis. The Vaad and the Board will periodically revise the listings.

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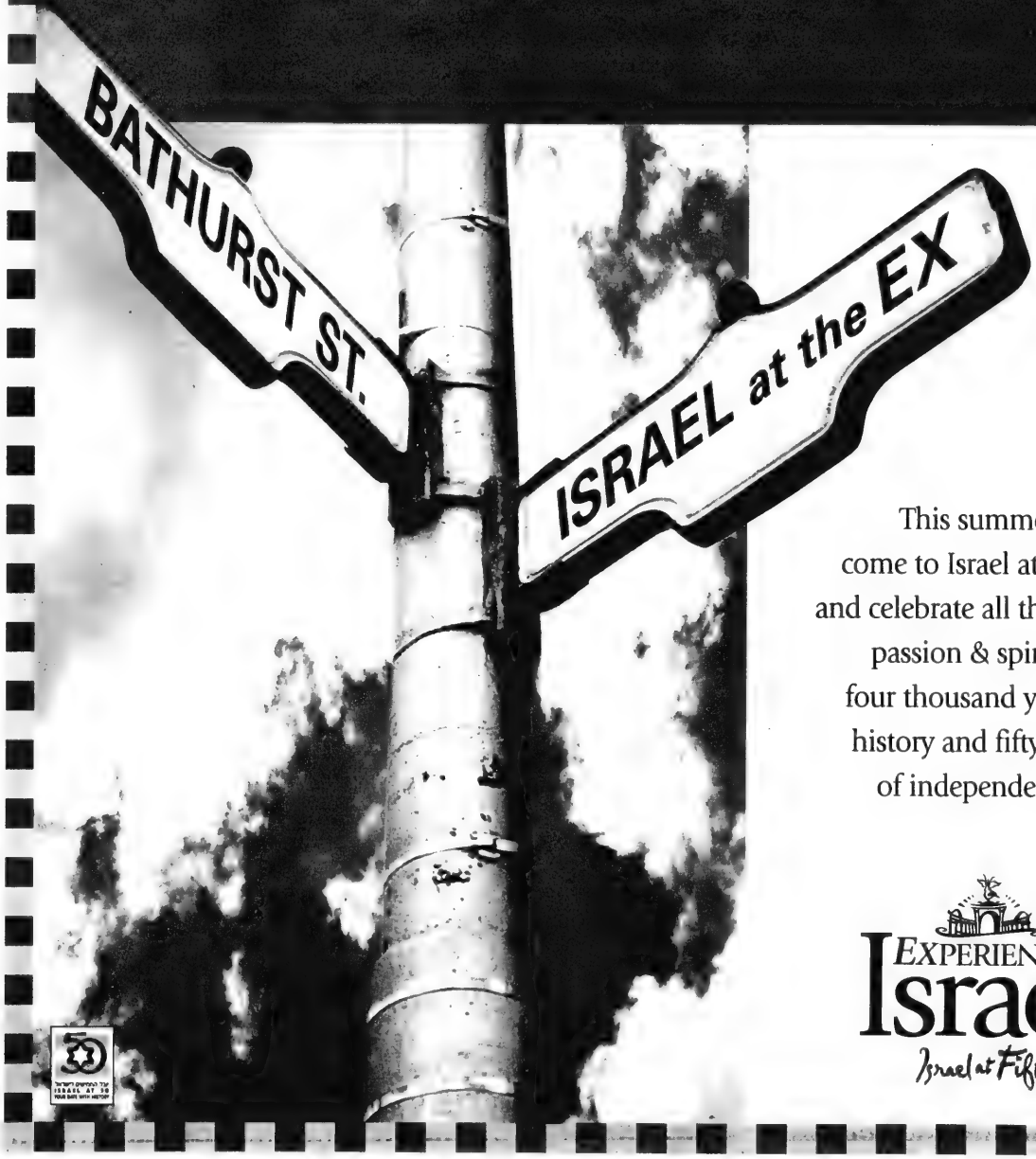

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גידי קורן וחברים

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Sliding doors, הוא סרט בריטי גם פיקח וגם חכם. אישה צעירה ומקסימה שעובדת כאשת יחסי ציבור, מגיעה למקום העבודה שלה ביום שני בבוקר לגלות שפיטרו אותה. היא חוזרת הביתה ברכבת התחתית ומה שהיא מגלה שם (בבית) משנה את חייה מקצה לקצה. אבל הסיפור הזה מסופר פעמיים: פעם אחת כשהיא מספיקה להיכנס לרכבת התחתית ופעם שניה- כשדלת הרכבת נסגרת לפני שהיא מספיקה להיכנס. וכך היא מגיעה הביתה יותר מאוחר... שני הסיפורים מסופרים במקביל ולמרות זאת, הכל ברור ההנאה מושלמת. הסרט מבוסס על הידיעה שמשותפת לכולנו- שיש גורל שמכוון את מה שקורה לנו. כמה פעמים בחיים קרה לנו שבמקום שעזבנו לפני דקה קרו דברים איומים, או שקרו לנו דברים נפלאים כי היינו במקום הנכון ובזמן הנכון! תשע בסולם קורן.

O Amore Natural הוא סרט ברזילאי שונה מכל דבר שראיתי עד כה. אני מקווה שעד שיופיע הטור הזה- הוא עדיין יהיה על האקרנים. לפני לא מעט שנים נפטר בשיבה טובה בברזיל המשורר המכובד ונשוא הפנים דרומונד. והינה, מספר שנים אחרי מותו התפרסם, לא עלינו, ספר של שירים אירוטיים מקסימים של המשורר, אבל אירוטיים לא כמו חיים נחמן ביאליק ("הכניסיני תחת כנפך"), אלא בדיבור ישיר בלי לפסוח על פרטים. מה שהסרט הקטן והמקסים הזה עושה- הוא נותן לברזילאים לגלות מחדש את המשורר שלהם. והם עושים זאת בשקיקה ובאהבה. סך הכל שמו מצלמה והנציחו נשים וגברים ברזילאים בשנות השבעים והשמונים לחייהם קוראים שירים אירוטיים של דרומונד ומספרים בצורה טבעית ומקסימה מה השירים האלה מזכירים להם. ממרומי גיל שבעים שמונים אין כבר כל-כך הרבה בושות, וכל דבר נראה כמו זיכרון טוב משנים שעברו. בחיים לא ראיתי סרט באורך מלא שהצליח להעביר שירה בצורה כל כך נפלאה. כל חמש דקות הקהל מתגלגל מצחוק כשזקנה בת שמונים מתארת את נפלאות האהבה הגופנית מלפני חמישים וששים שנה, את התשוקה, הסערה, התערבלות החושים וכל חילופי החמרים שמלווים אותם. זה לא סרט לכל אחד, אבל אם אתם אוהבים שירה, ואוהבים אהבה, ואוהבים את החיים- אולי תהנו מהזווית המיוחדת של הסרט הזה. ופורטוגזית- איזו שפה מדליקה. רק להקשיב ולתת לנשמה לשיר. שמונה בסולם קורן.

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The last members of the Kideckel Social and Benevolent Society with the club's first minute book. From left are Wilfred Kideckel and three of patriarch Israel Kideckel's grandchildren: Alice Shapiro, Goldie Weinstein and Nelson Ludwig.

[Ron Csillag photo]

Kideckel society winds down

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — For Toronto's Kideckel clan, it's the end of an era.

While the family soldiers on ever-growing, the beloved club begun by its patriarch and his children 47 years ago is folding – the victim of youthful indifference.

The Kideckel Social and Benevolent Society was founded in 1951 by Israel Kideckel, his nine children and their children after a cousin fell ill, at a time when there was no provincial coverage.

The inaugural meeting, held according to meticulous records, at 127 Lippincott St. in Toronto, took up a collection for the sick relative and planned a social event or two.

From there, a bona fide constitution was written, officers were elected, regular meetings held, and programs planned. It was a kind of landsmanschaft, but for a single, albeit large, family. Membership was limited to the direct descendants of Israel Kideckel and his wife Minnie. Dues then were $1 per person, per month.

Over the years, the Kideckel Club planned family parties and outings, kept up on family business, held garage sales, and members estimate, doled out some $200,000 to three major Jewish charities: Jewish National Fund, United Jewish Appeal and Baycrest.

Sadly, the club is now folding. "The younger generation just doesn't want it," rues 81-year-old Wilfred Kideckel, the son of Israel and one of the last founders.

Another reason the club is ending is that over the past three years, six family members have died, including four of Israel Kideckel's children. The sole originals left are Wilfred and his 88-year-old brother Harry, who lives at Sunnybrook Hospital.

Wilfred estimates that of the 148 descendants of his parents, fewer than a dozen are still interested in maintaining the society.

The decision to wrap things up "was the saddest day of my life," remarks Nelson Ludwig, 70, a grandson of Israel Kideckel and the society's last president.

Israel Kideckel, his wife Minnie and their two children came from Latvia in 1906, lured by free farmland in northern Ontario. They settled in the Jewish farming community of Krugersdorf. Israel also helped lay track for Ontario's northern railway.

In 1917, the growing clan shifted to Ansonville (now Iroquois Falls, near Timmins) and opened a grocery store. The family, now with nine children, moved to Toronto in the 1940s. Minnie died in 1946, Israel in 1953.

And the club's charter, drawn up by a lawyer, was the real deal.

"We met the last Sunday of every month. The rule was, if you missed three meetings, you were out," says secretary/treasurer Goldie Weinstein, 71, Ludwig's sister. There was also no smoking and no gum chewing. Detailed minutes were taken.

Stiff fines were meted out too. "If you spoke out of turn, you were fined ten cents, or three for a quarter," Weinstein laughs. Judging by *The CJN* interview with the club's last members, the fine collector was probably the busiest person in the room.

Over the years, surnames associated with the club have included Moriens, Shapiro, Kravitz and Weinstein.

But now, Israel Kideckel's great- and even great-great-grandchildren are fanned out across North America and Israel.

"We'd gather to fight," chuckles Wilfred, amid the din. "But the club held the family together."

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What's New

By Miriam Herman

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DEADLINE REMINDER

What's New and About People deadlines: Monday, Aug. 10, is deadline for Aug. 20 issue and Monday, Aug. 17, is deadline for Aug. 27. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 391-1836, fax 391-0829.

Sunday, Aug. 9

TU B'AV EVENT

Tu b'Av – the Jewish Love Festival, an evening of love songs and dances featuring **Yitzhak Argaman** and guest artists, 8:30 p.m., at Earl Bales Park Community Centre. $10 includes light refreshments. 905-770-4720 or 498-6543.

CASINO RAMA

Jewish Women International, Queen City chapter, trip to Casino Rama, departing 9 a.m. at Price Chopper Parking lot (Bathurst and Steeles) $7 (includes complimentary lunch). 250-1330.

JEWISH STORYTELLING

Jewish Storytelling on the Danforth, hosted by **Alec Gelcer**. Come listen, come tell. All welcome. 7:30 p.m., Riverdale Jewish Community Centre, 179A Danforth Ave. $4. 699-8914 or 440-1330.

HOUSE TOUR

The Canadian Cancer Society and Martel Realty Ltd. sponsor Houses of Riverdale, a walking tour spanning over 100 years of architectural design, 1 to 5 p.m. $20. 421-4776.

Wednesday, Aug. 12

MEMORIAL FOR WRITERS

Boris Sandler, recently appointed editor of the New York Yiddish paper, the *Forvertz*, is the featured speaker at the 46th annual commemoration of the Yiddish writers and intellectuals murdered by Stalin on this date in 1952. Also speaking is **Prof. Adam Fuerstenberg**, director, Committee for Yiddish, UJA Federation. An artistic program based on the poetry and songs of the martyred poets features singer **Jenny Eisenstein** and recitations by **David Newman**. 8 p.m. at Beth Tzedec Synagogue. Event is sponsored by the Kultur Geselschaft and the Committee for Yiddish.

Thursday, Aug. 13

LECTURE IN HEBREW

Harav Nachum Cohen of Jerusalem, lectures in Hebrew on Belief, Trust in God, and Educating Our Children, 7:45 p.m. at Congregation B'nai Torah, 465 Patricia Ave. $3.

And What Else Is New

HOMES WANTED

Homes are needed for a group of 40 Israeli teenage dancers and singers who will be performing at the Israel at 50 Pavilion at the Canadian National Exhibition. Aged 15-18, they will be in Toronto Aug. 17-27. They have planned activities and performances during the day. If you would like to house two participants, or for more information, call **Tami Shapiro** 631-5698.

PREPARING FOR SCHOOL

Jewish Vocational Service of Greater Toronto is offering Middle School students (grades 6-9) an opportunity to develop skills to improve school performance and become more effective, efficient learners. Students learn listening and organizational skills and practical strategies for note-taking and test-writing. The four-session workshop, two hours each, runs daily Aug. 24-27 or Aug. 31-Sept. 3, morning or afternoon. $100. Pre-registration required. Limited enrolment. 787-1151, ext. 205.

LA BOHEME

The Centuries Opera Association production of **Puccini's** *La Boheme* goes on stage at the Leah Posluns Theatre Aug. 8-10. Tickets/information 787-3708.

LAWYERS AND JURISTS

The Tri-annual Congress of the International Association of Jewish Lawyers and Jurists takes place in Jerusalem Dec. 28-30. The theme will be Judaism, Humanism,

[Cont'd. on page 19]

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What's New

[Cont'd. from page 18]

Democracy and Political Culture towards the 21st century. Program includes keynote address, Israel: Fifty Years of Independence, a public trial dealing with The Limits of Political Expression, and several panels. **Bert Raphael,** vice-president, 594-1812.

STUDY CLUB

Forum 15 Study Club has places available for new members for the 1998-99 season, offering six lectures with emphasis on literature and Jewish studies. Study Club meets Thursday evenings, starting in the fall. **Randy** 756-0183.

VOLUNTEER PUPPETEERS

Be professionally trained as a puppeteer and educate young people about viruses, HIV/AIDS, drug awareness or substance abuse. The Concerned Kids needs volunteers to help present puppet programs to young people ages 4-14. Must be willing to commit to a half a day per week for the school year until June 1999. A car is necessary. **Joyce** 636-1656.

ROLLERBLADING

Jews for RollerBlading, a group of those 25-40ish meets Wednesday evenings to rollerblade down some of Toronto's finest paths. The one policy is "no kvetching" (and wear your protective gear). Call the 24-hour hotline 208-3221.

VENDORS WANTED

Vendors are wanted for a craft and gift show to be held Sunday, Nov. 22, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Lawrence Square Shopping Centre, 700 Lawrence Ave. W. (at Allen Expressway). Sponsored by Club Beersheba, Na'amat Canada. 636-5425 (days) or **Ruth Jacobson** 493-1089 (evenings).

FOR SENIORS

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club: Aug. 19, cruise and musical *Little Shop of Horrors;* Oct. 27, *Man of La Mancha* at Stratford; in the planning, a three-week trip to Israel in November. Orientation meeting in August. **Lena** 785-5773. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel. **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). Aug. 6, a video; Aug. 9 (Sunday) dance with the Teddy Band; Aug. 13, bingo and other games; Aug. 20, general meeting; Aug. 27, lecture with **Lisa Armoni**, director of Institute of International Affairs of B'nai Brith. **Jerry Bengall** 905-707-7334 or **Dalia Dahary** 661-4689.

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: Aug. 10, shuffle off to Buffalo, members $20, non-members $25; Aug. 30, annual barbecue party and entertainment, members $5, non-members $6; Aug. 24-27, Leelanau Sands Casino, Michigan, $399 (Cdn), taxi pick-up at your residence to departure point and return. Open for membership, $12. 395-7881.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. 225-2112.

Poetry in Motion, Lyrics Waiting for Music, the compositions of **David Zaretsky**, Monday, Aug. 10, 1:15 p.m.

Hearing Aid Checkup by **Barry Katz**, Tuesday, Aug. 11, 12:15 p.m.

Low Vision Support Group meeting Tuesday, Aug. 11, 1:15-2:30 p.m. **Frank Mardin**, a member of CNIB, will share his perspectives and facilitate discussion on Coping with Blindness.

Literary Luncheon Wednesday, Aug. 12, at noon. *My Brother Peter* reviewed by author **Nomi Berger**. Members $8, non-members $10. Review only, $5. Register at Information Desk.

Arthritis Management Clinic with **Bev Tobe**, registered therapist with the Arthritis Society, Thursday, Aug. 13, 1-4 p.m. Make appointment at Wellness Desk.

Israeli Club Etrog meets 7 p.m. Tuesdays for movies, sing-alongs, lectures, bingo, dances. Aug. 11 is a lecture. **Anna**.

Movie, *Three Men and a Baby* , Sunday, Aug. 9, 2:30 p.m.

FUNDRAISING AWARD

A fundraising award was presented to Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue at the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism, Ontario region conference held at Beth Tzedec Synagogue. Accepting the award on behalf of Beth Emeth are (from left) Bernice Levine, executive director, and Margo Grosbein, president. Presenting the award is Morris Adams, immediate past president, Ontario region.

SINGLES EVENTS CAN BE FOUND ON PAGE 20

ABOUT PEOPLE

SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

This year's recipients of the Marina Goldfarb Memorial Scholarship are recent Bialik Hebrew Day School graduates **Rafael Cashman, Elisheva Gould** and **Abigail Sone,** who will be spending next year studying in Israel. The scholarships are awarded annually to graduates of Bialik who wish to further their studies in Israel.

HONORED

Dr. Paul Jesin and Judy Teperman were honored at the annual general meeting of Aid to Disabled Veterans of Israel/Beit Halochem Canada for their leadership roles in organizing the 1997 and 1998 group visit program for Israeli disabled veterans.

CANADA DAY IN JERUSALEM

A team of University of Toronto delegates celebrated Canada Day in Israel. The group was in Israel to promote academic partnerships between U of T and Israel scholars, to attend the Jerusalem Conference of Canadian Studies and to host a U of T alumni reception. From left are U of T vice-president of research and international relations Heather Munroe-Blum, Bunny Shapiro, professor emeritus Ben Zion Shapiro, Dr. Alean Al-Krenawi and John Graham. Al-Krenawi, who received his doctorate at U of T's Faculty of Social Work, is the first member of a Bedouin tribe to graduate from U of T.

CHANGING OF THE GUARD

The Association of Jewish Day School Administrators' changing of the guard took place recently for the 1998-2000 term. From left are Rhonda Birenbaum, Leo Baeck Hebrew Day School administrator, vice-chair; Ira Berman, Eitz Chaim Day School executive director, immediate past president; Arthur Landa, Associated Hebrew Day Schools executive director, newly installed president; Bernard Shoub, Board of Jewish Education director of school finances, secretary-treasurer.

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Greater Toronto Area

Artists & *Creativity*

What inspires creativity in the artist? Is it an accumulation of experiences or does creativity flow from a single, watershed experience? Ibn Ezra, the great medieval philosopher believed that the poet and the artist create by nature, not because of what they acquired through learning. This is the second article in a series of sketches on Artists & Creativity that will explore such questions.

By BILL GLADSTONE

House-keys are a recurrent symbol in *Promise of Shelter*, a recent collection of stories by Montreal writer Robyn Sarah – the very title of which, she says, refers to what a key symbolizes.

In one story, *Shelter*, a woman loses her keys during a late-night dash to the neighborhood grocery store and recalls an eerie dream about getting lost as she shivers in the snow. In another, *Janine*, an insomniac man goes downstairs one night to find a local street-person making a sandwich in his kitchen – a woman who, when challenged, shows him the key she claims he had once given her.

Both stories seem slightly ominous, dreamlike and surreal, hinting at a multitude of bad things that lurk at the edges of our lives, ready to threaten and thwart us in a heartbeat. Numerous stories by Sarah seem to contain these weird, unsuspected elements that might easily upset our precarious existences without notice.

Where do Sarah's creative ideas come from? The poet, fiction writer, essayist and journalist explains that she does not choose the subjects she writes about but that they choose her.

Robyn Sarah **[D.R. Crowles photo]**

"By the time I start to write something, the germ of it has been knocking around in my head for a long time, sometimes years," she says. "I write about things that bother or puzzle me, things that won't leave me alone or I can't get out of my head. It can be something I saw in passing or something someone told me about or something overheard in conversation. But it's something that sticks in my head and won't go away."

Only when she puts a thing down on paper does it begin to loosen its hold over her, she says. "After I write about it, it's in a form that I can manage. It's not something that keeps me awake at night any more."

Sarah says she often feels a compulsion to write. "In one of my poems there's a line that goes, 'Sometimes, it's good to speak not because you have something to say but because you have to say something.' It's a poem about the creative process."

When she has "something to say," she turns to journalism, producing a newspaper article for a publication like the *Globe and Mail*, and usually knowing in advance what shape the piece will take. For fiction and poetry, however, the creative process is markedly different.

"Journalism comes more from the intellect. The impulse to write a story or poem is an emotional impulse, and I don't know what I have to say until I've said it. It doesn't seem to me to be a deliberate or conscious process. That's probably why from the time something first starts nagging me until I write about it can be very long. I think a lot of the work gets done subconsciously."

To compose journalistic articles, Sarah usually works with a computer. When composing fiction and poetry, she prefers the slower, more thoughtful process of writing first in long-hand and then transferring to a manual typewriter for rounds of careful revisions. How the work gets completed" is a very mysterious process that is never the same – it doesn't follow a pattern.

"When I start a story I don't know if I'm going to finish it. Once I've got past the first few pages there's a good chance I'm going to finish it. But it's not like I've got the story in my head. I've usually got a central image or a character but I don't really know where it's going. Often, even when I know how it's going to end, I don't know how I'm going to get there."

Like many serious writers, Sarah keeps unfinished works in a drawer. Revisiting them months or years later, she sometimes find stray pieces that fit together "like molecules bonding" and grow into new poems or stories. She says it's important for writers to cultivate the habit "of being receptive to messages" and not to get too fussy about their environment or the conditions under which they can create.

She finds inspiration wherever she happens to be, she says. "Did you ever notice the words printed on a box of wooden matches? It says, 'Strike Anywhere.' One should cultivate the qualities of a wooden match.

"There are people who say 'I've got to go to Italy to be inspired,' but not me. I can look out the same window that I look out of every day and find something to write about if I'm looking in the right way. It comes from within: it's a way of being open, a way of paying attention."

Sarah's latest work is *Questions About the Stars*, a volume of poetry published this month by Brick Books.

On the joyous occasion of our
50th Anniversary
we would like to thank our children, grandchildren, family and friends for helping us celebrate our simcha and for the generous donations made in our honour.
Love,
Sonia and Ben Lant

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is an advertising feature of
The Canadian Jewish News
Deadline is Wednesday, 4pm, 8 days preceding issue date.
For rates or to place an ad, call:
Tanya at (416) 391-1836
The CJN encourages readers to direct any queries they may have on an upcoming event to the event's organizers.

Beth Tikvah Synagogue - 3080 Bayview Ave. "Progressive Singles" 2nd event: Comedy night, refreshments, "Mix N Mingle" Thurs., Aug. 20, 8pm. Ages 35-55, $10.00. R.S.V.P. early 495-0734, 223-5262.

Check out Jewish Singles Events on the web. www.total.net/~jsreg

Jewish Singles Registry. Over 1630 registered. Averaging an engagement every 4 wks. **483-4151.**

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USDS STUDENTS VISIT BAYCREST

Resident Kay Greengarten (left) enjoys a recent visit with Richmond Hill USDS senior kindergarten students, their parents and teachers.

On Campus

Research chair honors lawyer

TORONTO — Friends and partners of lawyer Eddie Goodman have joined together to establish a research chair at the University of Toronto (U of T) to honor the 50th anniversary of Goodman's call to the bar.

The partners of Goodman Phillips & Vineberg (formerly Goodman & Goodman), and Lionel and Carol Schipper have committed $1 million to establish the Goodman-Schipper Chair in the university's Faculty of Law. The donation is being matched by U of T to endow the chair in perpetuity.

"Together, Goodman Phillips & Vineberg, and the Schippers have made a wonderful commitment to legal education in Canada," says Ron Daniels, dean of the faculty. "The chair allows the faculty maximum flexibility in supporting its academic mission by enabling us to support the research and teaching of a distinguished law scholar, and providing us with an opportunity to recruit a junior faculty member who is just beginning an academic career."

Goodman received his BA in law from U of T in 1940 and is a senior partner at Goodman Phillips & Vineberg. Following his call to the bar in 1947, he joined his father David Goodman to form Goodman & Goodman. Under his leadership the Goodman firm became one of Canada's leading law firms. In 1995 it joined forces with Phillips & Vineberg.

"The foundation I received from my years at the U of T has been of great value throughout my law career," says Eddie Goodman. "I've always believed it's important to give something back to the community. It was a wonderful surprise to be honored by my colleagues and partners with this endowment. And it's an honor to be associated with two good friends, Lionel and Carol Schipper."

CORRECTION

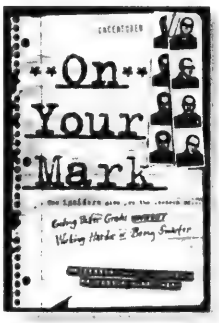
In a June 25 story entitled "UBC Student Publishes First Book of Poetry," University of British Columbia student Abby Wener was incorrectly identified.

The CJN regrets the error.

SCHOOL DAYS
An Israeli student hits the books in the Holy Land.
[UIA Federation Canada/Vera Etzion photo]

On Your Mark can help your marks

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter



TORONTO — If you're savvy enough to get into university, you can probably deduce that calling your professor after midnight to explain why your essay is late won't earn you any Brownie points.

But you might be unaware that most profs have a favorite side of the classroom, and that strategic seating could prove beneficial to your final grades.

At least, that's one of the tips to be found in *On Your Mark*, a 152-page paperback subtitled *Getting Better Grades Without Working Harder or Being Smarter*.

Thirtysomething authors David Kinahan and Harry Heft wrote the slim guidebook, published last year by Macmillan Canada, based on their combined teaching experience of 15 years at the University of Western Ontario, the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, King's College and McMaster University.

The point, according to Kinahan and Heft, is to make a good impression – and to do so subtly. Subjects they address include the fine art of asking questions, and how to finesse unexpected encounters outside of the classroom.

"If the professor thinks you're a jerk, the professor will prove this to herself through evaluation of your work," they write.

It's not exactly a sophisticated intellectual theory, but the writers – whose style is refreshingly breezy for a couple of academics – argue that a student who takes their advice can turn a B into an A.

If you want to cover all your bases and – who knows? – maybe turn that 78 into an 80, it'll set you back $16.95. It just might pay off to do some extracurricular reading.

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If you know anyone that could benefit from this ad, please pass it on.

Israel at 50 Pavilion — From Sand to Cyberspace

[Cont'd. from page 3]

As part of the exhibit's overarching theme, From Sand to Cyberspace, visitors can take a desert camel ride and learn about past and present strategies to reclaim land – particularly in the Negev – once regarded as permanently arid desert.

Visitors can also enjoy the Echoes of the Past – Visions of the Future art gallery, featuring original artwork about Israel by Canadian and Israeli artists.

In addition, they can tour a mock-up of a kibbutz or take in live performances by Israeli singing troupes, dancers, choirs and musicians, as well as fashion shows and food demonstrations, on a 500-seat Jerusalem-themed central amphitheatre stage.

The pavilion will have a circular layout, "the centre of which is Jerusalem, just like in Israel. Everything revolves around Jerusalem."

Among those performing both familiar and original Hebrew and English songs will be the touring Israeli sextet Yovel Israel at 60.

Visitors can sample a range of Jewish and Israeli foods from two restaurants, one of which is kosher under COR and will be closed on Shabbat along with some booths, something "unheard of" for the CNE, which generally requires all booths to be open during fair hours, says Morton. The second restaurant is not kosher because the CNE insists that food be available on Saturday, she explains.

Shopping for clothing, arts and crafts, books, music and software with Israeli or Jewish themes will be available in two shopping areas – a cardo "for the upscale stuff" and a shuk for some authentic Middle Eastern flavor.

Children ages three to 11 can visit the Los Angeles-based travelling exhibit My Jewish Discovery Place: A Children's Museum, focussing on Jewish history, customs and values through interactive exhibits like tying the tzitzit on a tallit. Parts of the exhibit will find a permanent home at the Bathurst Jewish Centre after the Exhibition.

The pavilion will be open for the CNE's duration from Aug. 21 to Sept. 7.

The Yovel Israel at 50 singing group.

Mazel Tov

מזל טוב

We cannot guarantee the date a picture will appear. Please limit all greetings to 25 typewritten words. We reserve the right to edit all items and condense any that are longer than that.

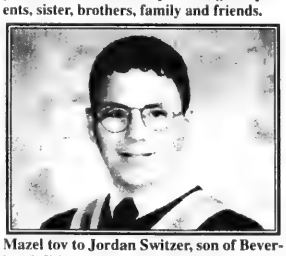
Label the back of all photos and enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope for return. Send all your photos to *The CJN*, Mazel Tov, 1500 Don Mills Rd., Suite 205, North York, Ont., M3B 3K4

Mazel tov to Elena & Lance on their first wedding anniversary June 29, and on Elena's graduation. Love from parents, grandparents, sister, brothers, family and friends.

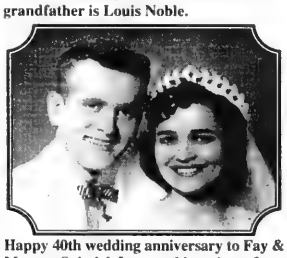
Faygie & Irving Noble and Charlotte Miller & Leon Klorfine announce the engagement of their children Jennifer & Darren. Proud grandfather is Louis Noble.

Susan & Robert Robinson, Cecile & David Posen joyfully announce the engagement of their children Alison and Scott.

Mazel tov to Corinne & Adam on your engagement from thrilled parents Cheryl & Jack Krepel, Sima & Ray Bernatt.



Mazel tov to Jordan Switzer, son of Beverlee & Ed, on your graduation and special award, from Bubbie Skippy & Zayde Hy Caplan.



Happy 40th wedding anniversary to Fay & Murray Spindel. Love and happiness from your children, grandson, parents, brother, sister-in-law and nephew.

Mazel tov to Fella & Pinchus Feld on their 65th wedding anniversary on June 24. Love from their children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Mazel tov to Josh Bower who did a wonderful job at his bar mitzvah on May 30. Love, Mom, Dad and Vanessa.

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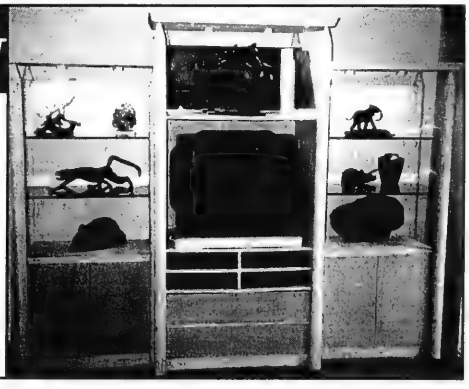

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From coast to coast

At a recent Unity Day program held at Camp Ramah, campers from six Jewish summer camps gathered in small groups (part of one is seen, above) to share their views about Israel.

Kids camps promote unity

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

UTTERSON, ONT. — Six Jewish overnight camps did their bit to promote Jewish unity at a program hosted in early July by Camp Ramah.

The Utterson, Ont. camp, which is affiliated with the Conservative movement, hosted delegates from Camps Moshava (Bnei Akiva), Shomria (Hashomer Hatzair), Solelim (Young Judaea), Northland-B'nai Brith and Gesher (Habonim Dror) for Unity Day.

The idea, to mark Israel's 50th anniversary and take a stand against community divisiveness, was the brainchild of Ramah's director, Rabbi Mitch Cohen, who suggested it during a winter meeting of Ontario Jewish camp directors.

Four hundred and fifty participating campers, all age 14 or 15, broke into groups to discuss what they see as the most significant event in Israel's history, and why Israel is important to North American Jewry. The day culminated with an Israeli song and dance festival prepared by the campers.

"Our kids enjoyed it," said Ellen Nash, director of Camp Northland-B'nai Brith in Haliburton, which sent the largest contingent, about 100 campers. "They were made a little more aware of the diversity of types of camps [that are] all Jewish and all have different perspectives. I think it was valuable."

David Moscovitch, educational director of Camp Gesher, located in Cloyne, felt that while the idea was good, the implementation could have been more successful. Of the groups he observed, the discussions fizzled and the campers "weren't into it."

The way Aaron Greenberg, head counsellor at Moshava – and an organizer of the program – saw it, the day was "very positive." For campers at the Orthodox camp, he said, it was interesting to meet their peers from different Jewish backgrounds. They found common ground in the use of Hebrew at Ramah and Moshava, as well as in their mutual interest in Israel – not to mention the Toronto Blue Jays.

Interest in the discussion topics "varied tremendously" and some discussions were abandoned, admitted Rabbi Cohen. He feels the day was a success, however, and said there is talk of it becoming an annual event. "Personally, I think it's a statement that the Jewish community can work together."

For Rabbi Cohen, the highlight of the day was the song and dance festival. When all the participants joined together in the singing of *Hatikvah*, it was "very powerful."

One camper said her prayer for Israel is that there will be unity between different sets of Jewish people and peace between Israel and surrounding countries.

"It was nice to see everyone coming together for this day for Israel," said Greenberg. "I think with all the conflict in the Jewish community, both here and in Israel, it's nice to see we're able to look past our differences and come together. I hope this will be a model for the future."

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From coast to coast

Labelling regulations 'oppressive', Quebec court told

By JANICE ARNOLD
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — Canada's regulations on the labelling of imported foods are "oppressive" to the Jewish community because they have the effect of barring non-complying kosher products from the country, lawyer Paul Nadler argued in a Quebec Superior Court case challenging the constitutionality of the regulations' application to kosher food on the grounds that it violates freedom of religion.

Not having these products in Canada "will make it extremely difficult on the Jewish community to practise a tenet of its religion which is very central and essential," he wrote in his note and a constitutional exemption should be made.

His client, Les Importations Cacheres Hahamovitch Inc., is appealing a Quebec Court decision that found the company, one of the major kosher importers in Montreal, guilty on 10 counts under the federal Food and Drug Act (FDA) and fined it $850.

The issue is not language. Rather, the company was charged for bringing into the country cookies and crackers that did not comply with the regulations that require manufacturers' nutritional claims to meet Canadian standards.

Specifically, a brand of crackers whose label bore the claim "low sodium" actually contained a higher level of sodium than the Canadian maximum of 40 milligrams of sodium per 100 grams of food, and cookies that carried a claim of "low in saturated fat" and "no cholesterol" did not have on their nutritional panel a breakdown of the grams per serving of saturated, polyunsaturated and monosaturated fats, as required.

Both products were kosher for Passover. Although federal regulations requiring bilingualism are waived during the Passover period, there is no explicit exemption from compliance with nutritional norms when low-sodium or low-fat claims are made.

In his ruling, Quebec Court justice Bernard Grenier wrote: "I am of the opinion that the advantages, in terms of protection of the health of consumers and of their right to be well informed about their choice of food, far outweigh the disadvantages for those who would be prevented to buy the products involved in this case."

The absence of any exception in the FDA is "understandable because of the potential danger for public health in allowing food products to be sold when these products do not reveal adequate information about their compositional content."

He said the "goal of promoting public health and consumer protection has to be balanced against the effect the regulations have on a relatively limited number of people who, for religious reasons, choose to eat only certain types of food at Passover.

"The regulations do not hamper the practice of religion by all members of the Jewish faith. It relates to the capacity of certain people to buy a special category of cookies or snackers (sic)."

Grenier noted that the decision to make nutritional claims is "purely voluntary" and that the regulations apply only if the manufacturer prints them on the labels. He also said the decision not to produce in Canada the foods in this case is "purely economic" because of the small market.

In the appeal before Judge Pierre Pinard, Nadler argued that these kosher foods should be exempted because they are imported in very small quantities and are usually sold in special sections of supermarkets and only in areas where there is sufficient Jewish population, and are not likely to be bought by the general public.

Moreover, he said it is "impractical and uneconomic" to re-label the packages here. It would add to their cost, which is already 30 to 50 percent higher than non-kosher equivalents, and added on labels "deface" a product making it unsellable.

Nadler also argued that the FDA regulations exceed federal jurisdiction in the area of health, which is principally a provincial responsibility. Federal authority to impose criminal law is limited to legislating against "adulteration" or ensuring purity standards of foods, he said. "The Crown has implied there is a serious national emergency and the government is obliged to take action to prevent people from dropping dead of heart attacks [from eating the products in question]," Nadler quipped.

This case is analogous to one in 1980 case in which Labatt brewery won its case against federal regulations that stipulated beer could only be called "light" if it contained less than 2.5 percent alcohol, Nadler said.

He said it was "an exercise in red tape and big government" to require both a compositional standard and certain labeling. In the case of sodium, Canada's "low" 40 mg standard is out of sync with that of the United States, which is 100 mg or the international threshold of 120 mg per 100 g, he stressed.

As for fat content, he maintained the average consumer does not understand, or bother to read, the different types that must be listed. It may also not be that beneficial because the regulations do not require revealing trans-fatty acids content, which is considered to be detrimental to cardiovascular health, he pointed out.

Pinard, however, said the point is not whether Canada's standards are right, but rather whether the government has the authority to set a standard. "If it does, the rest follows."

Crown prosecutor Gilles Villeneuve argued that this case is not about freedom of religion, but "how much profit a manufacturer or importer makes." Nutritional claims on packages are intended to make the product more attractive to the consumer, and thereby generate sales, he said. "They have absolutely no obligation to make those claims."

The only thing preventing the sale of these products in Canada is their refusal, for economic reasons, to comply with Canadian regulations, he said.

The defence, he said, had not established a violation of the Charter of Rights and Freedoms because it had not demonstrated that the extra costs of re-labelling was more than "trivial or insubstantial" or interfered with religious belief or practice. Unlike the Lord's Day Act, for example, the FDA regulations are "religiously, culturally and ethnically neutral," Villeneuve said.

He recalled that the defence's main witness, Hahamovitch owner Michael Zimlichman, had been unable to state precisely what the additional cost would be, having made no analyses.

JET studies Torah

By DIANE KOVEN
Ottawa Correspondent

OTTAWA — Adults were given a taste of serious Torah learning at a recent study week sponsored by JET (Jewish Education through Torah).

"To study every day for five days was much more effective than to study one day a week for five weeks," said Rabbi Zischa Shaps, founder of JET.

Although there are a number of programs providing continuing Jewish education in Ottawa, Rabbi Shaps says, "We feel that the source of Jewish education is the Torah," and JET's programming reflects this philosophy.

Throughout the week, classes and workshops on topics ranging from Learn to Read Hebrew, to Navi for Women, to Gemarah, were led by local instructors and visiting lecturers.

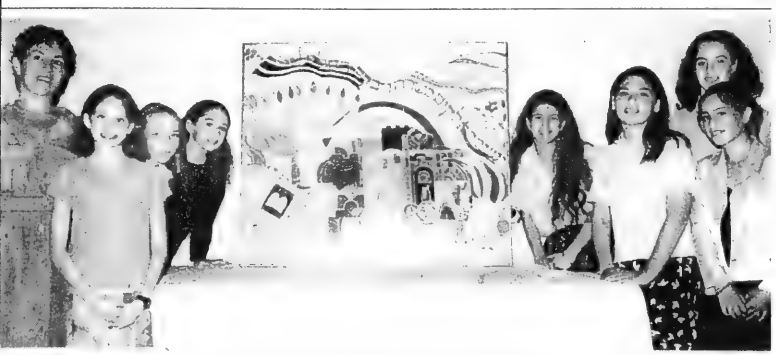
For the second year, Rabbi Yitzchak Feigenbaum, a Toronto teacher, director of NAVON Educational Foundation and editor of *Torah Facts*, attracted a number of returning students, beginning with his lecture at the opening reception entitled Two Jews, Three Shuls: There's Nothing Like a Good Argument.

Rabbi Michael Skobac, consultant to the Toronto branch of Jews for Judaism, gave a special three-day counter-missionary survival seminar, in addition to leading a daily Mitzvah a Day class.

Evening lectures were held throughout the week, which concluded with a Shabbaton at Machzikei Hadas Synagogue.

"The program attracted people from a wide range of backgrounds, all ages, many levels of knowledge, education and observance," said Rabbi Shaps.

JET holds adult education programs in Ottawa throughout the year and plans to hold a third adult Torah study week next summer.



JOINT BAT MITZVAH PROJECT

Seven girls celebrating their bat mitzvah at the Kamin Centre Synagogue recently completed a joint project: a painting on silk, which they are donating to the shul. From left are art consultant Shelley Praver, Tamara Winegust, Stephanie Walkin, Deborah Lipszyc, Jessica Zworth, Rebecca Rockman, Judy Amar and Kimberly Koczergiski. [Gabe Csillag photo]

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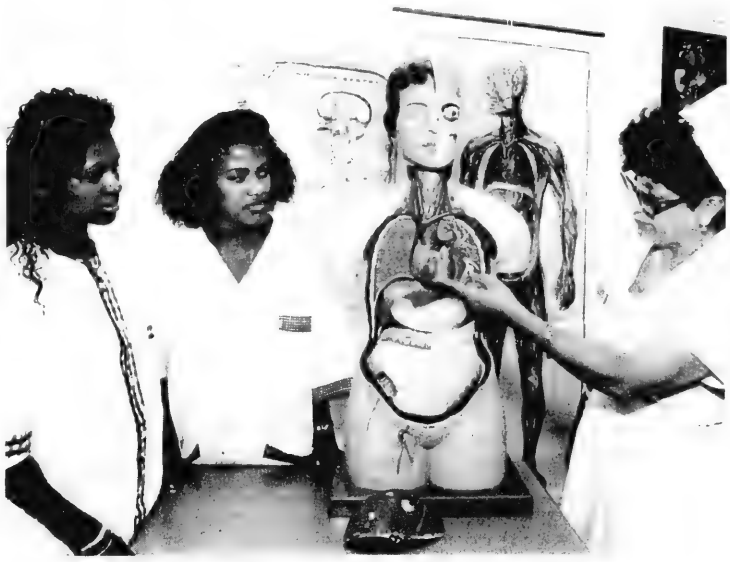

GETTING TO THE HEART OF THE MATTER
Nursing students in Safed listen intently as their instructor uses a model to teach them about internal human anatomy.
[UIA Federation Canada/Vera Etzion photo]

Life begins at 80: retirement expert

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Within the next 10 years a significant number of women and men will live to between 100 and 150 years of age, a Toronto expert on retirement predicted recently.

Gene therapy, or the ability to change human cells, will overcome cancer, Alzheimer disease and other ills, Michael Sossin told the Association of Jewish Seniors at Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue.

Sossin, 86, operated the Blackstone Hotel, a retirement home in Miami Beach, Fla., for many years. A native of Toronto and at one time the owner of a large car dealership in Oshawa, he recently moved back to Toronto.

Basing his remarks on 50 years of housing and caring for thousands of retired people, Sossin said the primary need for "marginal" cases of Alzheimer disease is "tender, loving care."

There is medication now available which changes the whole picture of treating disorders of the mind, he pointed out.

But most problems with health start with what people eat, he said, advocating a balanced diet.

"I know so many people who can tell me what happened 15 or 20 years ago and can't say what happened five minutes ago."

One of the prescriptions he offered was: "You can't do anything on your own and without love, you can't do anything."

The three plagues which afflict elderly people are loneliness, boredom and helplessness, he said.

His own philosophy is reflected in the slogan, "life begins at 80," he said, but the quality of years lived is more important than the quantity.

His operating credo at the Blackstone was "to let people do what they wanted," and there were many engagements and weddings among retired people when he was there.

Sossin campaigned for a system of medicare in the United States similar to that in Canada while active in the retirement residence business there.

Examples he gave of interesting people who were residents of the Blackstone included a 94-year-old man worth half a million dollars who couldn't sign his own name, and a woman who had a stroke but lived there happily for 30 years.

One of Sossin's best friends is 103-year-old Max Safir who gave him one of his first jobs at College Auto Service.

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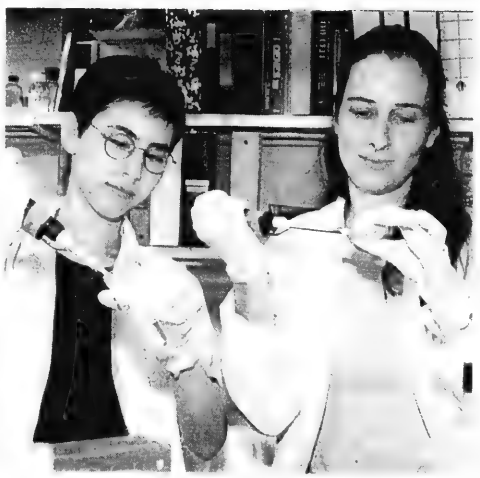

LAB LEARNING AT WEIZMANN
Canadian Sarah Covshof (left) works alongside mentor Hadass Waterman in a Weizmann Institute lab in Rehovot, Israel. Covshof is one of 71 high school graduates from 16 countries in a summer science institute. [Weizmann Institute photo]

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Labor may expel Orr

By MICHAL YUDELMAN
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Labor party leader Ehud Barak was expected to expel MK Ori Orr from the Knesset's Foreign Affairs and Defence Committee, the faction executive, and Labor's leadership team, following his derogatory remarks about Sephardim in an interview with *Ha'aretz*.

Orr reportedly suggested to the Labor faction that he suspended himself from the faction, but no further details were available on what this meant.

There was mounting pressure on Barak to do something decisive to force Orr's resignation from the Knesset, or at the very least, from all his party positions.

MK Shlomo Ben-Ami told Orr at the meeting that for the good of democracy and Labor's future, he must suspend himself from all political activity.

A number of MKs are demanding to put to a vote the proposal that Orr resign.

Last week, Orr met Barak and the two discussed the possibility of Orr's suspending himself from all his party and Knesset duties.

As a growing number of Laborites pressed for Orr's resignation, Orr asked to convene the faction so that his colleagues hear him out before deciding on the matter.

"Someone manipulated what I said in an ugly way. To my regret, a large group of people was hurt," Orr said before the faction meeting.

Among those demanding Orr's resignation are MKs Haim Ramon, Shlomo Ben-Ami, Haggai Merom, Uzi Baram, and Avraham Shohat.

They criticized Barak for failing to "assume leadership" and take immediate steps to remove Orr from the party, and accused him of "deliberate delay" in handling the matter. They said Barak was wrong if he thought the damage Orr caused would blow over and insisted it was necessary to clearly disassociate Labor from Orr's statements.

They also pointed out that a suspension is insignificant when the Knesset is on recess for three months.

"The incident cannot be closed without taking steps first and foremost against the one who laid this explosive," Merom said. "Barak says he doesn't act like a guillotine [against Orr]. But the guillotine is not laid on Orr's neck, but on Barak's and Labor's."

Iranian missiles worry Israel

By STEVE RODAN
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Iran, which recently test-fired a missile with a range of 1,300 kilometres, is rapidly developing a more sophisticated weapon with a range of more than 2,000 kilometres and capable of carrying nonconventional warheads, military sources said.

The new missile is called Shihab-4 and its development could be completed within the next two to five years, the sources said.

Unlike the Shihab-3, test-fired last week, which is based on the North Korean No-Dong missile, the Shihab-4 is entirely a product of Russian missile technology and can carry biological, chemical or nuclear warheads.

"This is the great danger to us," a senior source said. "This will be more dangerous than the Shihab-3."

Iranian Defence Minister Ali Shamkhani said that the Shihab-3 "is absolutely domestically produced and has no assistance from any foreign country."

The military sources said the Shihab-4, which western intelligence assesses is based on the Soviet SS-4 missile, will contain all of the advanced technology and sub-systems that the Iranians will not include in Shihab-3.

Shihab-3, which the sources said will be operational in 1999, has been developed by Russia in a fast-track program that might not include nonconventional warhead capability.

"The Shihab-3 is being rushed," the source said. "They are so eager to complete this missile that they are shortening stages of development."

But the Shihab-4, the sources said, is being developed parallel to Shihab-3 and has made significant progress this year.

That assessment matches that of the Clinton administration. Earlier this week, U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Martin Indyk warned that Shihab-4 would take from two to five years to complete and could reach much of Europe.

Israeli military sources said that, despite its pledges, the Russian government is not significantly slowing down the pace of missile technology transfer to Iran. Earlier this month, Moscow announced it would investigate nine companies for allegedly transferring missile technology to Iran.

The sources said Israel has been feeding Moscow intelligence on the involvement of both private and government-aligned companies in the Shihab-3 program. They said Russian defence and intelligence officials have listened, pledged to halt any such transfer, but have done little.

One such example, they said, came during the visit of a delegation headed by then-head of Russian domestic intelligence, Lt.-Gen Nikolai Kovalyov, who was recently dismissed by Russian President Boris Yeltsin.

The sources said the meetings were friendly, but the Russian officials consistently denied that leading Russian companies were supplying help to Iran. They said the denials continued even as Moscow announced an investigation of the very same companies.

"They declare their readiness to cooperate," a source said, referring to the Russian government, "but they are not cooperating."

Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai's spokesman Avi Benayahu, said that there is no doubt Russia could prevent its companies from selling missile and non-conventional weapons technology to Iran, and Israel expects Moscow to do so.

The Shihab-3 could reach targets in Israel, Saudi Arabia, much of Turkey and portions of Russia.

Iran's defence minister suggested in a commentary in the Persian-language newspaper *Iran* that the test was directed at Israel rather than Teheran's immediate neighbors.

Sculpture desecrated

By DEIDRE BERGER
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

BERLIN — The recent desecration of a sculpture at Buchenwald comes amid a backdrop of increased attacks on concentration camps in Germany.

Unknown assailants damaged the figure of a child by partially sawing through one of its legs. The child represents the 9,000 children who survived Buchenwald. An estimated total of 56,000 people died at the camp, including about 11,000 Jewish victims. The damage to the sculpture, which is located in a different section of the grounds than the main exhibition, was discovered by visitors to the site.

The sculpture of 11 figures by artist Fritz Cremer, erected in 1958, depicts a group of liberated survivors of Buchenwald.

In a statement, memorial site director Volkhard Knigge said the attack was an attempt to damage and even obliterate the memory of the suffering of Nazi victims.

State authorities said they suspected right-wing extremists were responsible for the attack.

There have been repeated incidents of young right-wing extremists scrawling graffiti or flashing the Hitler salute at Buchenwald and Sachsenhausen, both of which are in the eastern part of Germany. In the early 1990s, one of the former prisoner barracks at Sachsenhausen burned down in an arson attack by right-wing radicals.

But this is the first time that a memorial for former Nazi prisoners has been damaged, according to Rikola-Gunner Luettgenau, the deputy director of the Buchenwald memorial site.

Earlier this month, police in the state of Brandenburg were asked to stop reporting incidents of right-wing graffiti at concentration camp memorials to the media. Authorities at the memorial fear publicity about such incidents has inspired similar acts in the past. In the past 18 months, at least 12 such acts have been reported at the memorial sites at Sachsenhausen and Ravensbruck.

Incidents attributed to right-wing extremists jumped by more than a third in Germany last year, according to the federal government. There were 976 anti-Semitic acts reported to federal authorities last year, as compared to 846 in 1996. Most were related to propaganda crimes, although there were 40 desecrations of Jewish cemeteries.

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Exercise in disappointment

Mideast Analysis

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

A year after U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright unveiled a more vigorous approach to Middle East peacemaking, she has nothing to show for her efforts.

The Oslo peace process she had hoped to rejuvenate remains irretrievably bogged down, with no realistic prospect of breaking the 16-month impasse any time soon.

Last week, at Albright's behest, Israeli and Palestinian negotiators, spearheaded by Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai and Yasser Arafat's chief aide, Mahmoud Abbas, held a series of meetings to review her plan for a 13 percent Israeli redeployment from the West Bank.

But Israel and the Palestine Authority were unable to resolve their differences by the time the Knesset recessed for its three-month summer break, dashing hopes for the diplomatic breakthrough Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu had been predicting.

At week's end, Israel's "10 plus three" offer had not changed. Israel was prepared to cede a further 10 percent of the West Bank, while converting an additional three percent into a "nature preserve" where the Palestinians would have no security control or the right to build. The Palestinians, who have accepted the American ideas for redeployment, spurned the proposal. Israel, meanwhile, presented its own demands, the most notable of which call on the Palestinians to complete the revocation of their national covenant and turn over suspected terrorists.

For Albright, the continuing deadlock is an exercise in frustration and disappointment.

After being appointed secretary of state, she adopted a conspicuously low profile with respect to the Arab-Israeli peace process. But on Aug. 6, 1997, in her first major speech on the Middle East, she announced a shift in U.S. strategy.

She said she would press Israel and the Palestinians to accelerate their movement toward final status talks. Cognizant of three recent suicide bombings which had convulsed Israel, she urged the Palestinians to redouble their attempts to combat terrorism.

And in a reference to Israel's policy of building residential neighborhoods in disputed eastern Jerusalem (Har Choma) and expanding settlements in the territories, she asked Israel to forgo "unilateral acts which prejudge or predetermine issues reserved for permanent status negotiations."

Signalling her intention to become personally involved in the process, which broke down after Israel began construction of Har Choma, Albright made her first official trip to the Middle East in September. It was not a success, and Albright declared she would not return just to "tread water."

In the months to come, she met with Netanyahu and Arafat in Western European capitals. During the Iraqi crisis last winter, she conferred with Netanyahu in Jerusalem. These meetings were fruitless. She also dispatched Dennis Ross – the special Mideast envoy – to the region several times. But he, too, failed to close the gap.

Impatient with the slow and hesitant pace of the talks, Albright acknowledged that she was "sick and tired" of the situation. She pointedly advised Netanyahu and Arafat to show courage and make the required "difficult decisions."

In March, Israel officially rejected Washington's peace initiative, which turns on a phased Israeli withdrawal from 13 percent of the West Bank in exchange for a Palestinian crackdown on terrorism.

Two months later, Albright held separate discussions with Netanyahu and Arafat in London. When they produced no results, President Bill Clinton invited the pair for a summit in Washington. Arafat said he would go. Netanyahu declined, prompting Albright to caution that a "crisis of confidence" had arisen between Israel and the Palestinians, and, in a warning to Netanyahu, that the United States might "reexamine" its role in the talks.

Since then, the impasse has deepened, leaving Albright high and dry and in no better a position than when she embarked on her difficult and perhaps impossible quest to reconcile Israeli and Palestinian national interests.

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The Week in Israel

July 27

• A Palestinian family from the Gaza Strip donated organs from a son who died in a car accident to four Israeli Jews. "We thought of the donation as a purely humanitarian gesture," said the brother of the donor.

July 28

• During his visit to Lithuania last week, Chief Ashkenazi Rabbi Yisrael Lau asked the president of Lithuania, Valdas Adamkus, to turn over 300 Torah scrolls now in a Lithuanian library. Adamkus promised to discuss the matter with leaders of the Lithuanian Jewish community.

• Police recommended bringing indictments against 30 people associated with the right-wing pirate radio station Arutz-7. Police raided the station's offices last month to establish whether the station was operating from a ship outside the territorial boundaries of Israel, as it had claimed.

July 29

• The head of Palestinian security in the West Bank, Jibril Rajoub, called Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu a "racist," adding that war with Israel was a possibility. "Hundreds from both sides will be killed," he said. "If Israel tries to enter our areas, battles will also happen in certain Israeli areas."

July 30

• Internal Security Minister Avigdor Kahalani said he supports the idea of freeing some Palestinian prisoners as a goodwill gesture. Kahalani said he would release prisoners who did not have "blood on their hands." About 100 prisoners are being considered for release.

• After months of lobbying by Australian families, the Knesset established a parliamentary committee to investigate last year's Maccabiah bridge collapse. Chaired by Labor MK Micha Goldman, the bipartisan committee will begin its hearings next month.

July 31

• Ehud Barak and Netanyahu are running neck and neck, according to the latest public opinion poll conducted by the Dahaf Institute. Each gets 41 percent of the vote for prime minister. Ten percent of respondents would vote for neither. The maximum margin of error was 4.5 percent.

With files from the JTA and JPFS

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Israel & the Jewish World

Ukrainian Jews surprise Rabbi Adin Steinsaltz

[Cont'd. from page 1]

Faculty members from the St. Petersburg Jewish University lectured about Jewish culture and architecture in the area, which was first home to Jews in the 15th century.

The region's Jewish population is now less than 5,000.

Since most younger Ukrainian Jews have emigrated during the past decade, Jewish communities here are predominantly elderly.

Indeed, pensioners make up more than 60 percent of Jews in smaller Ukrainian communities. Most have found themselves in an extremely harsh economic climate as a result of the economic deterioration that has taken place since Ukraine became independent after the breakup of the Soviet Union in 1991.

The Jews who live here are not religious. Few go to synagogue, even if there is one in their town. And even fewer know how to daven.

For example in Khmelnitski, whose Jewish population numbers more than 1,000, there are only three men in their 70s and 80s who know how to pray in Hebrew.

"It's never too late to start with what a small Jewish boy starts with," Rabbi Steinsaltz told those who gathered in a synagogue that was recently returned to the Jewish community.

"Even when a man is very limited in means, this does not excuse him from not being a Jew," he said, responding to the claim that the younger generation should lead the Jewish revival.

"I didn't expect that the rabbi would say such things," said a woman in her 70s after the lecture. She added that now she intends to light Shabbat candles in her home – something she has never done in her life.

Some of the sites the group visited are places whose memory still sears the Jewish consciousness.

Rabbi Steinsaltz had not previously visited the Jewish community in the town that bears the name of Bogdan Chmielnicki, who led the 1648 rebellion against Polish rule during which tens of thousands of Jews were killed.

Rabbi Steinsaltz still refers to the city as Proskurov – the original name of the town that was changed to Khmelnitski in the 1950s to honor the man who is still revered in Ukraine as a pioneer of the movement for national liberation.

But Rabbi Steinsaltz used the fact that the Jews rebuilt their lives here after the Chmielnicki massacre to provide an inspirational message.

"In percentage, that massacre was like the Holocaust. It was a disaster. But it was not the end of Jewish life here," he said.

Indeed, less than 100 years after that incident, this community's spiritual quest generated a new religious movement: Chassidism.

Rabbi Steinsaltz made stops in several towns and shtetls to visit the graves of some of the most revered chassidic leaders of the early generations.

Among them was the Ba'al Shem-Tov, also known as Besht, one of the founders of Chassidism, the populist, charismatic movement begun in the 18th century.

His grave inside a small acetic white-brick mausoleum stands in the middle of a nearly destroyed Jewish cemetery in the town of Medzibezh, where the Ba'al Shem-Tov spent his most creative years and where he died in 1760.

During the Nazi occupation of World War II, a German artillery battalion stood at the cemetery. Only a couple of dozen of graves survived, including those of the Ba'al Shem-Tov and some of his family.

Today, Medzibezh, a site of pilgrimage for chassidic Jews since the last century, has only one Jewish family.

A new synagogue for pilgrims – a very modest-looking building – is being built next to the cemetery with funds donated by a chassidic family from France.

Education debated

[Cont'd. from page 1]

MK Shmuel Halpert (United Torah Judaism), who initiated the committee discussion, said the low rate of involvement in Jewish education explained the high assimilation rate.

"If this situation continues, we will in effect be lost. In another generation or two they won't even know they are Jewish," he said.

MK Naomi Chazan (Meretz) also said the government should be more active "or we will lose a large part of the Jewish people."

Binyamin Ish-Shalom, director of Beit Morasha, the Centre for Advanced Jewish Studies in Jerusalem, told the committee there is a drop in the motivation of Jewish communities abroad to support Jewish education.

"The distance between these communities and the state is widening and we are responsible," he said.

The director of Beit Hatefusoth, David Alexander, presented a survey which indicated that 37.4 percent of Israelis believe Diaspora relations today are weaker than they have been in the past, 17.6 percent believe they are stronger and 32 percent believe there has been no change.

More secular Jews are convinced the relationship has weakened (43.2 percent) compared to traditional Jews (33 percent) and religious Jews (31.4 percent).

Almost a third of those surveyed (31 percent) believe Israeli schools should teach about the Diaspora and Jewish schools abroad should learn about Israel. Just over 24 percent believe Israeli and Diaspora schools should adopt each other.

IDF squad ambushed

By ARIEH O'SULLIVAN
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Hezbollah guerrillas recently ambushed an IDF squad on its way to firing practice in south Lebanon, killing one soldier and wounding five others, the army said.

Another IDF force counterattacked and pursued the Shi'ite gunmen until they set off a roadside charge. No IDF soldiers were hurt in the explosion, but the Hezbollah guerrillas escaped, apparently unharmed, military sources said.

The soldier killed was identified as Staff-Sgt. Shahar Mins, 21, from Kfar Ahim. His death brought to nine the number of IDF soldiers killed in Lebanon so far this year.

The other soldiers all suffered light wounds.

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CJN Rosh Hashanah Photo Contest

The CJN announces its fourth annual Rosh Hashanah photo contest. We are asking readers to submit their own original photographs either of Israel or on any Jewish theme in their community.

Anyone can enter except *CJN* employees or members of their families.

A maximum of three photos per entrant may be submitted. Please write your name, address and phone number on the back of each photo. We can only return the photos if you provide a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

You may mail or deliver your photos to: *The CJN* Rosh Hashanah Contest, The Canadian Jewish News, 1500 Don Mills Road, Suite 205, Toronto, Ont., M3B 3K4.

The contest closes at 3 p.m. on Friday, Aug. 28, 1998.

The judges will choose three photographs which, in their opinion, are the most expressive and evocative. These three photos will be published in *The CJN* Rosh Hashanah issue, Sept. 17, 1998. Each of the "winning" photographers will receive a cheque for $100.

We will undoubtedly receive many worthy submissions. But only three will be selected as the "winners." The decisions of the judges will be final. The odds of winning depend upon the number and the quality of submissions received.

Winning entrants will be notified by telephone before Shabbat on Sept. 4, 1998.

Along with these three photos, *The CJN* will also publish 10 photos from the Israel Experience Photo Contest sponsored by UIA Federations Canada, the Canada Israel Experience Centre and El Al Israel Airlines. Israel Experience participants aged 15 to 24 should contact the UIA office for details.

Any litigation respecting the conduct and awarding of a prize in this contest may be submitted to the Régie des Loteries et courses du Québec.

CJ Kids

UP CLOSE AND PERSONAL
An instructor and a blind child kneel to touch some pelicans as part of an innovative therapeutic program in Israel to help blind children. [UIA Federation Canada/Vera Etzion photo]

QUILT TO HONOR ISRAEL'S 50TH
Temple Sinai kindergarten pupils, from left, Caitlin Cohen, Madelaine Banks and Adam Krausz display a class quilt donated to Baycrest Centre.

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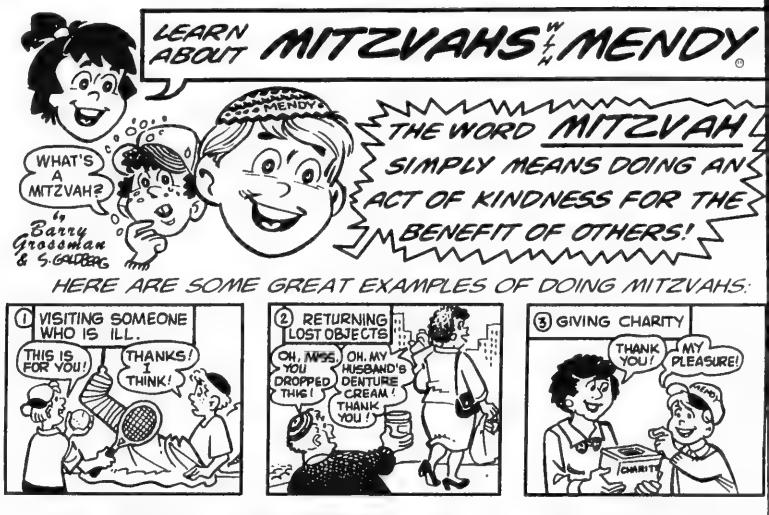
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CJ Kids

Summer drinks that are cool

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

You know how your mother is always telling you to have healthy drinks during the summer, with not too much sugar and other stuff that isn't good for you? Those kind of drinks taste terrific and they are usually easy for kids to make themselves.

Eileen Goltz, who lives in Fort Wayne, Indiana, has sent us these recipes for cool summer drinks that are delicious and refreshing, and easy to make. And no one will tell you not to drink them. You might like to ask one of your parents to supervise you when you use the blender.

LEMON/LIMEADE

2 or 3 ice cubes
1½ tbsp. lemon juice (fresh is best)
1½ tbsp. lime juice (fresh is best)
2 tbsp. sugar
5 to 8 ice-cubes
2 cups cold water
Lemon slices

Pour the lemon and lime juice into a pitcher. Add the sugar and stir until it is dissolved. Add the ice-cubes and mix well. Garnish with lemon slices. Serves two. This can be doubled or tripled.

LEMONADE PLUS

2 tbsp. lemon juice (fresh is best)
1 tsp. sugar
1 cup chilled club soda
3 or 4 ice-cubes

In a large glass combine the lemon juice and sugar until sugar is dissolved. Add soda or water, and stir. Put ice-cubes in a tall glass and pour lemonade over them. Serves one. This can be doubled or tripled.

Instead of the sugar, you can use 1½ oz. raspberry or cherry syrup, half grape juice and half club soda, or chilled apple juice instead of club soda.

To make limeade, use lime juice instead of lemon juice.

FROZEN FRUIT SLUSH

1½ cups ice-cubes
1 ripe banana, sliced
5 strawberries, with the green part taken off
½ cups orange juice
1 cup pineapple chunks, drained

Mix all the ingredients in a blender and process until thick and smooth. Serve immediately. Serves two. This recipe can be doubled or tripled.

A horse named Liberty

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

When World War II ended in 1945, there were many, many Jews who had lost their homes and everything they had. They desperately wanted to come to America, to build a better life for themselves and their families.

(By the way, to most of them, "America" meant the United States. Canada, if they had heard very much about it at all, was not a place they thought about going, unless they had family here.)

The Hand-Me-Down Horse, by Marion Hess Pomeranc, with illustrations by Joanna Yardley (Albert Whitman & Co., Morton Grove, Ill., 1996) is a wonderful book about a little boy named David Solomon, who is waiting with his parents, his little brother Max, and his Aunt Rachel, for a place on a Liberty ship which would take them to America.

Aunt Rachel gives David pieces of paper with English words that he would need when he came to his new home – words like friend, baseball, and statue, "because Aunt Rachel said there was a beautiful statue waiting to welcome him to America." He hung them up on his wall, and practiced until he knew them by heart.

When his aunt left for America ahead of the rest of them, she gave him more words to learn, which he also put on his wall.

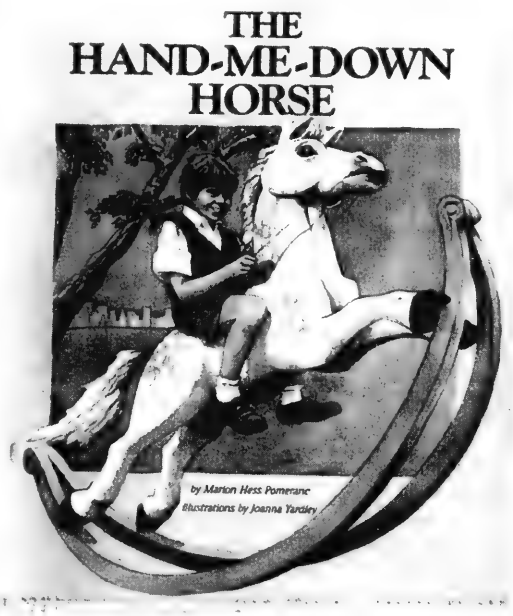
Days passed, and still the family didn't get to go to America. David got very discouraged, put all the words away in a box, and tried not to think about going to America.

Then something happened to cheer him up. Someone left him a rocking horse to play on. The only condition was that when he left, he had to give it to someone who was still waiting.

David was thrilled with the horse, which he named Liberty. Along with his friend, Martha, he made up all sorts of exciting stories and games to play.

You won't be surprised to know that the Solomon family eventually got to America – but what would David do with the horse?

The Hand-Me-Down Horse is a story you will really enjoy reading. You will also enjoy the pictures, which not only illustrate the story, but show the kind of clothes people wore then, the kind of places they lived, what kind of cars they drove, and what New York looked like.



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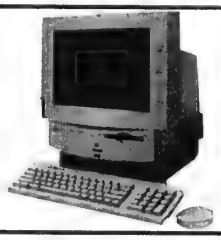

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Freudian analysis and Zohar examined in play

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A 26-year-old playwright believes there is enough interest in Jewish mysticism to attract an audience to *The Kabbalistic Psychoanalysis of Adam R. Tzaddik.*

Anton Piatigorsky, who has just moved to Toronto from the United States, examines the principles of Freudian analysis and the Zohar in his one-hour play, running for six performances at the Tarragon Theatre starting Aug. 6., as part of the Summer Works Festival.

Though Piatigorsky says he does not favor Freudian analysis over Kabbalah, he does concede he is interested in spreading knowledge about Jewish mysticism and believes even those who know little about Kabbalah will like the play.

The writer, who grew up in a non-observant household in Washington, D.C. and married Torontonian Ava Roth in April, took a degree in religious studies at Brown University in Providence, R.I., and followed it with studies in mysticism and modern Jewish thought at New York University. He then spent a year in Israel studying Hebrew and the theory of Halachah at an ulpan in Jerusalem.

The active and vibrant theatre scene in Toronto attracted him to Canada.

"When it comes to questions about life's meaning, is there really much difference between sacred and secular aspirations? Piatigorsky asks. "I am more interested in questions than answers."

His play dramatizes the clash between the scientific and the religious, the psychological and the mystical.

It is designed and directed by Chris Abraham, with Graeme Somerville and Terrence Bryant, and presented by Sauce Productions/GO CHICKEN GO.

A second play by Piatigorsky, dealing with Jewish immigration in the North American west will open the first week in October at the Annex Theatre on Bathurst Street. It is titled *Easy Lenny Lazman and the Great Western Ascension.*

Among the 40 plays at the Summer Works Festival, which is also running at Factory Theatre, is a return of *Blitzkrieg* by Bryan Wade, a daring play of the '70s, examining the relationship between Eva Braun and history, with Michael Kessler as Adolf Hitler. It runs at Factory Theatre starting Aug. 8.

Blackout is a play that delves into the mysteries of technology and people's dependence on it. It is writen by five young female playwrights, including Kristen Schiener, who also directs. It is at the Tarragon.

For information on *Summer Works* call 410-1048.

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Boris Brott reunites 'three tenors' for music fest

DANIEL WOLGELERENTER
Student Intern

TORONTO — For those who missed Toronto's own cantorial three tenors at the Israel at 50 gala, or who want to hear them again, Boris Brott is bringing them back.

As part of the annual Boris Brott Summer Music Festival, local cantors Paul Kowarsky of Beth Tzedec Synagogue, Benjamin Maissner of Holy Blossom Temple and Yaacov Motzen of Shaarei Shomayim Congregation will bring their considerable talents to the George Weston Recital Hall at the Ford Centre for the Performing Arts on August 12 in a midsummer's Celebration of Israel's 50th.

The chazanim, representing the three main streams of Judaism, will reprise their May performance of the Israel at 50 Overture by Shaarei Shomayim musical director Steven Glass, as well as perform a pastiche program ranging from traditional cantorial melodies to Mendelssohn and Puccini and the work of Beth Tikvah music director and Order of Canada member Srul Irving Glick.

The tenors will be accompanied by Brott conducting the festival's National Academy Orchestra, half comprised of what Brott calls "the finest professionals from across the country" and half from "the finest young graduates" of Canadian university music schools.

Brott says his 11-year-old festival was established in the summer of 1988 as "a mentoring program akin to being a resident in a hospital or doing articles at a law firm" to help ease young musicians' transition from student to professional by playing with some of the country's finest musicians and concertmasters.

The internationally renowned guest conductor and corporate motivational speaker on teamwork and creativity certainly qualifies on both counts.

In addition to his 1969 to 1990 stint as music director of the now-defunct Hamilton Philharmonic, Brott has helped build five other Canadian orchestras, such as the Kitchener-Waterloo Symphony and Symphony Nova Scotia, where he served as founder and artistic advisor from 1984 to 1989.

Boris Brott

Currently conductor and music director of California's New West Symphony and co-conductor of Montreal's McGill Chamber Orchestra, Brott was introduced to the "three marvelous tenors who happen to be chazanim" when he conducted the gala concert in May.

"I was so impressed with [the Israel at 50 concert]. It was such a wonderful event....so I thought wouldn't it be great to arrange a concert showing off their abilities as cantors and as legitimate operatic singers," he says.

As one of the Hamilton-based festival's two Toronto dates this year, Brott chose North York's Ford Centre "basically because the cantors are all known in Toronto and are all Toronto-based."

As well, the show could attract the city's larger Jewish community, give the festival "good exposure" and lead to more Toronto dates in future years, Brott says.

With only 1,100 seats in the recital hall, he expects the concert, sponsored by Hamilton women's clothier Milli, will be a sell out.

"It will be a fun, freiluch kind of evening showing off [the tenors'] talents," he says.

Award-winning tap-dance show makes its Canadian debut

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO— A year ago, Daniel Kerzner saw the *Hot Shoe Shuffle* in Australia and resolved to bring the multimillion dollar production to Canada.

Last month, the award-winning Australian tap-dance show made its Canadian debut at the Living Arts Centre (LAC) in Mississauga. Kerzner is the associate producer of the show which runs until Aug. 9.

"Coming up with this crazy idea to produce this multimillion show in Canada, and a year later to have done it, is an incredible feeling of satisfaction," Kerzner said. "This production has opened many possibilities for myself and LAC."

The accomplishment is even more impressive when one considers that Kerzner is only in his mid-20s. He was reluctant to give *The CJN* his exact age because, he said, people often associate age with experience.

But Kerzner has been in the entertainment field since the age of 16 and has amassed a substantive resume, beginning at Roots, where he helped with entertainment-related projects like store openings and parties.

While studying for a degree in communications at York University, he did an internship in marketing at MGM. "I have always loved marketing and communications – taking a product from the industry and marketing it to the consumer," he said.

When he was marketing director at the Atlantis Theatre at Ontario Place in 1996, Kerzner had the opportunity to become a producer. His first show, the off-Broadway hit *Forbidden Hollywood,* was followed by Neil Simon's Pulitzer-prize-winning play, *Lost in Yonkers,* directed by Al Waxman.

As producer, his responsibilities included casting , marketing and dealing with the day-to-day operations of the project, Kerzner ex-

[Cont'd. on page 41]

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Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

IS ZORRO JEWISH?

John Gertz, a co-producer of the current feature film *The Mask of Zorro* starring **Antonio Banderas** and **Anthony Hopkins**, has some interesting theories about the masked, black-garbed swordsman who made his debut in a silent film in 1920.

"It's quite obvious Zorro is very Jewish," Gertz recently told a reporter for the *Jewish Bulletin of Northern California*. "His family has escaped to the far reaches of the Spanish empire in California. He is interested in matters of justice. He has a hidden identity. He is clearly a Marrano."

Gertz is president of the Berkeley Richmond Jewish Community Centre in the San Francisco area.

***

Book News: New York City-born **Rabbi Martin Samuel Cohen**, who lives with his family in Richmond, B.C. where he is the rabbi of the Beth Tikvah Congregation, has written several novels and collections of essays. His third and latest book of essays, *Travels On The Road Not Taken: Towards a Bible-Based Theory of Jewish Spirituality*, was published recently by Moonstone Press of London, Ont.

"There was also another way in antiquity, a way that offered its proponents a different kind of spiritual focus," Cohen writes in the preface. "It was a way of seeking God through direct experiential encounter, a method of spiritual enterprise rooted in the kind of faith that flows from sensual experience of the divine rather than the kind that develops from compliance to predetermined rules and regulations..."

***

New Album for Klezmatics: The renowned Jewish-roots band The Klezmatics have just finished recording *The Well*, a new album in collaboration with Israeli singer-songwriter **Chava Alberstein**. Toronto-based musician-producer **Ben Mink**, known for his work with **k.d. lang**, recorded the project at New York's Avatar Studios. The new album is scheduled for release in September.

***

Ford Centre Line-Up: Livent Inc. recently announced the fall-winter season for the Ford Centre for the Performing Arts in North York. The 1998/99 season includes **Annie**, the popular tale of the feisty carrot-topped orphan (Sept. 8 to 20); *Goosebumps Live On Stage*, inspired by the popular American author **R.L. Stine** (Oct. 13 to 25); *Smokey Joe's Cafe*, the feel-good nostalgia hit from Broadway (Oct. 28 to Nov. 22); *Barrymore*, with **Christopher Plummer** portraying the legendary actor **John Barrymore** (Nov. 24 to Dec. 6); *Cirque Ingenieux*, about a young girl's dream of joining the circus (Jan. 5 to 24); and *Peter Pan*, starring **Cathy Rigby** (Jan. 29 to Feb. 21). Several ticket packages are available. 872-2222.

***

Author at Betel Centre: Nomi Berger, author of *My Brother Peter*, speaks at a literary luncheon at the Bernard Betel Centre, Aug. 12, noon. 1003 Steeles Ave. W. (west of Bathurst).

Berger is also scheduled to speak at a literary luncheon sponsored by Toronto ORT Arts & Entertainment chapter at the Island Yacht Club, Wed. Aug. 26.

* * *

Spanish Music at Earl Bales: Toronto flamenco company **Ritmo Flamenco** performs Aug. 6, 8 p.m. at the Skylight Theatre in the Barry Zukerman Amphitheatre of Earl Bales Park. At the same venue on Aug. 7, hear award-winning violinist **Arkady Yanivker** and friends perform more Spanish music.

An Evening with **Lorca & De Falla**, featuring mezzo soprano **Odette Beaupre**, pianist **Ruth Morawetz** and the **Paula Moreno Spanish Dance Company**, comes to Skylight Theatre Aug. 8 at 8 p.m. Free admission; suggested donation $5 per person. Box office, 392-3846.

***

Courtauld Collection: This stunning collection of 80 impressionist and post-impressionist paintings includes masterpieces by some of the biggest names in 19th- and early 20th-century art: Monet, Manet, Renoir, van Gogh, Degas, Cezanne, Seurat and Modigliani (who incidentally was Jewish). On loan from the Courtauld Institute of Art in London, these paintings are on view at the Art Gallery of Ontario through Sept. 20 in their only North American showing.

Despite the high ticket price of $28.75 (inclusive of taxes and service charge) and the sea of heads through which visitors must glimpse these extraordinary works, this reviewer was easily captivated by the celebrated canvases, which produced cultural shock waves in their time and which today seem so comfortingly familiar. If nothing else, the show teaches the importance of historical context in understanding a work of art. The taped guide ($5) is a must.

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Journey of the mind

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

Darren Aronofsky's eccentric film, *Pi*, takes a viewer on a bumpy journey of the mind, deep into the catacombs of higher mathematics, numerology, the Hebrew alphabet and Judaism.

Set in New York City in the present day, *Pi* revolves around the person of Max Cohen (Sean Gullette), a disheveled, misanthropic math genius whose quest for knowledge puts him on a collision course with a fanatic Chassidic sect.

The one-and-a-half-hour movie, shot in grainy black and white and with a hand-held camera, turns on Cohen's feverish attempts to find discernible patterns in stock market transactions so as to manipulate them for his own benefit.

As he toils over the daunting problem in his dark, roach-infested apartment, Max fights debilitating migraine headaches and fends off romantic, material and spiritual advances from three separate sources: an East Indian woman bearing samosas, a smooth-talking headhunter from a mysterious corporation, and a scruffy Chassid who thinks he can usher in the messianic age by finding a numerical pattern in the Torah.

Challenged by life's realities, Max consults his mentor, an old, wily mathematician who gently advises his neurotic protege to cease his activities forthwith.

Pi, now playing at the Cineplex Odeon chain, looks and sounds like a jerky experimental film. But don't be fooled by superficial appearances. Distinguished by a clever and literate script, *Pi* is full of breathless twists and turns which cry out for your undivided attention.

No wonder it was cited as the best-directed feature at the Sundance film festival last January

Aronofsky's preoccupation with the relationship between numerology, Hebrew and the destruction of the Second Temple is not only riveting but fairly original. Yet, for all of its inventiveness, *Pi* occasionally falters and irritates.

Clearly, however, Aronofsky is a young director with a future, as he so ably demonstrates in *Pi*, the scary and hallucinary flip side of a mainstream Hollywood film called *Good Will Hunting*.

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Travel Talk

BY BILL GLADSTONE

WELCOME TO JEWISH LOS ANGELES

As the Canadian Airlines jet glides along its final approach to Los Angeles airport, the lights of this seemingly endless megalopolis sprawl to the horizon. Stretching 150 miles from end to end, the Greater Los Angeles area is longer than the state of Israel is wide.

Some 12 million people live in the greater metropolitan region, including as many as 600,000 Jews. Those demographics make Los Angeles the home of the third largest urban concentration of Jews in the world, after Tel Aviv and New York.

The first Jews passed through as trappers and traders in the 1820s, when Los Angeles was no more than a dusty pueblo in the Mexican territories. Many came along the Santa Fe trail. The first known Jew to settle here was Jacob Frankfurt, a tailor-adventurer, in 1841. It took another 10 years before the Jewish community was large enough to establish a cemetery and conduct a religious service (in 1851, in the front parlor of someone's home).

"The pioneer Jews had to know many languages and they were armed," says Stephen Sass, president of the Jewish Historical Society of Southern California. "They did not come here primarily to be Jewish."

Nonetheless there were so many Jewish merchants in the city by the mid-1850s and 1860s that on Yom Kippur, according to one contemporaneous account, it was "like a New England Sunday" in Los Angeles – all the shops were closed.

The first Jewish cemetery was in Chavez Ravine, just over the hill from Dodgers' Stadium. The community purchased the land for $1. Later the government bought it back and the remains of the deceased were removed (albeit not halachically) to the Home of Peace Cemetery. Over the decades, the Jewish community has also shifted from neighborhood to neighborhood in this continuously expanding city.

"The community is very mobile, it keeps moving around," says Sass. "That's why it's hard to get a sense of rootedness or cohesiveness in Jewish L.A. That's one of our problems."

From the 1920s through the 1950s, the Boyle Heights neighborhood was the local equivalent of New York's Lower East Side, teeming with thousands of Jewish immigrants and a wide variety of Jewish organizations. The area once boasted 30 synagogues and shtiebl-ach. Today only one active synagogue remains in Boyle Heights as the focal point for a greatly diminished community consisting of a few dozen octogenarians.

These days, the most visible focus of Jewish life is the busy Fairfax neighborhood, an urban island of Yiddishkeit of extraordinary diversity. Amidst the furniture and antique stores on Melrose Avenue are numerous yeshivot and Orthodox girls' schools, and various institutions of groups such as Lubavitch, Satmar, Young Israel and Aish HaTorah.

Fairfax offers a profusion of shops selling Jewish books, music, art, bagels and falafel; many cater specifically to Russian, Israeli or Persian Jews. (With about 30,000 Persian-Jewish inhabitants, L.A. has the world's largest community of ex-Persian Jews: signs in Farsi are common.) A multitude of kosher restaurants specialize in Chinese, Tex-Mex and other foods.

L.A.'s most prominent synagogue and the home of its oldest congregation is the Wilshire Boulevard Temple, which was once so fervently wedded to the principles of the classical Reform movement that congregants who insisted on wearing yarmulkes during religious services were required to leave.

Several L.A. congregations are mammoth. Sinai Temple is the oldest and largest Conservative synagogue west of Chicago. Tifereth Israel the largest Sephardic synagogue west of New York. Stephen S. Wise is a Reform temple that occupies a mountaintop complex overlooking Sherman Oaks; it is known locally as "the shul with the pool."

More about the the Jewish community of Los Angeles and its unique institutions in a future column.

Bill Gladstone flew to Los Angeles courtesy of Canadian Airlines and stayed in the Century Plaza Hotel in Century City.

Window of kosher bakery. **[Bill Gladstone photo]**

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1	Spadina Chinatown Centre (Furama Bakery)					9:45AM	5:00PM
2	Broadview & Gerrard (Kentucky Fried Chicken)					10:15AM	6:00PM
3	Dragon Centre (Hong Kong Bank)	9:45AM	Yorkdale Subway (Bus Lane 13)	10:15AM	Jane/Wilson (Coffee Time)	10:30AM	5:00PM
4	Commerce Gate (505 Hwy 7 Second Cup)	10:15AM	Kennedy & Steeles N.E. Corner (Tripmate Tours)			10:45AM	6:00PM
5	Bathurst & Steeles (Mac's Milk)	9:45AM	Miss. Golden Sq Ctr (Rear Entrance of Fuji Optical)	10:15AM	Miss. Chinese Ctr. (Rear Entrance of HK Bank)	10:45AM	6:00PM
	AFTERNOON						
6	Spadina Chinatown Centre (Furama Bakery)					2:15PM	9:00PM
7	Kennedy & Steeles N.E. Corner (Tripmate Tours)					2:15PM	10:00PM
8	Jane/Wilson (Coffee Time)	2:15PM	Mississauga Chinese Centre (Rear Entrance of HK Bank)			2:45PM	11:00PM
9	Kennedy & Steeles	4:15PM	Broadview & Gerrard	4:45PM	Chinatown Centre	5:15PM	1:00AM
	MIDNIGHT						
10	Spadina Chinatown Centre (Furama Bakery)					7:45PM	3:00AM
11	Kennedy & Steeles	8:45PM	Yorkdale Subway (Bus Lane 13)	9:15PM	Jane/Wilson (Coffee Time)	9:30PM	4:00AM
12	Spadina Chinatown Centre (Furama Bakery)					10:30PM	5:00AM

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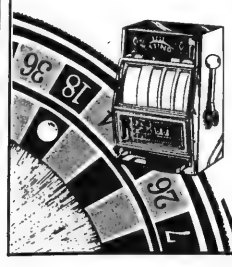

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Business Profile

Israelis develop yen for President's Choice products

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — If you walk into a Greenberg Super Shuk store in Israel, you'll feel an immediate pang of recognition when you spot a medley of familiar bags, bottles, jars, boxes and containers on the shelves.

Scanning the aisles, you'll notice a cornucopia of President's Choice (PC) products, all carrying Hebrew language stickers. They run the gamut from chocolate chip cookies and three-fruit marmalade jam to microwave popcorn and prepared Dijon mustard.

In fact, Greenberg – Israel's third largest supermarket chain and supposedly its fastest growing one – stocks 350 PC products, each and every one of them kosher.

Currently, 15 new health and beauty products – shampoo, shaving cream, baby powder and so on – are being developed. And by the end of this year, Greenberg, with 36 stores from Tel Aviv to Eilat, plans to introduce an additional 35 PC products, disclosed Ell Wilson, President's Choice International's senior manager for export operations.

PC products, which have been phenomenally successful in Canada since their debut in 1984, were launched in Israel two years ago. This happened after Greenberg's president, Giora Sarig, signed a licencing agreement with President's Choice International, a division of Loblaw Companies Limited, one of Canada's largest businesses.

On his visit here, Sarig was so impressed by the appearance, taste and value of PC products that he approached Loblaw and proposed what proved to be an irresistible deal.

"He liked the quality, design and performance of our products," recalled David Ovens, vice-president of President's Choice International, in an interview. "He thought they'd be well suited for his stores."

President's Choice, in turn, considered Sarig an ideal licencee. "We just won't sell to anyone," explained Ovens. "We want to align ourselves with the right partner, one who shares our philosophy."

President's Choice faith in Sarig has yielded dividends for both parties. "Our working relationship with Greenberg is tremendous," said Ovens. "We share the same goals and vision, where quality, value and cleanliness are the big components."

Sales have climbed steadily. In 1996, they hit the $2.5 million mark, and in 1997 they reached $3.5 million. This year, the figure is expected to be $5 million.

The sky seems to be the limit. "It's Greenberg's intention to be the number 1 grocery retailer in Israel," said Ovens.

Certainly, PC's mutually beneficial connection with Greenberg bolsters Canada's volume of trade with Israel.

Last year, Canada exported $242 million in goods and services to Israel and imported $312 million, creating a deficit of $70 million, according to Statistics Canada.

A Greenberg Super Shuk store features a President's Choice sign.

It's clear that Israeli consumers have developed a yen for PC's vast range of products, which are sold only in Israel in the Middle East.

One of its best sellers in Israel is PC ice cream. Sixty percent of the ice cream sold by Greenberg carries the PC brand. Greenberg stocks 13 flavors, but by Wilson's reckoning, customers are particularly fond of two flavors – Decadent Chocolate Fudge Crackle and Beyond Decadence Chocolate Fudge Crackle.

President's Choice displays its brand of pet food at a fair in Israel.

Although the majority of its products are manufactured in Canada, the ice cream is made in a plant in Dallas, Tex. Despite the Canada-Israel free trade accord, American ice cream remains cheaper. "The Canadian variety would cost 30 percent more," said Wilson, who has visited Israel three times on business.

PC cookies, cold breakfast cereals, ketchup (with its own bilingual label) and pet food are also enormously popular. "Our surveys tells us that our corn flakes is more popular than Kellogg's," Ovens added.

At present, there are no PC products carried exclusively in Israel. But this could change in the future, said Ovens. PC, however, is definitely interested in developing more kosher foods, both for the Israeli and Canadian markets. "It's a demand we'd want to satisfy," he said.

In general, Israelis pay more than Canadians for PC products largely because of the extra shipping charges. It takes about three weeks for a batch of goods to reach Israel by ship. "We don't use air freight," said Ovens. "It's too expensive."

Since the shelf life of PC products is one year, the long sea journey has no effect whatsoever on freshness.

Although PC products are also found in the United States (mostly east of the Mississippi River) and in Hong Kong, Bermuda, Barbados and Colombia, the company has no immediate plans to expand into other Middle Eastern countries.

"We've had conversations with retailers from the United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia, Lebanon and Egypt," said Wilson. "For now, the Arab world is still on the back burner, but we don't rule it out. We're slowly developing our international market."

As far as Israel is concerned, it's full steam ahead.

"Our relationship with Greenberg is one of total cooperation," said Ovens. "We're very pleased to service them and satisfy Israeli consumers. This has led to mutual success."

The proof is in the pudding.

As Ovens put it," Consumers vote with their wallets."

A cornucopia of PC products.

TAB continues on page 41

Sonny Goldstein, CLU,CH.F.C.
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REAL ESTATE Section

5 HOUSES FOR SALE

HARVEY KALLES
REAL ESTATE LIMITED REALTOR

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Elegant home 50'x120'. Beautiful new kit./brk. room. Mn. den/2 pc. Panelled library. $679K. Pearl Godfrey*

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Newly built home displays the finest of craftsmanship. Nestled on an exquisite lot, Japanese garden/pool. Elise Kalles**

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291 UPPER HIGHLAND CRESCENT
Totally reno'd, 4 br., pool. Immaculate. Julie Gofman* 488-2875

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Cul de sac! 4 br., hrwd floors. Lynne Elkind* 488-2875

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130 LISA CRESCENT NR. BATHURST
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This 3 bedroom backs on to a quiet park and is located conveniently to both Thornhill and Richmond Hill amenities. The professionally finished basement includes a 4th bedroom, entertainment room and a stunning 3 pce. bath. Close walk to shul. Don't wait to see this one, it may be gone before you know it. Asking $289,900.
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5 bdrms., 4 bths., fam. rm., fin. bsmnt., dble drive, garage.

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4 bdrm., 2 storey, 2 bths., fin. bsmnt., SOLD lot.

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Lg. split lvl, 3 bdr., 3 bth., fam. rm., rec. rm., dble. gar. Steps to all!

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2-3 bdrm. + 1-1 bdrm., balcs., garages and good income.

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3 bdrm. bung., 2 bths., 2 kits., fin. bsmnt., dble. drive, gar., move-in condition

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15 Faye Crt.
Approx. 3100 sq. ft. 4 Bdrm., fin. bsmt. Many features, excellent condition. Steps to shul, quiet court, kosher kit. (2 dishwashers).
Stephen Kruger, Sales Rep.
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10 HOUSES FOR SALE PRIVATE

Bath./Centre - off Beverly Glen, like new, 2 stry., 4 bdrm., mn flr. lib., 2 1/2 bth., jac., 5 appl., sec., CAC, lge. fenced pool size yard, hrdwd. flr., many upgrades, spotless move-in condition. $399,900. 905-882-4770.

30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE

Bath./Steeles - Townsgate, 2 bdrm., 2 bth., sol., balc., private, $240K. Sam, 905-886-5522 or 905-763-0898.

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5 HOUSES FOR SALE

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Detached 3 storey facing park. Original charm: leaded glass, gumwood +++, 5 bdrms., 4 baths, large principal rooms, fireplaces, hardwood floors, only $449,000. Call Richard Cash (416) 787-1712.

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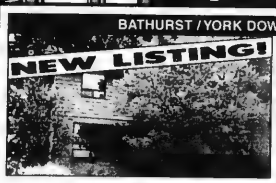

Lots of home — low price! 4 + 2 bdrms., 5 baths, parquet floors, 55 x 122 ft. lot, sep. entry to in-law suite, only $339,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / LAWRENCE
Detached brick bungalow on 50 x 117 ft. lot, 3 + 1 bdrms., sep. entry to in-law suite, hardwood floors, modern white kitchen. Fabulous location, close to all amenities. Only $329,000. **ACT NOW!** Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

AVENUE ROAD / LAWRENCE — RENOVATED & DECORATED!
3 bedroom, 2 storey, breakfast room walk-out to deck & garden, prof. finished basement, gleaming hardwood floors, hot location! Asking $339,000! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / GLENCAIRN — BRAND NEW CUSTOM HOME!

Prime location, close to many luxury new homes, approx. 3400 sq. ft. of luxury, 5 bdrms., fam. room, library, loaded w/ upgrades, dream maple kit., granite & hardwood floors++, only $679,000. Call Richard Cash (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / BAYCREST
Spacious 3 + 1 bdrm. ranch bungalow on 55 x 132 ft. lot, shows very well! Large eat-in kitchen, custom built-ins, only $289,000. **ACT NOW!** Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

CLANTON PARK — LOVELY QUIET STREET!
3 bedroom home, 50 ft. frontage, separate entry to in-law suite, only $259,000. Call Esther Rubenstein (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / HILLMOUNT
Renovated det. bungalow on gorgeous 50 x 135 ft. lot, reduced to $309,000. **ACT NOW!** Call Richard Cash (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / GLENCAIRN
40 x 133 ft. lot in desirable central location, close to TTC, shops, schools ++, detached brick 2 bedroom bungalow presently on property, only $249,900. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

35 CONDOMINIUM FOR RENT

Bath./Glen Cairn - Lge. 1 bdr, den, 5 appl., 2 bths., sec., $1,225 + util. Aug. 1. 491-1094.

SKYMARK - THE CLASSIC. Don Mills/Finch. Lux. 1 bdrm. + den, 2 bth., 5 appl., cable/pay TV, CAC, pkg. Avail Oct. 1. 416-402-8379.

55 ACCOMMODATION WANTED

Nice Orthodox family near Vancouver, B.C. wishes to relocate to Toronto. Own lux. 5 bdrm. home w/kosher kit., close to frum shule with eruv. **Want to buy or rent or exchange homes** (need 4-6 bdrm.) in TO or Thornhill for 1 year from Aug. Call Rabbi Taub at 1-800-455-9777 days, 604-275-5905 eves.

60 SHARED ACCOMMODATION

Bath./Sheppard - Furn. room in apt., private bth,. Kosher, pkg., female. No Sat. calls. 638-9240.

70 UNIVERSITY ACCOMMODATION

Montreal University student (Concordia) looking for female n/smoker for upcoming school year. Beth, 416-486-9803.

Thornhill, room & kitch., BAYT, TTC,male, $375. 905-886-2273

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

BATHURST WILSON

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NEWLY DECORATED SPACIOUS 2 BDRMS.

- Large balconies
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1 bedroom, newly renovated, 3 appliances. $825.00 and up.

416-789-5629 – Super

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Very lg. 1, 2, 3 Bedrms., ample closets, some 1½ baths & 2 balc., roof, laundry, ravine setting, pool, ind. pkg., 6 apts. per flr. From $850.
960-3238 - Bus.
631-9377 or 631-0388 - Super

Bath./Glen Cairn - furn. bsmt. apt., sep. entr., near subway, female. 905-882-2132.

Bath./Wilson, 1 bdr. bsmt. apt., newly reno'd., full kit. + lau., 5 min. from subway. $750 incl. Avail. Sept. 1. 905-882-9267.

82 ROOM FOR RENT

Room & Board. Orthodox home, ideal for student, references req'd. 416-736-1300.

105 COTTAGE FOR SALE

Muskoka/Bracebridge,modern 3 bdrm, lkfrnt, encl. porch, safe, sandy bch., Jewish community, low carrying cost, 905-731-4466

112 FURNISHED COTTAGE FOR RENT

Lake Simcoe, rustic 4 bdrm, lkfront, scrnd porch, privacy, 90 min from TO, avail. August 16 for 2 wks, $1500. 416-487-6050

125 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE

CENTURY VILLAGE EAST
DEERFIELD BEACH FLORIDA
RETIRE OR RELOCATE
SOUTH FLORIDA'S PREMIER ADULT COMMUNITY
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Exclusive Williams Island in North Miami Beach, 1 bdrm. conv., 1350 sq. ft., prof., dec. in absolute finest. This stunning apt. overlooking the water is being sold furn. by the original owner $259K US 905-881-9067

West Palm Beach, Century Village, 2 bdrm., 1 1/2 bth., grnd. flr., CAC, clean w/new carpet, near pool. $26K US negotiable. Call 416-486-8388, message.

130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT

Aventura - Lux. 1400 sq. ft. 1 bdr., 2 bth. condo. Spectacular view of ocean and intercostal. To share independently on a regular basis. 416-497-7333.

HOLLYWOOD, Hallmark 2 bdr, 2 full bath, corner, pkg., valet etc. 3 mos min. Avail. 1998/99 season. 905-731-0609.

Singer Island, 2 bdrm. apt., appl., avail. Jan, Feb, March. Joe at 249-0762, 905-833-1974

Miami Beach - Beautiful condo, one convertible. Video avail. 1 1/2 baths. 17 flr. facing ocean. 24HR. security. 514-672-5251

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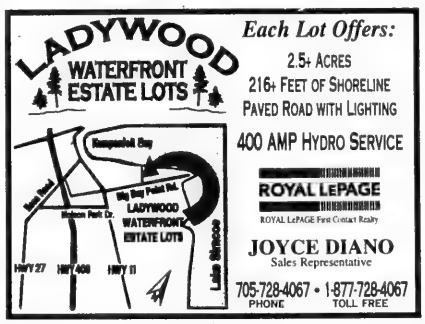
140 FLORIDA ACCOMMODATION WANTED

Required in highrise at Century Village Deerfield for responsible couple. References. 514-489-7798.

Palm Aire area for Feb. or March, 2 or 3 bdrm. furn. apt. Call Ray Kizell at 613-548-7919 or 613-548-8834 eves, wkends.

180 OUT-OF-TOWN PROPERTIES



ORILLIA - LAKE SIMCOE
3 registered bldg. lots, $125,000 and up. May also be purchased as a 13 acre parcel with 850 ft shoreline. Good dev. potential. 20 mins. from Casino.
Call: Penny Cameron
or Eleanor Todish
Royal LePage
1-800-893-1866

SEVERN RIVER/COUCHICHING ORILLIA
Insulated Viceroy cottage. $159,900. Beautiful 1/2+ acre lot, 137 ft. waterfront. Trent Severn System. Private setting. 10 mins. to Casino Rama.
Call: Penny Cameron
Royal LePage Town & Country,
Orillia 1-800-893-1866

192 FURNISHED VACATION PROPERTIES

Palm Desert, CA - Desert Falls C.C., 2 bdrm., 2 bth. Overlooking lake & 12 PH, new decor. Call 805-255-5178.

230 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

This is a small ad with a **BIG OPPORTUNITY**. Call Susan 416-410-1715/905-826-9949

240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Lady experienced in Jewish home cooking to work flexible hours for new food production company opening up in North York. Salary based on experience. Neil at 661-1895, days.

240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

MUSICAL JOB. Looking for upbeat, presentable person. Must play portable instrument, have great singing voice, car, good communication skills, want to interact with moms and tots. Unique teaching experience. Reply to CJN Box # 7078.

Teacher, P/t, junior grades, excellent opportunity, North York. Fax résumé to 416-789-7730.

Teachers req'd. by Oraynu Sun. school to teach a Secular, Humanistic curriculum of history, basic Hebrew, holidays & life cycle events. Positions avail: Music, Hebrew, JK, SK & Gr. 6. This community oriented school is seeking enthusiastic, creative, organized individuals with exp. working with children. Fax résumé to (905) 761-9670.

Telephone Sales. High energy level and willing to work hard? Quick mind? Good voice? Persistent? Leads supplied, hourly rate/commission, in business over 17 years, Thornhill location. Call Bob at 905-731-1636.

240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

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250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

Cleaning lady available. Call Eva at 905-889-7781.

Cleaning lady with exp. Good references. Call 416-658-7161.

Cleaning lady with refs. avail. eves & weekends. 782-8240.

Cleaning, housekeeping lady avail Mon - Fri w/refs. 240-1352

Exp. Lady seeks p/t job to care for elderly, kids, light housekeeping, midnight shifts, weekends, refs. 416-287-0415.

Exp. lady w/refs. avail. to care for elderly, live-in/out. 249-4089

Frustrated by trying to find a suitable nanny? Let us help you. We have dependable, caring nannies who are thoroughly qualified, personally interviewed & pre-screened. All refs. are checked. Some are CPR trained. Low finders fee.
Wee Care Placement Agency
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High quality house cleaning. Call Dora, 736-1179.

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

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Nannies, live-in/out, full/part-time, in-home elderly care, FT, PT, RN's, nurses aides, cleaning. Bonded,refs. **416-630-0674** or **416-224-9907. #1 Domestic.**

Nanny, nice Jewish lady seeks work with a nice Jewish family. Hrs. negot., pref. am. Exper. Call Kati at 416-968-6781.

Reliable, exp. cleaning lady with references. Call 281-9756.

255 DOMESTIC HELP WANTED

Mature caregiver for elderly lady req'd. Live-in, shopping, prepare meals, light laundry and cleaning. 416-781-7163.

Nanny/babysitter needed, f/t, Mon. - Fri., 8am - 6pm, 2 kids - 5 & 2. Refs req'd. Call 631-8251 after 7:00 PM.

P/T Nanny/Hskpr, Mon.-Thurs., 3:30-8pm,Bath./Egl. Must speak Hebrew. Call Shelley 402-8379.

260 BUSINESS PERSONALS

Jewish Singles Registry, over 1630 members. Website, www.total.net/~jsreg. 483-4151

264 SOCIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

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270 PERSONALS

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AN ORIGINAL
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DINING & DANCING
Gentleman, 33, 6', brown hair, green eyes, well established, financially secure, enjoy travelling, dining, dancing, movies, seeking a Jewish female, 28-34, 5'5" or taller, slim, attractive, well read with strong sense of humour Ad# 1307

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330 OBITUARIES

Lillian Marcus, a creative spirit and woman of many talents and interests, has left us for the farther shore. Artist, music lover, published writer of books and childrens' works. Lillian was the widow of the late Sol G. Marcus, mother of Dr. Alan Marcus (Gail), and the late Norman Marcus. Daughter of George and Katie Nagley, Lillian grew up in Montreal and came to Toronto at the time of her marriage. She was pre-deceased by her brothers, Sidney, Albert, and Harold (R.C.A.F. WW II) Nagley. Remembered with much affection by her many friends. Remembrance donations may be made to the Baycrest Centre Art Fund or the charity of your choice.

330 OBITUARIES

LAZARCIUC, Ghizela - on July 21, 1998.
URMAN, Benjamin - on July 21, 1998, late of 68 Charleswood Ave.
NESEVERENKO, Georgi - on July 22, 1998.
RICE, Harvey - on July 23, 1998, late of 4 Silverton Ave.
SLOBODSKY, Himi - on July 24, 1998, late of 21 Meadowbrook Rd.
BONDROVER, Mark - on July 25, 1998, late of 1085 Steeles Ave. W.
BROWN, David - on July 26, 1998, late of 164 Shelborne Ave.
FRIEDMAN, Stanley - on July 26, 1998, late of 301 Joicey Blvd.
ORLOVSKI, Zvi - on July 26, 1998, late of 1925 Steeles Ave. W.

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MOSES BENMERGUI ז"ל — Pardes Shalom, Petach Tikva Section (J), 10:30 a.m.
MARGARET FELDBERG ע"נ — Lambton Hills, Beth Jacob Section (H), 10:30 a.m.
JOHN ZINER ז"ל — Bathurst Lawn, Beth Torah Section (46B), 11:00 a.m.

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The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
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Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
(East Section)
Pultusker Landsmanshaft Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
ELANA FERN EDYTHE KESTEN ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, August 9, at 11:00 a.m.
Mount Sinai Memorial Park
Ozrower Section
The family gratefully acknowledges the donations and support received.
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
Moses Benmergui-Soto ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, August 9th, 10:30 a.m.
Pardes Sholom Cemetery
Petach Tikva-Anshei Castilla (J) Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
MARGARET FELDBERG ז"ל
will take place
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Beth Jacob Section
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Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Clanton Park Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
FAY MORRIS ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, August 9th, 2:00 p.m.
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Beth Sholom Section
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will take place
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Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Zaglembier Society, Section #47
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
ANNETTE WALMAN ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, August 9th, 10:00 a.m.
Mount Sinai Memorial Park
Beth Sholom Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
JOHN ZINER ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, August 9th, 11:00 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Beth Torah Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

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Travel, Arts & Business

Acclaimed actor turns playwright and scores big with *This Hotel*

By DOROTHY LICHTBLAU
Special to The CJN

Alex Poch-Goldin's star is rising. Hard work and fate brought him to the attention of theatre audiences and critics during the run of *This Hotel*, the play he wrote for this year's Toronto Fringe Festival.

Recognized as a skilled actor, who has competently played diverse roles, including characters in *Angels In America* and *The League of Nathans*, he surprised alternative theatre aficionados with a full-scale, multi-character piece that showed respect for dramatic structure and theatre craft.

The production was a fine example of what can be accomplished when quality theatre artists work together to create a strong show. It also demonstrated Poch-Goldin's commitment to advancing his abilities. "I find a lot of [theatre] work in Toronto to be mediocre. I find that very frustrating. I want the level to rise," he declares during a lunchtime conversation.

This Hotel takes the audience into the fantasies and dreams cavorting inside the head of a fellow named Lester. Pulled in opposite directions by the twin horses Love and Lust, Lester (Randy Hughson), has become mired by confusion and anxiety. Frozen by his inability to decide what is important to him, he allows his marriage to crumble. Meanwhile, his wife Arlene (Gisele Rousseau), has chosen to refuel their relationship by taking a lover.

A black comedy, which toys with our notions about sexuality, voyeurism and betrayal, *This Hotel* shows what it means to squirm on the web of deception (of self and others). In fact, the play is replete with a spider in the form of the bellhop (Alon Nashman), who gleefully watches as unaware guests step into waiting traps.

The ensemble of actors, which included Veronika Hurnik and Richard Zeppieri, was a pleasure to watch. The choreography by Gizella Witkowsky and the original music by Brian Cram were admirable.

The power behind the show seemed to be director Kelly Thornton. Her conceptualization of the play made it exciting theatre.

Poch-Goldin began work on *This Hotel* several months ago, while between acting gigs. "I started writing a series of scenes about different characters in a hotel. My partner, director Kelly Thornton, began to realize we needed a central figure to take the audience on a journey." Slowly the play evolved, as it will continue to do, especially since it is likely that the piece will be picked up by a larger theatrical producer.

Veronika Hurnik [left] and Alon Nashman in Alex Poch-Goldin's This Hotel

Poch-Goldin says he has been writing since elementary school. Born and raised in Montreal, one of his strongest images of home is sitting around the kitchen table at supper. "There was always lots of discussion, but never any easy answers... one of the things that helped me gain interest to look inside things."

He recalls too, "One of the first times I remember the excitement of being in front of a group of people and performing something for them was at my bar mitzvah." But, what really hooked Poch-Goldin on theatre, was the possibility of exploring the spectrum of one's personality by entering the worlds of alter egos.

He obtained his initial taste for acting in high school. Afterward, he studied drama at the Dome Theatre School in Montreal, followed by a brief, but intense program at the Eugene O'Neill Theatre School in Connecticut. He has been in Toronto for about 10 years during which he has established a good foothold in the theatre community.

This summer has been ripe for Poch-Goldin as an actor as well as a playwright. In the Skylight Theatre production of Pedro Calderon's *Life's A Dream*, he plays Clarion the clown, a role that lets him stretch in yet another direction. He sees Clarion as an endearing, melancholy, fatherless child, who has no sense of boundaries. "It [the role] opened a side of me that is a child, that likes being cute," he muses.

Poch-Goldin will move on to his Summerworks production, *Jim and Shorty*, which runs until Aug. 16 at the Factory Theatre. Though he wrote the piece at about the same time as *This Hotel*, the idea for the story was conceived on a street car ride six or seven years ago, during which he overheard two people discuss the closing of a local beer store. Out of that conversation grew a show about a couple of on-the-margins characters, tenuously linked by the tavern they both frequent. On election day, the lonely men happen to meet and become woven into each other's lives.

As the writer and director of this work, Poch-Goldin feels very close to the characters and to what the play says about living in a world that has been deemed peripheral by the establishment. Through *Jim and Shorty*, Poch-Goldin gets the opportunity to examine another variation on the existential questions that he finds exciting.

After this full season is over, Poch-Goldin may take some time away from his work, but he is also itching to further develop his plays as well as to try his hand at directing a classical piece. "I love the theatre," he admits happily. "It's never enough. It's fleeting. It's always gone when you've done it. There's something sad about that and I love that sadness. I have a melancholy soul that way."

Kerzner brings Shuffle to life

[Cont'd. from page 33]

plained. "You're responsible for every aspect of the project."

After he left Atlantis, Kerzner went on an extended holiday to Australia, making sure to see the hit show *Hot Shoe Shuffle*, which had run there for five years. He met with David Atkins, producer, director and star of the show at the time, and told him that he wanted to bring it to Canada.

"As a producer, you're constantly looking for the next big hit. *Hot Shoe* was such a huge success in other parts of the world I thought there had to be something there for Canadian audiences. It's very high-energy, innovative tap dancing complemented by a big band orchestra on stage and an original story.

"The audience went crazy over it. There were standing ovations throughout the show... The reaction we've had here has been the same. The audience loves it."

Back in Toronto, Kerzner was hired as press and publicity manager for the newly opened LAC, where he worked on a variety of projects but never lost his enthusiasm for *Hot Shoe Shuffle*, he said.

He was ultimately given the green light to pursue the project, and luck was in his favor, he said. The show was being mounted in the United States, making it financially feasible to produce it in Canada.

LAC was able to join an existing partnership for the Toronto production, gaining use of the costumes and multi-million dollar sets, he said, adding that the show will move on to Minneapolis.

"The show is about seven brothers performing on Broadway in the '40s... The ultimate hope of the show is to go to Broadway."

As associate producer, Kerzner was involved in liaising with the partners, negotiating contracts with the artists, holding auditions, and day-to-day operations.

"This is the largest production I've been involved, with... The sets are worth millions... There are over 30 members in the company. It's also the biggest show the LAC has done. It's been an incredibly exciting opportunity."

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Ecklers were fixtures on the sporting scene

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — With their silvery hair, cheerful lavender shirts and sunny demeanors, Harry and Shirley Eckler look the part of typical suburban seniors, sort of like a Jewish Ozzie and Harriet.

It's hard to imagine that 50 years ago, Harry's lifestyle would have more closely resembled a Humphrey Bogart character in a film noir classic. If there was a script for his story, it would be populated by tough guys, wise guys, hard drinkers and women of questionable virtue rather than clean cut neighbors, the corner grocer and the girl next door.

Fifty years ago, Harry was a partner in The Mercury Club, a popular 150-seat drinking establishment, er, make that nightclub on Victoria Street, along with legendary Toronto sports heroes Sammy Luftspring (boxing) and Joe Krol (football). Harry was no slouch when it came to sports himself, receiving recognition as a star baseball and softball player. He was considered by some to be the finest Canadian first basemen of his era.

Four times in the 1940s Eckler was a key man on Toronto teams (the Tip Tops twice, Dental Corps and Peoples) at the world fastball championships. In 1943 he was

Shirley and Harry Eckler

Pony League batting champion, racking up a .346 average.

In 1991, he was inducted in the Canadian Softball Amateur Hall of Fame and over the years he's received many other honors for his hardball/fastball prowess.

Shirley, meanwhile, didn't take to the night-owl lifestyle that so captivated Harry, but she stuck by her high school sweetheart and later developed sporting interests of her own.

A former club champion at the Huntington Golf and Country Club, and with four holes-in-one to her credit, Shirley almost matches Harry for sporting trophies and news stories lining the couple's basement rec room.

On Aug. 16, the Ecklers will celebrate 58 years of marriage together – a milestone in anyone's book. Harry is celebrating by singing his wife's praises, giving her the recognition he feels she so richly deserves.

Shirley is the secret to their lengthy marriage, he says. Without her patience for his unorthodox lifestyle, they never would have managed together this long, he says.

Though she never shared his love of the bar scene, Shirley did share some of his other pursuits, golf and Latin American music and dancing foremost among them, he said.

In the early 1950s and '60s they cut quite a fine rug together, dancing the cha-cha, meringue, rumba and mambo at various dance competitions, and adding to the families' trophy case.

Harry likes to tell the story of how they were asked to participate in a dance competition while on vacation in Florida. Unfortunately for him, he was forced to dance with a new partner, but so was Shirley.

So how did they do in the event? Harry finished last; Shirley was first.

In addition to her love of dancing and golf, Shirley is a fixture at Mount Sinai Hospital, volunteering at the hospital twice a week for 24 years.

In 1988, Shirley was honored by the Toronto Sun as a top achiever for her volunteer work, while in 1992, the Metro Toronto Canada Day Committee presented her with another achievement award on Canada's birthday.

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Luckman a football Hall-of-Famer

Jewish Telegraphic Agency

NEW YORK — Sid Luckman, a Jewish football player who helped the Chicago Bears dominate the sport in the early 1940s, has died at the age of 81.

"He was the smartest football player I ever saw, and that goes for college or pro," Bob Zuppke, the famed University of Illinois football coach, was once quoted as saying.

A native of Brooklyn, N.Y., Luckman turned down offers from 40 colleges that sought to recruit him out of high school, opting instead to play for Columbia University.

Columbia offered no athletic scholarships, so Luckman worked his way through college painting walls and washing dishes in his fraternity house.

An outstanding tailback from 1936 to 1938, Luckman was named an All-American in 1937 and 1938.

His talent, versatility and sense of the game caught the attention of the Bears' owner and coach, George Halas, who was introducing the modern version of the T-formation offense. That alignment emphasized speed, deception and passing ability — and Luckman had the skills Halas needed.

Luckman's mastery of the T-formation helped popularize professional football and made the Bears virtually unstoppable.

Luckman played for four championship Chicago teams — in 1940, 1941, 1943 and 1946. In the 1940 title game, he led the Bears to a 73-0 rout of the Washington Redskins.

He was named the National Football League's Most Valuable Player in 1943. That year he set a single game record by throwing seven touchdown passes against the New York Giants. He threw for 453 yards in the 56-7 trouncing, the first time a quarterback had thrown for more than 400 yards in a single game.

Luckman was named All-Pro five times, from 1941 to 1944 and in 1947. He was inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame in 1965.

Luckman retired after 12 years in the NFL and launched a successful business career in the packaging industry.

Israeli dreams of NBA career

By PETER EPHROSS
Special to The CJN

NEW YORK — An Israeli point guard's dreams of playing in the NBA have been put on hold by a labor dispute.

Oded Katash recently opted out of his contract with the Israeli team Maccabi Tel Aviv in the hopes of signing with the New York Knicks. If his dream comes true, Katash would become the first Israeli to make it in U.S. professional basketball.

The Knicks expressed interest in the six-foot-four star after a recent workout but are prevented from making any player moves because of the dispute between the league's players and owners. The owners locked out the players July 1.

Katash's departure leaves Tel Aviv Maccabi without one of its star players. Katash averaged more than 20 points a game last season.

Several Israeli players have had tryouts with teams in the NBA, which has seen an increasing number of foreign players in recent years, but none has played in the regular season.

The Inside Back

Norman Spector's new job

As I was saying...

By RON CSILLAG

It went almost unnoticed. *The CJN* printed it as a three-inch item on its front page, and the *Globe and Mail*, as expected, treated it like a standard appointment. But there is nothing standard about either Norman Spector's departure from the publisher's job at the *Jerusalem Post* or his becoming west coast correspondent for the *Globe*.

The move raises several intriguing questions. Did Spector quit? Or was he pushed? Insiders at the *Post* know little of the circumstances surrounding his departure.

Presumably hand-picked by owner Conrad Black in 1997 to publish the *Post*, Spector lasted barely a year in the job. And while in it, he was penning a freelance column on the Middle East for the *Globe*, owned by Black's archrival, Ken Thomson. How did he get away with that?

But the move to the *Globe*, the future competitor of the national daily Black is scheduled to launch in October, seems to follow a pattern of behavior in which Spector publicly turns on his former employer.

Spector declined *The CJN*'s requests for an interview, saying he intends to write about his *Post* experiences in the *Globe*. "Competition, if you will," he explained.

As publisher, Spector was privy to sensitive financial and other information. For him to discuss that in the pages of the *Globe* would be poor form, to say the least.

Many will recall that Spector was Canada's ambassador to Israel from 1992 to 1995, a sensitive period that included Ottawa's chairing of a working group devoted to an especially delicate area: Palestinian refugees.

Following his diplomatic term, Spector's public statements were anything but diplomatic. He bad-mouthed and belittled his former employer, the government of Canada, disparaging it as a bit player in the Middle East. "Ineffectual" and even "counter-productive" are the words he used at one public forum in Toronto last year to describe Ottawa's efforts in the Mideast peace process.

He dismissed the refugee talks that Canada chairs, calling them "a sideshow," and claimed that Norway pulled off the diplomatic coup of the decade, if not the century, by finessing the Oslo accords "right under our noses... to our ever-lasting embarrassment and surprise."

The accusations hurt. Canada has been widely praised by Arabs and Israelis alike for its deft handling of the refugee talks. As for the Oslo accords, the back-channel negotiations which led to the document took all Western governments by surprise, including the United States, the "honest broker" between Palestinians and Israel.

Spector may have learned well the cynic's first rule of journalism (never let the facts get in the way of a good story), or he used knowledge gained during his ambassadorship to then heap scorn on the former signer of his paycheque. Either way, his stance was a cheap shot and a low blow.

More evidence of this pattern came last autumn when the Meshal affair blew up. Israel was found to have used faked Canadian passports in a botched bid to assassinate a Hamas leader in Jordan. Israel assured Canada that such an incident wouldn't happen again, and both countries said it had not happened before.

Spector practically cried out from the rooftops (in the pages of the *Globe*) that not only had Israel routinely used doctored Canadian passports in past spy operations, but had done so *with Ottawa's consent.*

In the wake of his accusations, David Sultan, Israel's ambassador to Canada, accused Spector of "conducting a personal vendetta" against Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy.

Why would a former ambassador go out of his way to humiliate the Department of Foreign Affairs? Is it because Spector believes it is controlled by "Arabists," as he has also said? Was he again relying on highly sensitive information he'd acquired as ambassador? Did he care that his disclosures were damaging Canada-Israel relations – relations he once swore to uphold? Did he care that he may have been violating basic rules on employee-employer relations?

All of this leads to the conclusion that perhaps readers should consume Spector's *Globe* dispatches with a healthy skepticism.

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CRISPY BAKED ONION RINGS

2 large sweet onions
7 oz corn flakes cereal
1 tsp. seasoned salt
2 tsp. sugar
1 tsp. paprika
1 cup egg substitute
vegetable cooking spray

Cut each onion into 4 thick slices; separate into rings, reserving small rings for other uses. Set aside.

Combine cereal, salt, sugar and paprika. Divide into half and set aside. Beat egg substitute at high speed with electric mixer until soft peaks form. Dip half of onion rings in egg substitute; dredge in half of crumb mixture. Place in a single layer on baking sheets sprayed with cooking spray Repeat procedure with remaining onion rings and crumb mixture. Bake at 375°F for 15 minutes or until crispy; serve warm. Yield: 4 servings.

About Seniors

Dear Jesse,

I am writing to you from Calgary in the hope that you can help me solve a difficult problem. My parents are in their 80s and live alone in Montreal; my brother and I no longer live in the same city. We visit when we can and both do what we can from a geographical distance. Physically both my parents are frail and in need of assistance. Please advise as to whom I can contact to get the help my parents require.

Alone and Worried

Dear Alone and Worried,

There are a number of resources in the city to help you and your parents. Firstly, the local community service centre (public health unit) in your parents' neighborhood should be contacted to arrange for an assessment of your parents' living situation. You do not specify what services your parents might require. For example, do they need home care assistance, a referral to a day centre, private or volunteer help? Secondly, in Montreal, the agency Jewish Support Services for the Elderly (JSSE) can be contacted for referrals, for information about supplementation of services, to advocate for health and social services and/or for information on JSSE's Family Link program, i.e., assistance for seniors whose family members live out of town. With patience and time, help can be arranged. You should keep in mind that if the situation is urgent, you must stress this to the professionals you contact for assistance.

Readers are invited to send any questions they have for Jesse to The CJN. *Jesse is the executive director of Jewish Support Services for the Elderly (JSSE) in Montreal.*

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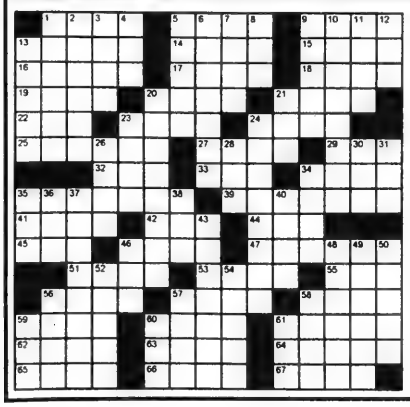

Across

1. Comic Mort
5. Ruach (Eng.)
9. Writer Sholom
13. Sarah once
14. Sabin vaccine
15. Eighteen
16. Center of the Seder
17. 1,007
18. Instructed
19. Hamantaschen?
20. Plague
21. Allen Ginsberg book
22. Jonas Salk's Org.?
23. Flutist Herbie
24. Bitters Seder dish
25. High Holiday outfit
27. "Cabaret", Joel
29. Often to Bialik
32. "Barney Miller" _Linden
33. Grass
34. "Bambi" by Salten
35. Elijah on Pesach?
39. Pop Singer Michael
41. Seth's boy
42. Existed
44. Bubkes (Eng.)
45. Amen
46. Samson's triumphant site
47. Machutunim (Eng.)
51. Ruth's son
53. Misplace
55. __ Maris, Jerusalem
56. King of Judah
57. Koufax club
58. House for Avram
59. Shema starter
60. Cain and Abel
61. Redhead
62. Chopped liver?
63. One time
64. Ire
65. Ribicoff and Vigoda
66. Bets (Eng.)
67. Boxer Max

Down

1. Deli fare
2. Ark's end
3. Abzug trademark
4. Commandment no no
5. One of valor
6. Howe and Berlin
7. Yael's weapon
8. 551
9. Newman or Hoffman
10. Ferber play
11. Summon
12. Secured the Afikoman
13. Emulate Eban
20. Like the Holy of Holies
21. Hebrew letter
23. Fleisch
24. Gomorrah sin
26. __ and that
28. Actor Reiner
30. Zeigfeld's nickname
31. Plagues
34. Fee
35. Vav: (Eng.)
36. King David __, Jerusalem
37. Gomorrah neighbor
38. Cheer
40. Ancestry
43. Amidah manner
46. Nimoy casually
48. Stand up for Dinah
49. Actress Debra
50. Demon
52. Roasted on Pesach
54. Negev cool spots
56. Seventh king
57. Tekiah
58. "Gilligan's Island", actress
59. Ein Gedi
60. Tisha B'Av sound
61. Schmooz (Eng.)

These puzzles are the work of Kathi Handler of Waterbury, Connecticut.

(Last week's answers are on page 34.)

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This Week

National

Golden report takes aim at homelessness *Page 3*

There's no limit to pop star Amy Sky's career. *Page 6*

Monuments toppled at Montreal cemetery. *Page 20*

New Keren Hayesod shlichah to B.C. favors a personal touch. *Page 22*

Arts

Writing songs is part of Marnie Levitt's grieving process. *Page 33*

Award-winning harpist boldly goes where none has gone before. *Page 36*

Sports

American Jim Grabb excels at Canadian Open Tennis tournament. *Page 42*

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Candlelighting: 8:06
Av 22, 5758
Havdallah: 9:11

www.cjnews.com

Israeli rescuers aid in Kenya

IDF sends 170 members to bombing site

By ARIEH O'SULLIVAN
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Israel's high-profile rescue team in Nairobi searched for survivors in the rubble. As of Monday morning, they had succeeded in rescuing a man, a woman and her son, and continued to dig feverishly for others.

The IDF Home Front Command rescue teams, aided by sniffer dogs, had been able to locate 29 bodies.

The United States and France also sent rescue teams to Nairobi, but the Israelis have been doing much of the work.

"We are digging wherever the Americans ask us to dig," said Lt.-Col. Ofer Loefler, the IDF spokesperson on the scene Sunday.

The Israeli team was concentrating on the worst of the wreckage, Loefler said, and it was a great help when they were finally able to get the use of a 100-ton crane.

By Sunday, an IDF search team had dug through the rubble to rescue one man, and had located a mother and her son, 13, who had been hiding on the top floor of the nearby 22-story Cooperative Bank building since the blast. The two were in good condition, but had been too afraid to come down.

The 170-member Israeli team included doctors who administered aide to the survivors and performed operations at a local hospital in cooperation with local doctors, the army said. By late Sunday they had performed 14 operations.

Forty medical crew members returned to Israel, Loefler said.

"I have been in other tragedies," he said. "But in the end it gives me great pride to see how our small country can lend a hand to others."

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu offered the help of Israeli intelligence agencies in tracking

Continued on page 29

Volunteers help to rescue victims caught in the rubble of the bomb blast last week in Nairobi. These volunteers were soon joined by a special rescue unit from Israel. *[RNS/Reuters]*

Fatah website, same old story

By STEVE RODAN
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — As Israel negotiates with the Palestinians to change their covenant, an Internet Web site of Yasser Arafat's Fatah movement has released a constitution that calls for the destruction of Israel.

The Fatah organization Web site [www.fatah.org] does not distinguish between Israel and the territories captured in the Six Day War. The constitution calls the Zionist movement "racial, colonial and aggressive in ideology, goals, organization and method. The Israeli existence in Palestine is a Zionist invasion with a colonial expansive base, and it is a natural ally to colonialism and international imperialism.

"Liberating Palestine and protecting its holy places is an Arab, religious and human obligation," it says.

Article 12 of the constitution lists the goal of the Fatah movement as "complete liberation of Palestine, and eradication of Zionist economic, political, military and cultural existence." The constitution says: "Armed public revolution is the inevitable method for liberating Palestine.

"Armed struggle," the constitution reads, "is a strategy and not a tactic, and the Palestinian Arab people's armed revolution is a decisive factor in the liberation fight and in uprooting the Zionist existence, and this struggle will not cease unless the Zionist state is demolished and Palestine is completely liberated."

The constitution does not mention the Oslo Accords, supported by Fatah, but says it opposes any "political solution offered as an alternative to demolishing the Zionist occupation in Palestine..."

Fatah spokespeople, who attended a swearing-in ceremony in Gaza late Sunday for Arafat's new cabinet, could not be reached for comment. In the past, however, Fatah officials have dismissed statements calling for the destruction of Israel as mere rhetoric.

Israeli officials said they were stunned by the Fatah Web site.

David Bar-Ilan, director of policy planning for Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, called the constitution "in some ways worse than the Palestinian covenant. This is as clear an indication as any that the PLO has not abandoned its intention to destroy the State of Israel," he said.

ROSH HASHANAH PHOTOS

Reminder to all our readers, the deadline for our photo contest entries is 3:00 p.m. on Friday, August 28th.

Hezbollah undergoing a violent split – Please see page 30.

The News in Brief

CANADA

Holocaust Exhibit Planned

OTTAWA — The Canadian Museum of Civilization has announced that within three years it plans to open a one-year exhibit on the Holocaust, after which the exhibit may be shown across Canada.

Canadian Jewish Congress said it hopes the plan will lead to a permanent freestanding national Holocaust memorial museum in Ottawa, something it has been advocating.

B'nai Brith Canada expressed disappointment that the decision "was reached without consultation from Canada's senior Jewish organizations" and that "a temporary, rather than a permanent exhibition, is a piecemeal approach to Holocaust awareness and education."

ISRAEL

Name Change Demanded

JERUSALEM — Beit Shemesh should consider cancelling its twin city arrangement with the Croatian city of Split if that city does not change the name of a local street named for wartime minister of education, Mile Budak, The Simon Wiesenthal Centre says.

Budak served in the World War II Croatian government that carried out a policy of genocide against Croatian Jewry and mass murder and/or forced conversion to Catholicism of Serbs and Gypsies.

The Association of Olim from Yugoslavia supports the centre's initiative and is making the same appeal to change the name of Mile Budak Street.

Will Return Property

JERUSALEM — On a visit to Israel, Romanian Prime Minister Radu Vasile vowed to support legislation returning Jewish property confiscated during and after World War II. The World Jewish Restitution Organization estimates thousands of communal properties and as many as hundreds of thousands of private properties owned by Jews in Romania were confiscated by the Nazis and the Communist government.

Defence Model Displayed

TEL AVIV — A model of Israel's Arrow anti-missile system was displayed at a military exhibition marking the country's jubilee, but a key component of the system, which is still in the testing phase, was kept from public view. The system, co-financed by Israel and the United States, is expected to be deployed next year.

Journalists to Cut Contact

WEST BANK — The Palestinian Journalists Union called on its members to sever all contacts with their Israeli counterparts. A union official said the Arab Journalists Union, with members in 16 Arab countries, had adopted a similar stand last month and was planning to blacklist all members who ignored the ban.

WORLD

Israeli Denied Visa

TUNIS — Tunisia refused to issue a visa to Israel's incoming envoy to the North African country. The move comes amid deteriorating relations between the two countries. Tunisia and Israel established diplomatic ties in 1995 in the wake of the Oslo accords.

Resentencing Ordered

NEW YORK — A U.S. federal appeals court ruled that the four men convicted of the 1993 bombing at the World Trade Centre received a fair trial, but the court ordered resentencing for the militant Muslims because they did not have lawyers present during the original sentencing.

The four, who were arrested within weeks of the bombing, have said they carried out the attack in retaliation for U.S. support of Israel.

Call for Holocaust Museum

BERLIN — A newly formed foundation is reviving calls for a Holocaust museum in Germany. The initiative comes amid continuing controversy regarding a proposed national Holocaust memorial in Berlin.

Crosses to Remain

OSWIECIM, Poland — Foreign Minister Bronislaw Geremek said his government has no plans to remove some 50 crosses outside the site of the Auschwitz death camp, as requested by the Yad Vashem Holocaust Memorial in Jerusalem.

Because of an agreement between Poland and the Catholic Church leaving the latter in charge of religious symbols, the government would leave the decision to the Vatican, Geremek said.

Church officials said they have no plans to deal with the crosses, erected last month by a Catholic workers group as part of a campaign to maintain Christian symbols at the site.

Meanwhile, nationalist and Catholic activists recently erected two additional nine-foot crosses near the camp.

Cantorial Council Meets

NEW YORK — The 38th Annual Convention of the Cantorial Council of America (CCA) held recently highlighted Israel's 50th anniversary. Convention chair, Cantor Leon Kahn of the Washington Heights Congregation in New York City, was elected president for the coming term.

Participants in musical workshops and discussions on the Cantorate and Jewish Music included cantors Stephen Glass and Aric Subar of Montreal and David Bagley of Toronto.

Performers at the annual convention concert included cantors Sid Dworkin of Montreal and Yehuda Rottner and Bagley of Toronto.

The CCA is affiliated with the Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary and is sponsored by the Belz School at Yeshiva University.

Professorship Established

WALTHAM, Mass. — Brandeis University is establishing its first professorship in Jewish Education.

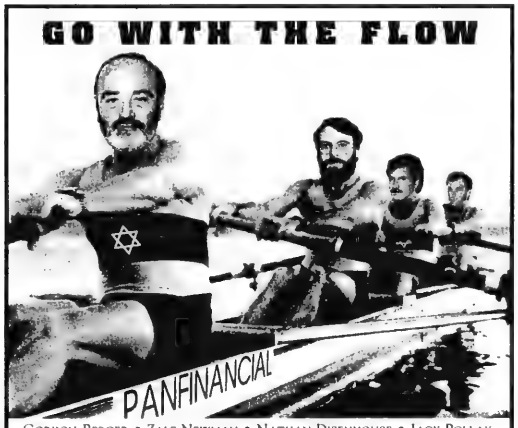
Made possible by a $2.5 million gift from the Mandel family of Cleveland, the Mandel Professorship in Jewish Education at Brandeis will be the first of its kind in North America at an institution of higher learning not affiliated with one of Judaism's three major streams.

Jewish Theatre Opens

COLOGNE — A Jewish theatre, which will be the second in Germany, is planning to open here in December. It will perform two-thirds of its plays in German and the remainder in Yiddish.

Bishops Vote on Jerusalem

LAMBETH, England — At their recent conference, Anglican bishops voted that Jerusalem should be the capital of both Israel and a Palestinian state. The bishops' conference is held once a decade.



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Golden report takes aim at homelessness

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Homelessness is still on the rise but the problem can be "significantly reduced," according to Anne Golden, chair of Toronto Mayor Mel Lastman's Homelessness Action Task Force and president of United Way of Greater Toronto.

The task force's interim report, released last month, outlines nine strategies to break the cycle of homelessness, among them building additional housing for chronic shelter users who may suffer from addiction or mental illness; creating more affordable housing; and ensuring a more equitable distribution of low-cost housing and services across the province.

Data collected at hostels over the past nine years does not track the religion or ethnicity of shelter users, but about 13 percent of Toronto Jews live below the poverty line, according to the Jewish Family & Child Service.

In 1997, the agency provided $1.4 million to over 2,000 people for housing.

"I think it's worth mentioning that the Jewish community is [also] participating in a very commendable way in the volunteer response," said Golden in a telephone interview last week, referring to a few initiatives, most notably Holy Blossom Temple's participation in the Out of the Cold program which offers food and shelter to homeless people on a weekly basis.

The program, in which Holy Blossom participates on a rotating basis with local churches, is not an answer to homelessness, although it plays an important role, Golden said. "It's a crisis response to a crisis situation."

Anne Golden

The 62-page report, entitled *Breaking the Cycle of Homelessness*, was written following visits to shelters and a variety of housing alternatives as well as consultations with experts including homeless and formerly homeless people. The four-person task force was created by Lastman in January following the November release of United Way's *Beyond Survival: Homelessness in Metro Toronto*.

A more specific set of recommendations, to be implemented over the next decade, will be outlined in the group's final report, due out later this year.

"Our intention will be to create a realistic, implementable action plan," said Golden.

The "solvable" part of the homeless problem focuses on chronic homelessness or homelessness related to lack of affordability, reflecting 60 percent of the homeless population, she explained.

The incidence of family poverty is increasing, as is the depth of that poverty, Golden said. Families and youth are the fastest growing segment of the homeless population, according to the report. In 1996, 26,000 different people, including 5,300 children, used Toronto's hostel system.

The proposed solution will involve all three levels of government, according to the report. "It will involve a fair-share approach," said Golden. "All the affordable housing cannot continue to be shoved into the City of Toronto."

Of Toronto shelter users, 47 percent come from outside Toronto, she noted.

The task force is in the process of determining the cost to each level of government, Golden said. "Ultimately, person by person, [prevention] will cost less [than emergency response]...It's a very complicated and sophisticated problem."

A homelessness prevention strategy must focus on preventing at-risk people from losing their homes, the report states. Prevention will require policies to enable homeless people to access and maintain stable housing.

Although Golden is not optimistic about eliminating short-term and emergency-induced homelessness, she said if she and the other task force members weren't hopeful about eliminating chronic homelessness, it would be impossible to work as hard as they intend to on the final report.

Israeli baby dies after flight to Canada

DANIEL WOLGELERENTER
Student Intern

TORONTO — A 4½-month-old Israeli baby girl died recently after suddenly developing breathing problems on a flight into Toronto, according to Air Canada and Peel Regional Police officials.

Air Canada, police and coroner's office officials would not release the official cause of death of Chedva Busch, who was travelling with her parents Sharon and Chaim and her 1½-year-old sister on Air Canada's July 27 flight number 885 non-stop from Israel.

The baby, a native of Zichron Ya'acov, was pronounced dead at Toronto's Hospital for Sick Children at 5:45 p.m. on July 27, according to Peel Regional Police spokesperson Gerald Davenport.

[Cont'd. on page 23]

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From the editor's desk

A remarkable 'testimony'

Elie Wiesel was probably the first to convey the poignant and sage notion that perhaps, after all, the most appropriate, most fitting human response to what we inadequately call the Holocaust, is silence.

Language is defining; but to define is, by its very nature, to limit as well. And how terrible it would be, if in our attempt to explain what happened we would by that process, actually limit our understanding of what happened.

But human beings are literary beings as much as they are emotional and intellectual beings. The need to use words, to express, to tell the story, is as deeply rooted into our souls as is the need to cry.

We have always cherished more the imperative of human testimony than we have been bothered by the fallibility of human understanding. The risk of somehow delimiting or diminishing understanding is outweighed by far by the risk of failing to give testimony, by failing to bear witness.

This may explain in part, the fact that thousands of books have been written about the Holocaust.

Recently, I completed reading one of those books, *Fugitive Pieces*, written by by Anne Michaels and published by McClelland & Stewart.

It is one of the most remarkable testimonies of the Holocaust that I have ever read.

Like an archeological excavation through which one tenderly but excitedly sifts, the book is an exploration through one layer after another of finely, intricately, interdependent levels of narrative, description, reflection and insight into the nature of history, testimony, memory, language, emotions, relationships, courage, heroism and love.

The narrative, the story of Jakob Beer, rescued as a young child, literally from the bog of Poland, and subsequently raised by the singular Greek scholar Athos Roussos, is merely one level, albeit the first level of discovery.

Then there is the level of the book's format, both its literary and intellectual structure. As York University professor Ruby Newman told Bill Gladstone in his article on Anne Michaels for a series in *The CJN* on the Jewish literary scene, (May 7) "It's an extended poem in many ways. It needs to be studied; it can't be read right through."

There is also the level of Michael's descriptive power, which when combined with her laser-accurate insights into the ghastly nature of Holocaust-related suffering, holds the reader in a crystal world of clarity and precision.

As an example, Michaels describes Jakob in the hiding place in his home "behind the wallpaper in the cupboard, cramming [my] head sideways between choking plaster and beams, eyelashes scraping" as the Nazis suddenly burst in to destroy his family.

From his horror-confined hideout Jakob tells us that "[I] wanted to go to my parents, to touch them. But I couldn't, unless I stepped on their blood."

As he watched the ending of his parents' lives, he reflects that "the soul leaves the body instantly, as if it can hardly wait to be free: my mother's face was not her own. My father was twisted with falling. Two shapes in the flesh-heap, his, hands."

Michaels achingly explores her subject, the central mystery of Holocaust-related suffering, through essential archetypes, namely, a survivor, a child of survivors, and the "outsider." She deftly creates an intricate geometry. The key different characters observe Jakob with different, key perspectives.

As if standing at the centre of a prism, the reader sees, indeed feels, the convergence and penetration of assorted lines of light into an impenetrably dark place.

With soaring skill and touching humility, Michaels leads the reader through the sorrow-stricken, magnificent terrain of the human heart.

She demonstrates profound understanding of the fallen markers that we pass along the way.

The sheer magnetic force of her writing, in effect makes of Michaels also a scribe, poetic in style, depicting chapters of Jewish history, for example: "In the zudeccha (ghetto) the Spanish silver siddur with hinges in the spine, the tallith and candlesticks are being buried in the earth under the kitchen floor. Letters to absent children, photos, are buried.

While the men and women who place these valuables in the ground have never done so before, they go through the motions with centuries of practice guiding their hands, a ritual as familiar as the Sabbath. Even the child who runs to bring his favorite toy, the dog with the little wooden wheels, in order to place it in the hold in the kitchen floor, seems to act with knowledge. All across Europe there are such buried treasures – a scrap of lace, a bowl, ghetto diaries that have never been found."

Fugitive Pieces is a rare literary achievement. Through its lyricism, poetry and insight, it communicates the silence that may indeed be the most appropriate human response to what we inadequately call the Holocaust. But in that silence, we must never ever cast aside what Michaels calls the important lessons: "Look carefully; record what you see. Find a way to make beauty necessary; find a way to make necessity beautiful."

MBD

Israel's Jubilee 50

from the archives

MEDICALS, THIS WAY, PLEASE

New immigrants stand in line at the doctor's tent at their camp near Ra'anana in December 1947.

[Keren Hayesod – UIA Communications photo]

* * *

For the latest in *Israel at 50* news, check out the *Israel at 50* Web site: [www.feduja.org] or call the *Israel at 50* hotline 416-635-2883 ext. 706.

Greater Toronto Area

Engel chairing 1998 UJA Women's Campaign

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Judy Engel has been involved in numerous Jewish charitable organizations, but somehow she always comes back to United Jewish Appeal (UJA).

The 41-year-old ex-Montrealer, a daughter of Holocaust survivors who is the 1998 UJA Women's Campaign chair, believes in the primacy of a central fundraising organization, she said in a recent interview at her home.

"I think before you make any other gift you should make your UJA gift," she said. "Without that, we don't sustain our community."

A little over half the money raised by UJA here is spent locally. Aside from subsidizing Jewish education (the main expenditure), funds are directed to agencies such as the

Judy Engel

Bernard Betel Centre for seniors, Jewish Family & Child Services and Zareinu Educational Centre for children with special needs.

Money earmarked for Israel is used to fund aliyah and absorption, and to purchase social services, including programs that support pluralism, noted Engel.

Engel and her husband David, who co-chairs UJA's King David's Circle Division, got their start in volunteer life as 23-year-olds in Montreal, when Judy was pregnant with the first of their three children.

After reading an ad in *The CJN*, they contacted Montreal's Jewish federation and became involved in its leadership development program and in UJA. Recently they came full circle by hosting a UJA young leadership retreat at their Toronto home.

When they moved here in 1983, one of the first phone calls Engel made was to offer her services to UJA, she recalls.

Since that time, she has been involved with a number of organizations. Among other involvements, she is on the board of the Baycrest Foundation, is a past president of the parents' association at United Synagogue Day School and was a chaperone this year on March of the Living.

Her focus at Women's Campaign, which raises nearly $4 million annually, is to continue to educate board members "so they'll be the best canvassers they can be."

She is a firm believer in UJA missions to Israel and in mini-missions locally so that participants see firsthand where donations go. Her recent participation in March of the Living reinforced for her the importance of supporting Israel.

"We have very well equipped volunteers," she said. "They know the concerns. They know the answers, and if they don't, they'll find someone who does."

One of Engel's biggest challenges as a canvasser came last year when she called a donor who had decided not to contribute any more. The woman, whose daughter-in-law had undergone a non-Orthodox conversion to Judaism, was concerned about the Jewish status of her grandchildren according to Israeli law, in light of the controversy surrounding the Ne'eman Committee recommendations.

It took 90 minutes, but Engel convinced the woman to renew her pledge.

She has seen an "overwhelming, positive response" to requests for three-year pledges and for an increase of 25 percent in the amount of each pledge by the third year.

UJA first tried a three-year-pledge campaign three years ago, freeing up canvassers to seek more new pledges in the subsequent years.

"It allows the community to plan a little better," said Engel, who sees the community as "an extended family."

ESSAY CONTEST

Daniel Balofsky, a graduate of Eitz Chaim Schools and currently a grade 9 student at Ner Israel Yeshiva, was named the grand prize winner in the 7th annual Kaplun Essay Contest. He received his award at a luncheon in New York City. The contest is sponsored by The Morris and Betty Kaplun Foundation in New York City. The contest included all Jewish day schools in Canada and the United States.

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This Sky knows no limits

What inspires creativity in the artist? Is creativity in the artist the inevitable expression of an accumulation of experiences. Or does creativity flow from a single, watershed experience? Ibn Ezra, the great medieval philosopher, believed that the poet and the artist create by nature, not because of what they acquired through learning. This is the third article in a series of sketches on Artists & Creativity that will explore such questions.

By BILL GLADSTONE

Amy Sky

The sky's the limit for Amy Sky, the 30-something pop singer and composer who joins me on the patio of a midtown Toronto cafe. The morning is bright and her sunglasses stay on. In my opinion, Sky's career is on a star trajectory and she may soon need those sunglasses for another purpose beyond protecting her eyes from the sun.

The root of Amy Sky's considerable success to date has been an uncanny knack at writing highly appealing pop songs for first-rate singers like Anne Murray, Diana Ross, Melissa Manchester, Reba McEntyre, Marie Osmond and Olivia Newton John. Possessed herself of a gifted voice, Sky stepped into the limelight several years ago with her first CD *Cool Rain*, from which several hit singles have flowed.

Next came a major role in the Toronto production of the musical *Blood Brothers*, in which she projected that velvety, emotive, Ronstadtian voice well into the rafters. Many live concert dates later, Sky has just released a powerful new CD, *Burnt By The Sun*, which may make new inroads for her into the all-important American market.

Sky moved to Nashville in 1983 and to Los Angeles in 1986, and returned in the early 1990s to Toronto, her native city and the city in which she attained a university degree in classical composition after studying classical music from an early age. "I was always making up my own tunes," she says. "Even by the age of six I was making up little classical pieces. I didn't discover popular music until I was 11, and then I began writing my own pop songs."

She cites a valuable song-writing trick she learned in Nashville: always start with the title. "A Nashville producer told me, 'If a title is strong enough, then you know what the whole story of the song is about.' He used *Stand By Your Man* as an example. Titles are the hooks with which you may pull the fish out of the water."

A self-admitted "title scavenger," she scans old books and movies for that fortuitous phrase that strikes a deep and resonant chord within. "Sometimes I'll hear a title and I won't know how to turn it into a song for some time. But usually once the light bulb goes on...."

That light-bulb has produced such memorable hits as *If My Heart Had Wings*, *Unbreakable Heart*, *Soledad* and *Cool Rain*, and helped to establish Sky among the first rank of contemporary popular composers.

Although she often writes the music collaboratively, she says she prefers to work solo when penning the lyrics. "It's probable I enjoy writing lyrics more than the music. I love to tell a story." Her songs, she says, come directly from her life experience. "Anything I put into a song is a reflection of what I feel in life. I don't put on a persona; I don't play-act an emotional role. If I wrote it, it's all rooted in my emotional truth. Like any writer, you change the names and dates to protect the innocent."

"Faxes from heaven" is her term for the ideas that come to her for songs. "I don't know where the ideas come from – they sort of bubble up from some divine source. It feels like they're coming *to* me and *through* me rather than *from* me."

The wife of composer Marc Jordan with whom she has had two children, Sky says she does most of her lyrical composition on the go. "I usually go for a walk – it usually takes me about an hour to get into gear. In the first 10 or 15 minutes my mind is clearing. If you want to access the right or creative side of your brain, you should get the left side of your brain doing some routine thing. Once you get into that sort of rhythmic trance, then the ideas start coming."

Once a staff composer with MCA Music who was paid to write 20 songs a year, Sky knows that there is no commercial formula you can follow that will make you more productive as an artist. "You have to cultivate the receptive or the spiritual part of yourself," she says. "It's like tilling the earth. You can have beautiful fertile land but until you prepare it, nothing will ever grow."

While Jewish themes play a bigger role in her life than they do in her music, Sky is not above using a word or phrase in Yiddish at an appropriate moment. Such a moment arises when I mention that lovely high note she reaches so effortlessly near the end of *Cool Rain*. "I believe it's important for a singer to use her full range," she begins. Then she adds, "I have a friend who says it's a good *ge-schry*. That's a good Jewish word for 'wailing.'"

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Greater Toronto Area

Silver named York University's dean of fine arts

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

For the past three decades, Phillip Silver has left his mark on stage design across Canada.

Silver's artistry has graced numerous theatres, notably the Winter Garden Theatre and the Tarragon Theatre in Toronto, the Citadel Theatre in Edmonton, the Vancouver Playhouse Company, the Stratford Festival and the National Arts Center in Ottawa.

His productions include *The Crucible*, *South Pacific*, *The Merchant of Venice*, *Aspects of Love*, *The Mousetrap*, *Brighton Beach Memoirs* and *A Man for all Seasons*.

In recognition of his accomplishments, Silver has been chosen as one of the 10 designers who will represent Canada at next June's Prague Quadrennial, an international showcase for stage design.

For now, however, he has his hands full as the newly appointed dean of York University's Faculty of Fine Arts, the largest of its kind in Canada, with a staff of 140 professors and more than 2,300 students. (Among its graduates are Richard Rose, a Stratford Festival director, and Lewis Baumander of Toronto's Skylight Theatre).

With an interdisciplinary fine arts cultural studies program, and with departments in theatre, dance, film, video, music and visual arts, York University is certainly a leader in its field in North America.

And if Silver, 55, has his way, the university's fine arts faculty will continue to be on the cutting edge of new developments.

Silver, whose association with York University goes back to 1982, assumes the deanship after a rough 10-year period of cutbacks and zero growth.

As the faculty's chief financial officer, fundraiser and visionary, he will have to deal with the fiscal realities of the 1990s and train a fresh crop of students for the 21st century.

Silver, whose term of office is five years, with the possibility of an extension, is thrilled by his appointment.

"My only regret as dean is that I won't have as much contact with students," he said. "It's really exciting to work with young people with potential."

His connection with students, however, remains essentially intact. One of his functions is to encourage students to explore a question central to the faculty's existence and indeed its raison d'etre: What is the role of the arts in the 21st century?

"We're told that the arts are not important, but we're bombarded by the arts. Its integral to our society. I want students to have a better appreciation of it."

These are not mere words. For Silver, the father of three grown children aged 18, 24 and 27, theatre runs in his blood.

Phillip Silver

When he was a boy growing up in Edmonton, his mother Estelle introduced him to the milieu by enrolling him in a theatre course.

Later, at the University of Alberta, he took a degree in English, with emphasis on dramatic literature.

In Montreal's National Theatre School, where he toyed with the idea of becoming an actor, he studied production and design.

From 1967 to 1976, Silver was the resident designer of the Citadel Theatre in his home town. In 1978, he embarked on a career as a freelance designer.

All told, he has been involved in the design of upwards of 300 productions, and has served as an architecture consultant to McGill University and the Canadian Museum of Civilization.

Silver, whose wife Brenda is a teacher, has lived in Stratford for the past 20 years. He does not mind the 1½-hour commute to the York University campus.

Designed ark

One of about 20 Jews in Stratford, he is a member of Temple Shalom in Waterloo, whose Torah ark he designed in 1996. The synagogue shares a building with a Protestant church, an arrangement that is perhaps unique in Canada.

Silver's family has deep roots in Canada.

His great-grandfather, Herman Bernard of Vienna, settled in Montreal in the 1880s, and went west 20 years later. He was one of the early presidents of Edmonton's first synagogue, Congregation Beth Israel.

Charles, Silver's father, owned a retail clothing store in western Edmonton. Charles' family, which hailed from the Ukraine, settled in Calgary before World War I.

Silver, the recipient of three Dora Mavor Moore Awards for excellence in set and lighting design, contends that the function of a stage designer is two-fold: to support the text of a play and to strengthen audience participation in the creation of make-believe.

He has no illusions about his contribution. Stage design, though important, is not a crucial element in the success of a play, he believes. The key, as always, is the vigor of the story.

"My stage design won't save a show if there is not something fundamentally engaging between the text and the audience. But I can help."

In designing a production, Silver is very much text-oriented. And he will not accept a commission unless it captures his imagination.

In his view, stage design in Canada is at a high level.

"We're in great shape. Unfortunately, few Canadians know it. The frustrating thing is, we haven't been good at trumpeting our work."

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Hopeful signs

The provincial premiers and territorial leaders concluded their annual two-day meeting last week. The conference, hosted by Saskatchewan Premier Roy Romanow in Saskatoon, was remarkably free of the petty, self-serving, school-yard finger-pointing at the bete noire federal government that has so frequently characterized the gatherings in the past.

That is not to say, of course, that the differences between the two levels of government have been resolved, or are even yet close to being resolved. Nor is that to say that the differences among the provincial and territorial leaders themselves have been resolved. The main agenda item, refashioning a new "social union" for Canada, was far too complex to allow for that.

But the more moderate, cooperation-seeking tone of the proceedings was noteworthy. As a result, the substantive results of the meeting, namely, laying the groundwork for the next phase of the federal-provincial dialogue, were also worthy of note and worthy of commendation.

No doubt, the tone and positive "atmospherics" of the gathering were in part attributable to the chairmanship of Romanow, a man known for cool, temperate, reasoned judgment. More likely, however, the premiers were simply responding to the carefully polled moods of their respective electorates, irritated by disingenuous public outbursts of political pique, distrusting of their elected officials, and gravely worried about the state of national health care.

By meeting's end, the premiers and leaders expressed one common fiscal and social priority: more money from Ottawa for health care. They unanimously called on the federal government to restore the $6.2 billion dollars it has removed from transfer payments to the provinces since 1995. But even this recommendation was expressed calmly, without clamor or grandstanding. The mechanics of the restoration were left to federal decision makers, thereby deftly tossing the ball back into the federal court.

On the subject of a proposed new "social union" for Canada, there were also encouraging, hopeful signs. The most significant was the fact of and the nature of Premier Lucien Bouchard's involvement. There was clearly a change in his attitude to the issue of overlapping federal-provincial programming in areas of provincial jurisdiction. This change in attitude was matched by a change in deeds as well as in words, as was evident at the very outset.

In joining the gathering, Bouchard agreed to a unanimous statement that "both orders of government are involved in Canada's social union," and that a "stronger partnership" between the federal government and the provinces is needed to secure social programs. As reported in the *Ottawa Citizen*, this "in itself was significant since Mr. Bouchard has long held that any attempt to work in partnership with the federal government on social programs amounts to inviting it to invade exclusive provincial jurisdiction."

The premier agreed to a federal proposal that the right of a province to opt out of a federal program was to be conditioned upon the province's providing a program that "addresses the priority areas" dealt with by that national program. The change in attitude by Quebec was praised by the other premiers as well as by federal Intergovernmental Affairs Minister Stephane Dion. For his part, Dion hoped that there would be "a lot of flexibility in the federation, in order to allow each province to invent their own programs."

Of course, it is much too early in the process to draw definitive conclusions about the Quebec premier's contributions or motives. Nor are we either so naive or, for that matter, so desperate as to believe that Bouchard has altered his strategic objective for Quebec from separatism to federalism. But since we have never refrained from criticizing Bouchard in the past, we do not recoil from expressing commendation, albeit guarded, at his constructive participation last week with the other premiers and territorial leaders.

WISDOM OF THE AGES

"How lovely is the sun after rain; and how lovely is laughter after sorrow." ***Tunisian Jewish saying***

Dry Bones
THE ORI ORR AFFAIR MIGHT PROVE, ONCE AGAIN
THAT WHILE THE LIKUD HAS NEVER WON AN ELECTION
...LABOR HAS OFTEN DISCOVERED CLEVER WAYS
TO LOSE ONE!

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Canada's abysmal record on Israel

We at the Toronto Zionist Council (TZC) were taken aback at your designation of Canada as "precious" (Editorial, May 28). That is hardly the word we would use for a country pursuing a foreign policy which is so blatantly anti-Zionist.

Several years ago, TZC engaged in a campaign of financial support for the Jewish communities in Judea/Samaria/Gaza (YESHA). In no time, Revenue Canada was investigating us and subsequently saw fit to revoke our charitable number. The grounds were that "the provision of financial support for social services within Israeli settlements in the Occupied Territories [sic] would contribute to the continued viability of those settlements, and therefore would be contrary and offensive to Canada's public policy on this issue," which, according to a 1995 government position paper, does not recognize "permanent" Israeli control over the territories "occupied" in 1967.

Canada appears not the least troubled by the manner in which the said lands were wrested from Israel by Jordan and Egypt in '48; nor how they came to be "occupied" by Israel 20 years later when she was again attacked by her neighbors. We should be very angry that Canada should presume to interfere in such a blatant way in the internal affairs of a sovereign state.

Finally, we Jews should be very, very angry at Canada's voting record in the United Nations. Everybody now knows that she supported upgrading the PLO's status, in itself a violation of the "spirit" of the accords. Not so well known, perhaps, is her vote several years ago in support of an Arab-inspired resolution denying Israel's entitlement to any part of Jerusalem.

The Canada-Israel Committee should not be "disappointed" at the action of our Diaspora hosts; Israel is the homeland of the Jews. And YESHA is the heartland of that homeland. And no host country, no matter how momentarily benign, or "precious," should be allowed to wrest our "yerushah" from us.

Nomi Winkler
Executive Secretary
Toronto Zionist Council

Resident gives views on balcony sukkot

I am one of the residents of the Le Sanctuaire complex who put up a sukkah on my balcony. I would simply like to correct the impression your readers may have received by reading your article on June 25, in which it was reported that Judge André Rochon declared that the syndicate (Syndicat Northcrest) had tried to reasonably accommodate us.

The condo president, Mr. Pierre Gadbois, did not respond to any of my phone calls, although I was trying to communicate with him in an effort to resolve this matter. It all began when he sent out letters to all Jews in the building advising us it was illegal to put up a sukkah on our balconies. Yet he never took legal action to stop any other objects, such as Christmas decorations and satellite dishes, even though they are on the balconies on a permanent basis.

The syndicate made an offer to allow a common sukkah only after the Canadian Jewish Congress intervened on our behalf, but there was no time to arrange for one four days prior to the holiday. Also, the site offered was not suitable for a variety of reasons, one of which was a halachic problem.

We were then taken to court on the eve of the holiday in an attempt to secure a temporary injunction. The syndicate lawyer came armed with hundreds of pages of documents, obviously having been prepared well in advance. I had gone to court armed only with a Bible. With the help of arguments from B'nai Brith lawyer Steven Slimovitch, Judge Marc Beaudoin ruled there was no serious or irreparable damage and allowed the sukkot to remain. Yet the syndicate would not accept this and immediately proceeded to attempt to secure a permanent injunction.

After this initial round, I again tried to negotiate a solution in the spirit of compromise, yet the syndicate spurned all my offers of compromise and even withdrew their initial offer of a common sukkah and now only offered a "tent" that anyone in the building can use at any time. They did not offer any guarantees that the tent would be available to us during the Sukkot holiday, nor would they guarantee that it would be halachically acceptable. These are not "technical" issues, as Judge Rochon put it, but halachic ones, which Judge Rochon simply did not seem to grasp.

Thomas Klein
Montreal

Dion wrongly compares Jews to Quebecers

In an article in the Montreal *Gazette*, Intergovernmental Affairs Minister Stephane Dion commented on how similar the Jewish community in Quebec is to "Quebecers eager to preserve their francophone heritage." Immediately I wondered whether a government minister was promoting unity or disunity. Is this an established distinction? Does the Jewish community, or for that matter any other community, separate itself from "Quebecers?" Is this a federal perception?

I am of the opinion that this comment illustrates an unacceptable level of ignorance for a representative of the Canadian people. There is no similarity nor parallel between being Jewish in Canada and being French Canadian in Quebec. Furthermore, the Jewish people are first and foremost representatives of a religious system. French Canadians are a linguistic group and the last time I checked, currently citizens of Canada. Likewise, a Jewish person's relationship to Israel originates as purely a religious commitment.

Howard Gontovnick
Montreal

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures. Letters sent by e-mail must also include the sender's municipal address.

Perspectives

The rescue of a community's past

By REVA KAISER

The Jewish world is by now familiar with Judy Feld Carr's efforts to save the lives of thousands of Syrian Jews. Although it was a well-kept secret for over two decades, the truth has come out in recent years. Affectionately known as "the mother of Syrian Jewry," Feld Carr risked her life to bring more than 2,000 Jews out of Syria, paying hefty sums to do so, as Jewish emigration was strictly prohibited.

It all began with a few packages. In 1972, at the request of Rabbi Ibrahim Hamra, the chief rabbi of Syria, Judy Feld Carr and her late husband, Dr. Ronald Feld, shipped boxes of Judaica and sefarim (religious Hebrew texts) to the religion-starved Jewish community of Syria. But that was only the beginning; never did Feld Carr imagine that the relatively simple task of supplying the Syrian Jews with religious books and other necessities would lead to in a 23-year-long odyssey of saving the Jewish lives of this centuries-old community.

What most people do not know, furthermore, is that while saving the future of the Syrian community, Feld Carr was also saving its past.

This second rescue began in the 1990s, when most of the community was already out of Syria. Feld Carr started hearing from the Syrian Jews about the rich Jewish heritage they had been forced to leave behind: the magnificent synagogues, the beautiful artifacts, the hand-crafted sifrei Torah and other sefarim. It was illegal to remove these precious religious artifacts from the country because they were all state-owned.

Feld Carr was first approached in early 1993 about rescuing the Judaica of the Syrian Jews, when a former resident of Aleppo told her about a "fine book" that had been left behind. This book, she was told, was a beautiful sefer, written in the 14th century. Through her contacts, Feld Carr arranged for its illegal removal from Syria. Her methods were and remain secret, but Feld Carr was successful on her first try. Her efforts were worth it, as the beautiful Tanach is estimated to be almost 1,000 years old. Painstakingly created, it was written on fine parchment, its pages decorated with delicate roses.

Feld Carr was thrilled. "I saw there might be a way of getting these books out," she said. But even more than that, she felt the power of such a small book. "I realized that when I was holding it, I was holding an amazing piece of history."

When Feld Carr visited Israel later that year, a curator at the Israel Museum told her about the rumored existence of the Damascus Keter, a hand-written Tanach, the crowning glory of religious Syrian texts. Feld Carr's interest was immediately piqued and she decided to find this treasure and return it to the Jewish community.

Feld Carr did not listen to the advice that she focus her energies on saving people and not chase a rumor about a book. With the help of her many contacts, she found the Keter in the basement of a Damascus synagogue. Sheltered in a glass case, it was only removed once a year, on Shavuot, when it was used during services.

It was illegal to remove the Keter, since it was on the Syrian government's inventory list of religious articles, but one of Feld Carr's contacts was willing to help save the holy tome. Feld Carr knew that no Jew in Syria would risk being caught with it. She therefore found a trusted friend who was going to Damascus for business, but she decided not to confide the true nature of the "gift" he had agreed to bring her from a "friend" in Syria.

Ten days after Feld Carr's friend met with her contact in Syria, Feld Carr flew to New York to pick up her "gift." She was handed one of the oldest and most sacred books belonging to the Jewish people. It was wrapped in a black plastic shopping bag.

Written on almost translucent vellum, the Damascus Keter was penned in Spain in the early 14th century. While the scribe is unknown, it is clear this masterpiece was an artisan's lifetime project. Two deeds of sale were inscribed inside: the first, written in Judeo-Arabic, details the sefer's purchase by Abraham Sarfati for currency of King Enrique IV (1454-1474); the second, written in Rashi script, documents the Keter's sale by Sarfati in 1515, for currency of Sultan Selim I of the Ottoman empire.

It is very likely the Keter was carried from Spain by Jews fleeing the Spanish Inquisition and found a haven in Damascus. But almost 500 years later, in November 1993, Feld Carr rescued it from yet another land of Jewish persecution and brought it to safety in Israel.

Soon after, Feld Carr was contacted by a man in Aleppo who wanted to save the thousands of sefarim held in Syria. These books were stored in damp synagogue basements, since the community had started using the new texts Feld Carr had sent. Though the modern ones were easier to read and in better condition, their predecessors were an important part of Jewish history. "They [members of the community] were distraught that they'd be leaving, and leaving their heritage behind," says Feld Carr of the brave Jews who smuggled out the sefarim.

Sefarim from Aleppo [Don Carr photo]

It began with the occasional box sent to Feld Carr. One or two sefarim were wrapped in apricot shoe leather (a taffy-like candy) and hidden in a case of cookie boxes. The packages arrived at Feld Carr's home labelled "candy" and addressed to no one. The smugglers increased their efforts and sent the "candy" boxes to about half-a-dozen nameless addresses. Feld Carr was also sent the ornate metal menorahs that graced either side of the Aron Kodesh in an Aleppo synagogue. In all, a few hundred volumes were saved.

The Damascus Keter [Orah Buck photo]

These rescued texts help tell the story of the Syrian Jewish community during the past millennium. A thriving Jewish community since biblical times, the city of Aleppo was also a trading post that connected the Middle Eastern country with Europe and the rest of Asia. Syria's Jewish community relied on travelling Jewish merchants to provide them with the sefarim needed to maintain Jewish learning and life in Syria, since a Hebrew printing press was not established in the country until 1865.

But the Aleppo community still managed to amass quite a collection. The sefarim accumulating in Feld Carr's home originated from Greece, Turkey, Poland, Russia, Italy, Germany and Israel. One of the oldest books Feld Carr received was a Sefer Toldot, printed in Venice in 1553. Aside from biblical texts, the volumes were books on commentaries, law, responsa and personal writings.

One text that found its way to Aleppo from Amsterdam had been printed at the start of the 16th century. In Syria, it was owned by a Mr. Silvero, apparently the treasurer of the synagogue. During the end of the 17th century and the start of the 18th, he recorded members' dues inside the book's cover.

Today, these texts belong to the Hebrew University's National Library of Israel in Jerusalem. An integral part of Jewish history, these sefarim became a link between the Ashkenazi and Sefardi communities, connecting all Jews with the words of the Torah.

In February 1994, the last Torah of Aleppo was smuggled out of Syria inside a suitcase. Unfortunately, its valuable and ornate silver case had to be left behind. Feld Carr was not part of this rescue, but became involved in its story when it was given to her as a gift of appreciation by the carrier – his thanks to Feld Carr for bringing him and his family out of Syria.

Although his gambit was almost exposed at the airport when an official approached to check the bag, the man was saved by his baby's impatient wail. Annoyed by the crying infant and appeased with a comfortable bribe, the official let the family go – and the last Torah of Aleppo left Syria in a suitcase.

Feld Carr was overwhelmed by the treasure she had been given. She knew that the act of saving it bore the risk of a 15-year jail sentence. Written on soft leather, the Torah is believed to be between 200 and 300 years old. On the back of the scroll is a note written in Hebrew documenting the Torah's acquisition in 1814 "for the worship of my Creator." Today, the Torah is in Israel, waiting to be presented to the Chief Rabbinate. It will then be donated to Israel's Aleppo community.

There are not many Jews left in Syria. Those who remain do so willingly; the government no longer restrains them. But there is a wealth of Jewish heritage and history buried in the deserted synagogues of a once thriving community. Feld Carr wishes she could have rescued more of that heritage. She mourns for those items that remain behind. "Gone," she says of the sefarim lost to us. "There is no way of getting them out."

But a small yet significant part of the Syrian chapter of Jewish history lives on in the hundreds of texts, the Keter and the sifrei Torah that Feld Carr did rescue. The small black letters on parchment or paper are part of our heritage, our history, our lives. We are, and will always be, the people of the book.

With files from Don Carr, Ron Csillag, and the Encyclopedia Judaica.

Opinions

Not everything is in the book

By Jennifer Fox in Halifax

The Ancient Greeks said, "Know thyself." John Calvin believed all human souls were predestined for heaven or hell. And the Jews thought... well ...I'm not really sure; it wasn't covered in the lecture.

The Foundation Year Programme, or FYP (rhymes with hip), is a specialized course combining English, history, philosophy and sociology – an overview of western thought starting in the Ancient World, ending with post-modernism – and mandatory for all first year King's College journalism students.

FYP has lectures and tutorials four times a week. It has 15 tortuous minutes known as the oral exam. It has writing styles that contradict everything journalists describe as good writing.

And it teaches about religion. Specifically Christianity. Christian beliefs and writers are the focus of two sections of FYP – the Middle Ages, and the Renaissance and the Reformation.

It makes sense that Christianity takes up one-third of the course. The church did govern the western world for 1,000 years, and today Christian beliefs still influence our society. I understand all that. Still, why does FYP barely cover the Old Testament, as they call it? The creation story, Abraham's covenant with God, Jewish law and the Book of Job. That's it. The Torah gets three lectures, while Dante's *Divine Comedy* is discussed for two weeks.

Before school started, I was scared to study Christian texts. The majority of the students at King's are Christian. These students would excel because they understood or were familiar with Christian terms and beliefs. I didn't even know the basics – the difference between an Anglican or a Presbyterian, how the church functioned, or anything about the Trinity.

I sat through the tutorials bewildered, but was soon relieved to discover most of the students were as lost as I was. But because the unexplainable ideas were part of their belief system, some Christian students accepted them more readily while I struggled to understand. By the end of the Middle Ages, members of my 13-student tutorial hoped I would never ask for another explanation of the Trinity.

I survived the Middle Ages, but then the Reformation appeared and again I felt disoriented and overwhelmed. According to John Calvin, an important figure in the Protestant reformation, God predestined every human to heaven or hell regardless of their actions while on earth. It didn't make sense to me. People must have a role in where they end up in the hereafter, if there is a hereafter. By thinking this was I contradicting a Jewish belief? What did Jews think about these questions? It was December and essays and exams were weighing me down. I was in no mood to deal with somebody else's religion or to start questioning my own.

Suddenly I realized what bothered me about FYP. Learning about Christian beliefs didn't mean I had to accept them, but I wanted to know what Jewish scholars thought about these same ideas. Surely one rabbi wrote about predestination or the afterlife. There was no one at school to turn to. My FYP tutor admitted he really didn't know much about Judaism. I was surrounded by scholars and not one could answer the questions of a Jewish girl feeling very isolated and too far from home.

Eventually I found someone to answer my questions. I went to see the rabbi at my family's synagogue when I returned to Thornhill for winter break. We talked about predestination. Apparently some Jewish scholars think it exists and others don't. We talked about the afterlife, about what Jews believe and what we don't. It wouldn't be useful when I had to write my next FYP essay, but my mind was at ease. My religious crisis had passed.

Know thyself. The Ancient Greeks got it right. Know who you are, know what's inside you. FYP helped me discover many things, but it couldn't help me know myself as a Jew. I had to look for the answers elsewhere. Not all the important things in life are covered in the curriculum.

Conspiracy, conspiracy!

By Rabbi Gunther Plaut in Toronto

Future historians looking back at the end of this century will probably find that we have been "blessed" by quick solutions to complex problems. When we don't quite know how to explain a certain development, we are likely to assume that some secret and evil conspiracy is at work.

The infamous *Protocols of the Elders of Zion* of 100 years ago ascribed war, depression and other misfortunes to a Jewish conspiracy. That thesis has helped to keep anti-Semitism alive and today has become popular reading in the Arab world. How else can one more easily explain the enormous advances that tiny Israel has made?

Another well-known conspiracy theory swirls around the assassination of U.S. president John F. Kennedy. Although a meticulous and thorough investigation by a high level commission found no traces of conspiratorial activity, the assumption remains for many people that some evil agency – probably the FBI – did the dirty deed. Similarly, the murder of Martin Luther King has been ascribed to the same agency, and even the son of the late black leader has now joined the parade of those who believe that King was done in, not by one person, but by the major American investigative agency.

So it was really no surprise when, the other day, I came across an article in a usually level-headed magazine headlined "The Top Ten Censored Stories." The headline itself tells the tale: Since all the examples took place in the United States, it is clear that the electronic as well as the print media must be subject to some secret censorship, finally uncovered by the author of this latest example of revelling in secrecy and conspiracy.

Of the 10 items listed, number 4 attracted me: "U.S. designed and sponsored intelligence apparatus based in New Zealand allows international spy agencies to monitor most of the telephone, e-mail and telex communications carried over the world's communications networks."

Actually, I am relieved that only "most" of these electronic media are being spied upon, and not all. Maybe I am one of the lucky ones who has escaped this intrusion.

To come back to the beginning: The sad part in all of this is the unwillingness of so many people to deal with problems head-on, but instead turn to the easy escape route of presuming a conspiracy of some kind.

This fall, John Glenn, U.S. senator and former astronaut, will return to space. This causes me to recall the moment when Neil Armstrong touched down on the moon and proclaimed: "One small step for man, one giant step for mankind." But are you aware that there is an underground conspiracy theory running through many countries that the Armstrong mission was nothing but a huge make-believe and that the United States, by mounting an elaborate Hollywood production which it pretended was a moon mission, bedazzled the world into believing that the moon had actually been reached? It didn't really happen out there in space, it happened in a studio in California. After all, when it comes to Hollywood, everything is possible.

Religion binds people, places

By Erica Horn in Montreal

Camp Green Lane, Green Lane, P.A. Population: 500 Americans, 30 Canadians.

Reveille. I wake up and unintentionally put on my red sweatpants and white T-shirt. I check the date on my watch and realize it is July 1, Canada Day. At dinner, the Canadians are invited to show allegiance to our country by singing our national anthem.

Winter. When I am in Montreal during the winter, I never explicitly show that I am Canadian the way, for example, I show I am Jewish (i.e. wearing a Magen David around my neck). In all honesty, the only time I have felt the need to show my "Canadianism" was during the famous No rally of October 1995. Until the threat of Quebec's separation from the rest of Canada was actually knocking at the door, being Canadian was as significant as my shoe size.

Summer. Driving along Route 63 from the Philadelphia International Airport in mid-June, I noticed that every house was already garnished with its red and white stripes and 50 stars for July 4. Eager beavers!

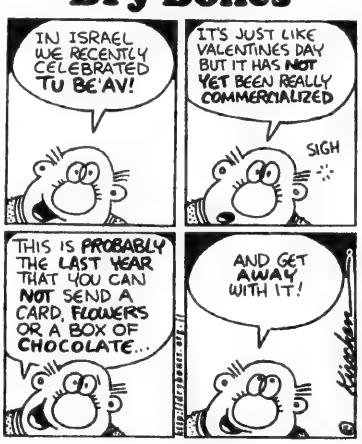
1996. When I first arrived at Camp Green Lane in June 1996, the other staff members were surprised that we don't wear parkas in the heat of summer, that we don't live in igloos and that we share many of the same interests. (Jewish geography was our favorite evening activity.) I would always comment on how patriotic everyone in the United States appeared to be. Canadians display more allegiance to Canada while in the United States than we do on our home territory.

Camp. When analyzing the camp atmosphere and the competitive dynamics that exist between Americans and Canadians (such as, we are Canadian; we should be able to play hockey much better than you), it is interesting to note that despite our differences – from our differing levels of patriotism and our Monopoly money, to our accents and pronunciation of words like pasta and pajama, just to name a few, we are all able to find a common bond that unifies us: our religion.

Shabbat. On Friday nights at camp, we file into the dining hall and say the Hamotzi and the blessings over the wine and candles. Later, we gather together for services that are conducted somewhat bilingually, yet predominantly in English. Besides the Shema and the Kaddish, the remainder of the prayers are camp related, such as asking for continued happiness in our summer home and for our camp friends. Wishes such as these are more meaningful than repeatedly reciting your national anthem or pledge of allegiance because they are personalized and applicable to your current daily life. Undoubtedly, "so proudly we hail" or "true patriot love" is far less significant than, "We thank you, O God for our camp family and for what we mean and bring to one another."

Taps. It is comforting to know that no matter where you are, be it Nowheresville, P.A., or even Zimbabwe, religion acts as a binding force that brings people, places and times together.

Dry Bones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The Kirshner File

A cornucopia of books

A cornucopia of books for the summer reading season... Jerusalem and Tel Aviv notwithstanding, New York, with its nearly 200 nationalities, is still the most populous Jewish city on the face of the earth. *New York: An Illustrated History of the People* (W.W. Norton), by Allon Schoener, is a rich and satisfying account of a great polyglot metropolis.

By Sheldon Kirshner

American culture owes an immense debt of gratitude to George and Ira Gershwin, whose brilliant songs still resonate. Their fecund artistic partnership is portrayed by Deena Rosenberg in *Fascinating Rhythm* (University of Michigan Press).

You may not know it, but Russian Jewish immigrants established agrarian settlements in the United States in the late 19th century. Ellen Eisenberg examines the topic in *Jewish Agricultural Colonies in New Jersey 1882-1920* (Syracuse University Press).

In *The Vanishing American Jew* (Little, Brown), the prolific Alan Dershowitz offers a bracing analysis of and a putative solution to assimilation. Barry Rubin takes it one step further in *Assimilation and Discontents* (Random House), a lively analysis of its temptations and traps.

Historians and sociologists have studied Montreal Jewry with a fine tooth comb. Mackay Smith's *Jews of Montreal and their Judaisms* (Aaron Communications) glosses over its surface.

The life of Montreal-born poet, novelist and balladeer Leonard Cohen is aptly summed up by Ira Nadel in *Various Positions* (Pantheon).

Mark, Jan, Boris and Clement Hambourg contributed much to the Canadian musical scene. And in *The Brothers Hambourg* (Robin Brass), Eric Koch traces the trajectory of their respective careers.

The story of Meyer Rothschild, the financier, is felicitously told by Amos Elon in *Founder* (Penguin). And in *The Golden Tradition* (Syracuse University Press), Lucy Dawidowicz writes authoritatively of Jewish life and thought in Eastern Europe from the 16th century to 1939.

The collapse of the Soviet Union had an unimaginable impact on Jews and on Israel. In *After Gorbachev* (The Jewish Agency), Baruch Gur-Gurevitz, an Israeli specialist, describes the process that led to a new wave of aliyah to Israel.

Isaac Babel's *1920 Diary* (Yale University Press) vividly recounts his tumultuous experiences during the Soviet Union's war with Poland, a conflict which had adverse effects on Jews in the Ukraine and eastern Poland.

Isaac Vogelfanger, a young Jewish doctor from Lvov, joined the Red Army in 1941. Not long afterward, he was arrested as an "enemy" of the state, and packed off to a series of brutal prison camps. In *Red Tempest: The Life of a Surgeon in the Gulag* (McGill-Queen's University Press), he recounts his bleak encounter with paranoiac Stalinism.

When World War II broke out, more than 250,000 Polish Jews fled to the Soviet Union. Samuel Honig of Cracow was one of them, and in *From Poland to Russia and Back* (Black Moss Press), he tells of his amazing odyssey.

The memoirs of Holocaust survivors and victims continue to pour off the presses.

The Diary of David Sierakowiak (Oxford University Press), based on five notebooks found in the Lodz ghetto, burns into the soul. *Memoirs From Occupied Warsaw 1940-1945* (Valentine Mitchell), by Helena Szereszewska, adds to our knowledge of the Nazi ghetto system, as does Arthur Schaller's *100 Cigarettes and a Bottle of Vodka* (Raincoast Books).

Further valuable eyewitness reminiscences of the Holocaust are *And Peace Never Came* (Wilfrid Laurier University Press) by Elisabeth Raab, a Hungarian Jew; *Fragments: Memories of a Wartime Childhood* (Random House) by Binjamin Wilkomirski, a Latvian Jew; and *We're Alive: And Life Goes On* (Fitzhenry & Whiteside) by Eva Roubickova, a Bohemian Jew.

Virtually every Holocaust memoir to be published was written years or decades after the war. *Fresh Wounds* (University of North Carolina Press), edited by Donald Niewyk, breaks new ground, being a compelling compendium of survivors' testimony compiled by an American psychologist in 1946.

Women in the Holocaust (Yale University Press) is billed as the first book of original scholarship on this topic. The editors are Dalia Ofer and Lenore Weitzman.

Hidden History of the Kovno Ghetto (Little, Brown), issued by the United States Holocaust memorial Museum in Washington, is a lavishly illustrated work which enhances one's understanding of the Holocaust in Lithuania.

Martin Gilbert, the distinguished British scholar, painstakingly describes sites associated with Jewish history, before and during World War II, in *Holocaust Journey* (Douglas & McIntyre).

Auschwitz 1270 to the Present (W.W. Norton) is doubtless a definitive work. The authors are Deborah Dwork and Robert Jan Van Pelt.

Janusz Korczak, the legendary Polish Jewish educator and pediatrician, is beautifully profiled by Betty Jean Lifton in *The King of the Children* (St. Martin's Griffith).

The wellsprings of anti-Semitism run deep, as the following books prove:

Esau's Tears: Modern Anti-Semitism and the Rise of the Jews (University of California Press), by Albert Lindemann, explores its emergence from the 1700s onward. Gavin Langmuir's *Toward A Definition of Anti-Semitism* (University of California Press) concentrates on the medieval and pre-medieval eras. Robert Chazan's complementary volume, *Medieval Stereotypes and Modern Anti-Semitism* (University of California Press), turns on the 12th century.

Peter Schafter, in *Judeophobia: Attitudes Toward The Jews in the Ancient World* (Harvard University Press), explores anti-Semitism through the eyes of the Greeks and the Romans. *The Singular Beast: Jews, Christians & the Pig* (Columbia University Press), by Claudine Fabre-Vassas, deftly examines the role of the pig in the convoluted relationship between Judaism and Christianity. Binjamin Segel, in *A Lie and a Libel* (University of Nebraska Press), reveals the face of that notorious anti-Jewish forgery, the *Protocols of the Elders of Zion*.

Alain Finkelkraut's *The Imaginary Jew* (University of Nebraska Press) is a provocative take on anti-Semitism, Marxism, Israeli foreign policy and Yiddish culture. *Constructions of 'the Jew' in English Literature and Society* (Cambridge University Press), by Bryan Cheyette, examines Jews as racial types in the works of writers from Anthony Trollope to James Joyce. In a dense, magisterial book, *The Anatomy of Prejudice* (Harvard University Press), Elisabeth Young-Bruehl surveys racism since 1945.

Stuart Svonkin, in *Jews Against Prejudice* (Columbia University Press), looks at the struggle by American Jewish organizations in the 1940s and 1950s to combat bigotry and advance civil rights. *Auschwitz and After: Race, Culture and 'the Jewish Question' in France* (Routledge, Chapman Hall) sheds new light on a perennial subject. It is edited by Lawrence Kritzman.

Three more books about Hitler. *The Making of Adolf Hitler* (University of Missouri Press) by Eugene Davidson; *Explaining Hitler* (Random House) by Ron Rosenbaum; and *Hitler's Thirty Days to Power January 1933* (Addison-Wesley) by Henry Ashby Turner, Jr. delve into the mind of a demon and rigorously analyze the events which propelled him to power and led to Nazi Germany's ignominious downfall.

Readers who admire Cynthia Ozick will be pleased to learn that Syracuse University Press has released several of her critically-acclaimed works of non-fiction. They are *Bloodshed, Levitation, The Cannibali Galaxy* and *The Pagan Rabbi*.

The third and newest edition of Ephraim Katz's 1506-page *The Film Encylopedia* (HarperCollins) is out. As you peruse the entries, you quickly realize that the movie industry would not be what it is without its legion of Jewish producers, directors, screenwriters and actors.

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Books
By Bernard Baskin

Books derive insights from the Talmud

***The Kabbalah of Envy*, by Rabbi Nilton Bonder (Random House, $25).**
***The Kabbalah of Food*, by Rabbi Bonder (Random House, $25).**
***The Kabbalah of Money*, by Rabbi Nilton Bonder (Random House, $25).**

The Kabbalah, the medieval tradition of Jewish mysticism, is now fashionable and chic. It is being taught – usually at a price – by self-designated gurus all over North America. Hollywood and rock stars now embrace the insights and revelations of the Zohar – the prime book of Jewish mysticism – written in Aramaic in the 13th century by the Spanish sage, Moses de Leon.

In Los Angeles, Barbara Streisand, Roseanne, Elizabeth Taylor and others are all eager students of this arcane and esoteric form of knowledge. Jewish tradition insists that prior to meditation in Kabbalah one has to be a mature and serious student and have a good grasp of classic Jewish texts. With little or no knowledge of Judaism, it is a travesty to approach this difficult subject matter as a quick guide to wisdom, serenity or success. Men and women who don't know the letters of the Hebrew alphabet are ready to become instant mystics.

It should be pointed out that an emphasis on mystical study can lead one away from the traditions of Judaism. It may result in the desire for private rather than communal involvement, and in a tendency toward pantheism, the non-Jewish belief that God is coterminous with nature. It can result in a diminution of ethical responsibility as longing for divine contact becomes more important than the righteous deed. It also feeds a tendency toward the occult and the "spirit" world of demons, angels and visionary beings of every kind, and is prone to merge Jewish mystical ideas with those of other religious and cultures. In all of this, much of what is unique and singular in Judaism is lost.

The three slender volumes under review, the work of a Brazilian rabbi, have little to do with Kabbalah despite their titles. They are helpful and down-to-earth and derive their insights from the wisdom of the Talmud and medieval commentators, as well as from chassidic tales and some mystical lore. The author also brings telling lessons from his own personal experiences as rabbi and teacher.

The Kabbalah of Envy is concerned with how to transform feelings of hatred, anger and other negative emotions into paths of serenity and inner growth.

The Kabbalah of Money takes a broad and ethical view of all kinds of economic behavior, from how we spend our money or give charity, to how we fulfil our role as consumers in a global economic framework.

The Kabbalah of Food, which includes a section from the Kitzur Shulohan Aruch, a 16th century rabbinical treatise, entitled *Rules Concerning Physical Well Being*, touches on all aspects of food: How to eat consciously with ecological awareness, the inner meaning of religious customs and laws concerning food, and overweight as an emotional, spiritual and moral problem.

Roots & Remembrance

Gaining a sense of mission

By ZE'EV GLICENSTEIN

Jewish genealogy, says the acclaimed author-genealogist Arthur Kurzweil, "is a spiritual pursuit whether we know it or not."

The keynote speaker at last month's Summer Seminar of Jewish Genealogy in Los Angeles, Kurzweil seemed even more eloquent than usual on the subject for which he is best known, a subject that he presents with a passion.

"I think our mission as Jewish genealogists is the most important mission in the Jewish community today," the New Jersey resident told an assembly of about 700 people. "We have the opportunity to do what no other group of Jews can do.

"We are able to bring unity to the Jewish community. What we as Jewish genealogists are doing is healing the family."

Kurzweil, who became an Orthodox Jew after researching his own extensive family tree, knows from experience that a single family tree can and often does contain every type of Jew from secular to chassidic, Ashkenazi egalitarian to Sephardi Orthodox. Charting our family trees reminds us of both the astonishing diversity and the unity of the Jewish people.

It has been roughly 30 years since Kurzweil wandered into the Jewish Division of the New York Public Library to search the card catalogue for references to the Galician shtetl of Dobromil, where his father and numerous ancestors had lived. He had heard enough family legends and stories about the town over his lifetime that Dobromil had attained robust and romantic substance in his imagination. But he knew that few outsiders had ever heard of the place and he did not expect to find anything in the library catalogue.

As he recalled in his bestselling book, *From Generation to Generation: How to Trace Your Jewish Genealogy and Family History*, Kurzweil was astonished to find an index card referring to the town's memorial book. He was even more astonished after a librarian retrieved the volume and he began flipping through its more than 500 pages.

"Turning to the first page, a full-page photograph, I read the caption: 'Main Street in Dobromil.' There is no way for me to know how many minutes I sat staring at the picture. The photograph showed an unpaved road, several small buildings with slanted roofs, and a few people on the street. No one will believe that the picture was familiar to me, but in fact I had imagined it just this way."

Greatly excited, Kurzweil found that the book also contained a photo of his great-grandfather.

As Kurzweil suggested in his lecture, making such connections is one of the rewards of genealogy. We need to discover the hidden ties that bind us to our Jewish past, he said.

After the unprecedented devastation of the Shoah, Jews have a moral imperative to retrieve the pieces of our collective heritage and history, according to Kurzweil, who has emerged as a sort of spiritual guru to the Jewish genealogical community.

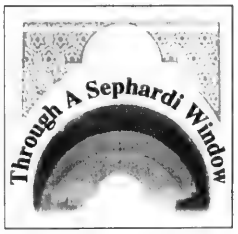
"The Talmud says that when the Temple in Jerusalem was destroyed, they did their family trees," he said. "Sometimes the best way to go forward is to go backwards. We are a rebuilding generation. And one of the ways the Talmud tells us to rebuild is to do our family trees."

If Kurzweil, who is vice-president of the Judaic publishing house, Jason Aronson Inc., restrained his missionary zeal during the talk, it was because he knew that he was already preaching to the converted. Jewish genealogy, he seemed to be saying, is more than a bookish hobby for the pedantically inclined: it is an essential healing ritual for a historic people still engulfed in an abyss of despair half a century after a crippling devastation.

The L.A. conference featured many speakers who shared Kurzweil's passion for Jewish genealogy. Collectively, they gave the impression that there has been a groundswell of popular support for this once-lonely pastime, that awareness of the importance of Jewish genealogy is mushrooming across the Jewish world.

More about the L.A. Summer Seminar and some of its other extraordinary speakers in a future column.

Jewish Life



Sephardi renaissance

By AVI BENLOLO

After decades of inertia, a renewed sense of Sephardi cultural pride is emerging. Sephardi communities in Israel and throughout the world are beginning to reignite their colorful and vibrant culture through artistic, scientific and political forms of expression.

Sephardim are Jews whose roots lie in the lands of the Mediterranean and western Asia. In the strictest sense, Sephardim lived in the Iberian Peninsula, most particularly in Spain, from the second and first centuries BCE until their expulsion in 1492. By the 12th century, Spain was recognized by most of the Jewish world as a significant spiritual and intellectual centre. Maimonides (1135-1204), for example, was heavily influenced by Spain's scholarly environment.

Many Spanish Jews were at the top echelons of the empire, serving in the kings' courts as astronomers, scribes, linguists and aides. The top financial advisor to Queen Isabella and King Ferdinand was Isaac Abravanel, who desperately tried to convince the king and queen not to carry out the expulsion decree, but to no avail.

Forced conversions and the expulsion of Jews not willing to convert to Christianity fragmented Spanish Jewry and dispersed it to neighboring countries. With few exceptions in the Ottoman Empire and Holland, Spanish Jews never recovered the magnitude of their social, political and intellectual impact on Spain in any other nation in the Diaspora to which they fled.

Israel's Independence in 1948 renewed the hope and desire among local and Diaspora Sephardim of achieving social, cultural and religious freedom. This culminated in massive waves of immigration to the fledgling state over the next three decades.

However, it was only in the late 1970s that Sephardim started to change their political and social position in Israeli society. Political analysts view the 1977 election of Menachem Begin and the Likud party as a turning point for the Sephardim in Israel. They argue it was the massive force of the Sephardi vote that brought Begin into power.

Thus began the Sephardi renaissance in Israel. Although Sephardim today comprise the largest population in development towns, they can be found at all levels of Israeli society, including the arts, education, business, science, defence and most notably, government. Some Sephardi politicians currently serving are David Levy, Meir Shitreet, Shlomo Benami, Yitzhak Mordechai, Aryeh Deri, Rafi Alloul, Shlomo Benziri and Itzhak Levi.

The renaissance has spread to the Diaspora too. Major Sephardi communities in Paris, Los Angeles, New York, Seattle, Toronto and Montreal have developed significant community structures, including synagogues, schools, yeshivot and associations such as the World Sephardi Federation and the Sephardi Education Centre, the latter of which caters to young adults at an international level.

In Morocco, for example, the current financial counsellor to King Hassan II is Andre Azoulay, a Jewish leader whose prominence is reflected by his position in the king's immediate circle.

Sephardim in the Diaspora are shifting their focus from being insular to developing leadership in Jewish federations and other major communal organizations, with a view to achieving more balanced communities.

Sephardim are once again beginning to feel confidence and pride about their culture. Many no longer feel inhibited by their social environment and they are eagerly identifying and expressing themselves for who they are – Sephardim.

Music comes to life

By MARK MIETKIEWICZ

Last week we began to look at (and listen to) the captivating sounds of Sephardi and Mizrachi music. Today we continue by focussing on the groups and individuals who have breathed new life into this music.

The Israel Andalusian Orchestra recorded its first CD last year **[http://andalorchisra.com/]**. That feat is remarkable when you consider the challenges faced by the lovers of this music. Andalusian music arrived in Israel with the immigrants from North Africa in the late '50s and early '60s. However, due to the difficulties with their absorption, these new immigrants came close to losing their rich and ancient music.

Although there was a cultural revival in the late '70s, the lack of trained musicians and transcribed music posed more challenges to Andalusian music. Recently an orchestra was formed and an album was produced. You can hear six samples of their work with titles like *Quddam Istihilall* and *Insiraf Men-Quddam Al-Maya* **[http://andalorchisra.com/recordin.html]**.

The Renanot Institute for Jewish Music **[http://www.renanot.co.il/]** is also working to rescue Jewish musical traditions from being lost. At the moment, the Jerusalem-based Institute is concentrating on music from Persia, Afghanistan, India, Morocco and Buchara. You can listen to the fruit of their labors at **[http://www.renanot.co.il/live.htm]**.

Lovers of Ladino will be thrilled by Chazzan Sylvain Elzam's Web Page **[http://www.geocities.com/Paris/6256/ladino.htm]**.

You'll hear everything from rarely heard tunes to familiar titles such as *Had Gadya* and *Ehad Mi Yode'a* to Ladino songs such as *Cuando El Rey Nimro, Arvolicos D'Almandra*. While you're at this site, you can also click to listen to a few words in Haketia, a form of Ladino spoken in Tangiers in northern Morocco. Elzam's work can also be sampled at the BSZNet: Hall of Music **[http://bsz.org/music.htm]**. While there, listen in to the singing of Chazzan David Shiro as he sings music in the Syrian tradition. And for more in Ladino, there's The LadinoStalgia choir of Jerusalem **[http://www.geocities.com/Broadway/7140/]**.

Yes there *are* other ways to sing Ein K'elokenu. To hear how it was sung in Casablanca, go to the Moroccan Tunes page which focuses on Shabbat and holiday music **[http://www.geocities.com/CapitolHill/1717/Music.html]**.

And if you have a free hour, you may want to spend it listening to the liturgical hymns or *pizmonim* of Syrian Jews **[http://www.613.org/music/pizmon/piz.html]**.

Actually, I prefer the alternate title of this Web site: Hear how Jews have Sung to God for the Past 1,000 or so Years.

One technical note: Most of the audio sites we are visiting make use of the free RealPlayer program **[http://www.real.com/products/player/download_player.html]**. Even if you already have RealPlayer installed, make sure you have the most recent version. In addition to RealPlayer, online sounds may be delivered in other formats such as Macromedia Shockwave **[http://www.macromedia.com/shockwave/download/]** and Apple Quicktime **[http://www.apple.com/quicktime/download/index.html]**. I recommend downloading both of these programs.

Next week, we'll conclude our musical trek by focussing on the warmth and vitality of Sephardi and Mizrachi love songs.

* * *

Mark Mietkiewicz is a television producer in Toronto with an interest in the Internet. He can be reached at [mdm@inforamp.net].

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Jewish Life

Yiddish programs recieve major donations

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A love of the Yiddish language as a way of returning to their roots and encouraging young people to take an interest in it has inspired two Toronto women to donate substantial amounts to the Yiddish classes at the University of Toronto .

On behalf of the Zukerman Family Foundation, Helen Zukerman contributed a "challenge" grant of $33,000, while Rosalie Sharp accepted the "challenge" and donated $10,000 to make sure a matching amount was raised.

"Nobody wants to be first, which is why we agreed to make a donation if it could be matched," said Zukerman.

The grants ensure the continuation of the Yiddish classes in the School of Jewish Studies at the university for another year, while the future of the program is bright, according to Bayla Chaikoff, Yiddish committee liaison with the university.

"A lot of young people are interested in Yiddish as a way of recovering their roots," said Chaikoff. "It's a healthy development because they are singing Yiddish songs and digging into their history.

"And there coudn't be a better time for this activity than at the beginning of the university year, when students are considering their courses."

A total of 20 students were enrolled in the first year Yiddish class last year, considered a high number for a second language.

Growing up Jewish in Toronto and her affection for the language of her childhood led Sharp to support the U of T Yiddish program.

For Zukerman, who came to Toronto from Montreal, one of the inspirations was meeting an Orthodox woman in Israel whose children spoke Yiddish to each other and to their mother.

Sharp, wife of Four Seasons Hotel owner Isadore Sharp, has taken a few private lessons to refresh her memory of the language she grew up with, and she intends to take more "when I get a break. I'm afraid I've taken on one project too many."

She said she can speak Yiddish a little and can understand it well, particularly "street language" Yiddish.

Zukerman, whose late husband Barry was a Yiddishist, is founder of the Jewish Film Festival and is active in other Jewish causes.

"Yiddish is the root of our culture," she said.

TOMBS ATTRACT PILGRIMS
The grave of the Baba Sali, Rav Yisrael Abichazira, is among many in Israel attracting more pilgrims lately. [Israel Museum graphic]

JEWISH EDUCATION
The Next Generation

Genesis 22 explores role of human autonomy

By DR. ELLIOTT MALAMET

Does Judaism preach blind loyalty to a higher authority, or is there room for human autonomy and creativity? Variations of this question often arise in the classroom, and all roads eventually lead to Genesis 22, where Abraham is commanded to bring Isaac to Mount Moriah and sacrifice him upon an altar.

Although an angel of God stops Abraham before he can complete the task, the incident is still startling and disturbing. Known as the Akedah, the binding of Isaac, this is one of the central stories of the Bible, and it has provoked a great deal of later Jewish commentary regarding the duty of humankind towards God.

How can God command something as patently unethical as child sacrifice, something not only abhorrent to humanistic notions of ethics, but even specifically prohibited by the Torah itself as one of the abominable practices of the ancient pagans? What is the Torah teaching us by narrating this event?

The story gives rise to the perpetual debate in society over who or what determines the criteria upon which we base our ideas of morality. Perhaps the test that Abraham is given — for indeed the Torah states that "God tested Abraham" (Genesis 22:1) — is so harsh precisely to indicate that not all of God's activities are perceivable and readily understandable by human intelligence, nor should they be.

This point of view would assert that the whole essence of a deity is that His commandments may at times evade human reason, for He is on a level that occasionally transcends the human capacity to understand. One of the difficulties of this position, of course, is that it allows for a completely irrational and arbitrary God, one who could command immoral activities at will.

A different perspective would argue that Abraham erred greatly in not paying attention to the call of reason that should have persuaded him to reject the voice in his ear telling him to sacrifice his son. Such a position is put in its most strident form by the German philosopher Immanuel Kant. For Kant, God is always subject to the evaluation of human reason. Hence, Abraham should have stood his ground and resisted the command of God to sacrifice Isaac.

Other philosophers, such as Jean-Paul Sartre, focus on a different aspect of the story – its oddness in a modern context. What, for instance would occur, if someone in our day and age "heard" a similar command in his ear? Would we call it an act of piety or a sign of psychosis? Any cursory glance at the media shows that such an incident is not theoretical but happens with almost mundane frequency.

Trust in God, in the face of ostensible injustice and even a world that seems random and cruel, is always one of the main challenges to a religious faith. This quality of trust is embodied in the example of Abraham, who is willing to give of all he has in an effort to satisfy the divine will. The midrash portrays Abraham, not as an unthinking zombie in this affair, but as a man gripped by complex emotions – duty to God, love of his son, self-doubt about the whole enterprise.

Ultimately, however, his belief in a wisdom that transcends his own is the key factor in Abraham's mind; he has profoundly internalized the concept that the Jewish idea of the moral begins and ends with God, and that this idea may even be more important than human life itself.

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Anshe Minsk (O)	10-12 St. Andrews St. (416) 595-5723	8:45 PM	9:15 AM	9:15 AM	7:30 AM	----------
Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda (C)	100 Elder St. (416) 633-3838	7:00 PM	8:45 AM	7:30 AM & 8:30 AM	7:30 AM & 8:15 AM	8:00 PM
Beth Jacob (O)	147 Overbrook Pl. (416) 638-5955	7:15 PM	9:00 AM	8:00 AM	6:40 AM & 7:30 AM	8:40 PM
Beth Tzedec (C)	1700 Bathurst St. (416) 781-3511	6:00 PM	9:00 AM	9:00 AM	7:45 AM	6:00 PM
B'nai Torah (O)	465 Patricia Ave. (416) 226-3700	7:10 PM & 8:40 PM	7:30 AM & 8:45 AM	7:00 AM & 8:00 AM	Mon. Thurs. 6:20, 6:45, 7:10 Tues. Wed. Fri. 6:30, 7:00, 7:20	8:45 PM
Holy Blossom (R)	1950 Bathurst St. (416) 789-3291	6:00 PM	10:30 AM	9:00 AM	----------	6:00 PM
Pride of Israel (C)	50 Lissom Cres. (416) 226-0111	7:00 PM	9:00 AM	7:00 AM & 9:00 AM	7:30 AM & 8:30 AM	7:00 PM
Temple Emanu-El (R)	120 Old Colony Rd. (416) 449-3880	6:30 PM	9:30 AM	8:30 AM	7:30 AM	----------

This is not a comprehensive listing of the synagogues in the Greater Toronto area. The information is provided by the Vaad Harabonim of Toronto and the Toronto Board of Rabbis. The Vaad and the Board will periodically revise the listings.

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אין אַ סאַוואַגלט בעסאַראַבער שטעטל, זגורימצע, איז אין 1988 געבוירן געוואָרן מרדכי גאָלדענבערג. דאָרט האָט ער דערהאָן די וועלט, געוואָקסן אין דאָרט האָט ער געשאָפֿן. די נאָסטר אין געווען זיין שפּעטערדיקייסטקע שפּיז. ער האָט געשריבן דערצײלונגען, לידער אין אַלערלײ זשאַנערן אין אין ביידע שפּראַכן — ייִדיש אין עבֿרית. אָרום דרייסיק יאָר האָט ער געלעבט אין די בעסאַראַבער שטעטלעך זגורימצע, אָטעק, קאָפּרעשט אין סעקוראן. דאָרט האָט ער זיך בעסער באַקענט מיט דער שיינער נאַטור, מיט די נויטלידיקייט, מאָן, מיסן שוורען לעבן פֿון די פּויערים אין באַלמעלאָכעס, מיטן גאַנצן יידישן ישוב. ער האָט וועגן זייער יאוש אין קרעכצן געשאָפֿן פֿערזן פֿון ריכן גראָם אין הומאָר. זיינע לידער האָט ער אַנגעהויבן שאָפֿן נאָך אין די קינדער יאָרן אין זיי האָבן זיך גלאָזט הערן אין די וויסקיימען. אָט אין אַן אויסצוג פֿון זיינס אַ ליד, וואָס שפּיגלט אָפּ דאָס יידישע שטעטל־לעבן:

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דאָס שטעטל טויט, / און צום יאָריד / איז גאָט אַ פֿאָטער /
און אויף דער מכה שפּראָצט אַ בלאָטער — / אַ זאוואַרעכע שיט.

גאָלדענבערג איז געווען אַן אויסגעצייכנטער פּעדאַגאָג אַן באַזיצט אַ זעלטן איידעלען כאַראַקטער. ווי אַ לערער פֿון ייִדיש אַן עבֿרית האָט ער זיך באַצויגן צו זיינע תלמידים מיט איידלקייט אַן ליבֿע, געווען זיערט אַ חבֿר, זעלטן אין כּעס געווארן. דער שטעדיקער שמייכל אויף זיינע ליפּן האָט אים באַגלייט דאָס גאַנצע לעבן. זיינע תלמידים האָבן אים ליב געהאַט. אַזא איידעלע באַציונג האָט ער אויך געהאַט צו עלטערע מענטשן.

אין נעדעק, אַז ווען אין קיך בין געוואָרן אַ לערער אין דער שטעטלעך אין דערפער אין בעסאַראַביע, האָבן מיך דערקוסטשט די מאַכט־אַרגאַנען. האָט מ. גאָלדענבערג מיר געגעבן אַ בריוו צום הויפּט־ראַבינער צירעלסאָן. ביי אים האָב איך געלערנט זעקס חדשים אין דאָן האָט ער מיר אַרויסגעגעבן אַ דיפּלאָם מיט אַ רע־גירונגס שטעמפּל (ער איז געווען אַ דעפּוטאַט פֿונעם רומענישן פּאַרלאַמענט), אַז איך האָב רעכט צו זיין אַ ייִדיש־העברעאישער לערער אין גאַנץ רומעניע. נאָכדעם האָט מיר קיינער נישט גע־שטערט אין מיין פּעדאַגאָדישער אַרבעט.

מרדכי גאָלדענבערג איז געווען אַ רעליגיעזער ייִד, אָבער גלייכ־צייטיק האָט ער אַנטיל גענומען אין דער פּועלי־ציון באַוועגונג. ער האָט אפֿילו זיך אויסגעדרוקט, אַז מיט גאָט'ס הילף וועט דער מאָרקסיזם צעשפּרייטן זיך איבער דער גאַנצער וועלט.

מיט זיין סטיל פֿון שרייבן לידער איז ביידע שפּראַכן, האָט מרדכי גאָלדענבערג געהערט צו דער פֿלעיאָדע פֿון די צוויי־שפּרא־כיקע שרייבערס, ווי ח. נ. ביאַליק, יעקב פּיכמאַן, ש. ב. זיטן, י. קושטער, מרדכי פּינקעלמאַן א.אַזד. זיינע לידער אין עבֿרית, ווי ביאַליקס אין פּיכמאַנס, לערנט מען נאָך הייַנט אין די שולעס. זיינע לידער האָבן זיך אַנגעהויבן דרוקן אין דער קעשענעוויער „אונדזער צייט״ אין דערנאָענגן ביז טשערנאָוויץ, בוקאָרעשט, ניו־יאָרק, וואַרשע אין בערלין. אומעטום האָבן זיי אַרויסגערופן ליבֿ אַן אַנערקענונג.

מרדכי גאָלדענבערג האָט געלעבט אין קאָפּרעשט, וואו ער יידן האָבן נישט געלעקט קיין האָניק. אין זיינע לידער האָט ער געווען די יידן צו פֿאַרזיכערן זייער קיום צו מאַכן אַ לענג, לערנען די קינ־דער אַן זיי דערציען אין ביידע שפּראַכן. זייער דערפֿאָלגריך איז געווען זיין זאַמלונג לידער „רשפּים בערבה״ (פונקען אין סטעפּ), ווי אויך „די אָלטע מיל״.

אין 1941 האָבן זיך אַנגעהויבן רדיפות אויף דער ייִדישער באַ־פֿעלקערונג. מרדכי גאָלדענבערגן האָט מען, צוזאַמען מיט אַנדערע יידן, פֿאַרטריבן אין דער וויטער טראַנסניסטריע, פון איין סטאַנציע צו אַ צוויישטער. אויפֿן וועג פֿלעגט ער ליינען זיינע לידער און שרייבן פֿאַר די הונגעריקע און דורשטיקע יידן, וועמען מען האָט געפֿירט אויפֿן וועג צום טויט. אַ טייל פֿון זיינע שרייבן אין אַ פֿאַר־טיקע זאַמלונג האָט ער געהאַט באַגראָבן אין בלויז אַ שכּבֿה האָט געוואוסט וועגן דעם.

די טראַגישע לעצטע טעג פֿון מ. גאָלדענבערגן זיינען געווען דאָס טריבן אים קיין טראַנסניסטריע. דער טראַגישער טויט פֿון זיין פֿרוי אין טאָכטער האָט אַנגעוואָרפן אויף אים אַ גוואַלדיקע דעפּ־רעסיע, וואָס האָט אים באַגלייט ביז צום טויט. אין 1941 האָט ער אויסגעהרכט זיין נשמה אין בראשאד, טראַנסניסטריע. מיט זיין פֿאַלק האָט ער געלעבט און מיט זיין פֿאַלק האָט ער זיין נשמה אפֿ־געגעבן אין עלטער פֿון 53 יאָר. כבֿוד זיין אַנדענק!

It's tough to say goodbye

By SUSAN BERRIN

Guest Voices

Today is one of those gor-geous summer days in Vic-toria. The sun shines and a slight breeze kisses the first tall poppies. I'm saying goodbye to my garden. While pulling a few weeds and digging up bulbs to replant at my new house (address unknown), I'm walking through the beds saying goodbyé to many fond memories.

We're leaving Victoria in just weeks and I'm flooded with sounds of laughter and scenes of friendship in this lovely yard.

I'm writing this now so that I can reread it if I am ever crazy enough to consider moving again. The thought of saying goodbye again should be enough to halt any future thoughts of uprooting. The goodbyes have been arduous – the formal farewells and the informal hugs; the sense of knowing that some of these folk will not be here when we return to visit, the old and frail, who are getting on in their lifespan.

Most of our friends have sup-ported our plans to move. They know that the decision to leave Vic-toria after 16 years as the rabbinic family is a decision to provide a fuller Jewish environment for our children. Leaving Victoria is only a consequence of our need to find Jewish schools and peer support for our family. It is not a statement about the wonderful people of this town and this warm and caring Jewish community.

And if the goodbyes tug at the heartstrings, the packing is pulling at the hamstrings. An archeologist could study the layers of our lives by the boxes in our basement: years of babies and children; a stint as journalist; the pottery phase and the photography craze; boating para-phernalia and camping gear.

Friends have volunteered to help. The easy packing, the "I don't have to weed through this" packing, can be handed over: Pesach dishes and Shabbat dishes; over a ton of books. We're packing the Jewish ritual objects that of course must accompany us: dozens of kippot and benchers; several challah plates and kiddush cups; the numerous challah cloths our children made in Hebrew school; our sukkah – made of particleboard with arched windows and a lattice-work roof to hold the *s'chach*, the boughs of greenery – which is large enough for a table of 10. The sukkah has been an ongoing project for years, my husband-the-rabbi's therapeu-tic release after the gruelling weeks of preparing High Holy Day sermons. How could we leave behind this sukkah, this symbol of life's fragility, of our wandering, of making our home wherever we find ourselves?

We have the moving company booked and the children enrolled in Jewish day schools. We have not yet sold our house. We do not have an address to which to send our be-longings. And only half the earners have employment to make all of these plans possible.

God set before Abraham a series of tests. Some, like the binding of Isaac, are well known. Others are more obscure. Last fall, when my husband and I read the Torah portion, Lech Lecha, the story of Abraham and Sarah being called to leave their land and journey to an unknown destination (this calling was the first of Abraham's "tests of faith"), we read and reread the passage. We listened intently to the words and we felt deeply the message.

And while we do not always read Torah as though it was written directly for us, we realized that this year, this passage was our calling. It was time to journey forth from Victoria, from the comfort and community we have called home for many years. It was time to es-tablish ourselves in a community that could nourish our children from the deep wells of Jewish learning and living.

We anticipated that the leaving would be difficult. But we had no clue about the tests of faith that would await us: Employment op-portunities beckoned and then faded; potential buyers for our house wandered through it and looked elsewhere; housing prices soared in our Boston neighborhood of choice; the Canadian dollar was devalued to its lowest point ever.

Some people would call us naive. Others might feel we're stub-born, unwilling to spend another year in our home or relocate to Montreal or Phoenix or another city with a strong Jewish communal in-frastructure. But we see this as a test of faith, as belief in a dream we continue to believe in.

We promised our children we would return them to the schools of their choice, to the education they found riveting during a year's sab-batical in Boston, to the friends that welcomed them, to a community they and we could grow in. We just keep believing that this dream will become a reality soon. And hope-fully without too many more nail-biting days and sleepless nights.

In our contemporary world, dreaming has been banished to the night hours. There is so little op-portunity to live with faith. And al-though I'm ready for this "test" to be over, ready for all the puzzle pieces to fall neatly into their places, I have relished in some small way the journey we have em-barked upon.

Life is rarely a straight path, and the byways we're travelling these days are emotionally scenic and strengthening. Each time I sing Adon Olam, the last verses linger on my tongue, "God is with me and I will not be afraid."

Susan Berrin will be a Guest Voice from time to time, chronicling her family's move from Victoria, B.C., to Boston.

FILL YOUR HOME WITH SONG

The UJA is looking for families willing to billet young performers from the Israeli song and dance troupe Hora Neurim who will be among the featured performers at the CNE Israel at 50 Pavilion from Aug. 17-27. For more information, call Tami Shapiro at 416-631-5698.

Community Matters

Participants Love Yachdav

Torontonians made their mark on this year's Yachdav 50 Young Leadership Conference, sponsored by UJA Federations around the world. Thirty eight Toronto participants - nearly 20% of the entire group - joined more than 200 others from several continents in Kiev and Israel.

The conference focused on four topics: aliyah, the peace process, the status of minorities in Israel, and Israel-Diaspora relations. Among the highlights was an evening featuring former Prime Minister Shimon Peres; a Jewish Agency fact finding day; a first-hand view of several agency projects, supported by the worldwide UJA Federation movement; and a tour of Tzfat, known for its mysticism and spirituality.

Needing Each Other

Being given the opportunity to be part of Yachdav will go down as one of the highlights of my life. It had a significant impact in three areas: spiritual, intellectual and social. The spiritual element surfaced by spending Shabbat in dramatically different environments, first in Kiev and then in Jerusalem. Shabbat in Kiev offered an opportunity to attend a shul that had been used as a municipal puppet theatre during the Communist era and was only recently reclaimed by the local community. At Babi Yar, we lit candles in memory of several hundred thousand Jews who were murdered there during World War II. The reality and closeness imposed an extremely chilling effect on all of us. On our last day in Kiev, we were hosted by local Jewish families. They opened their homes, sharing the stress and anxiety they are experiencing as a result of sending their children to Israel to make a better life. We were able to understand their fight for survival and the necessity of support from world Jewry. The trip provided a continuous array of intellectual challenges and a battle with complex issues, including *Who is a Jew*, assimilation in Israel and peace in the Middle East. We were continually bombarded by opposing political and religious viewpoints. There are no simple answers to questions of peace and religion in Israel. We walked away with lots of questions. Equally exciting was the social aspect, enhanced by the group's diversity. There were people from almost every walk of life, including a cardiologist from Sao Paulo, a lawyer from London, a gem trader from Sydney and a banker from Geneva. Although we did not agree on a solution to all the challenges, we agreed that Israel and the Diaspora are mutually dependent for the continued growth and prosperity of Jewish life.

David Beron, Chair, Yachdav Toronto delegation

Toasting Yachdav. Lynn Kirshin (l) and Karen Goldstein sample Golan wines.

Yachdav guys form a fast friendship with Israeli soldiers. Front row l to r: Jordan Bernamoff, Dorian Barrs, Joseph Benbasset. Back row l to r: Emilio Carpino, Mark Usher, David Beron.

Historic Connections

As I reflect back on my first Yachdav mission to Kiev and Israel, a few highlights stand out. We toured the Chesed Centre, established to care for poor, elderly Jews in Kiev and it truly touched me to see Jews looking out for one another in such a warm and dedicated outreach program. At the *Peace Dinner*, where Shimon Peres delivered an eloquent address about his vision of peace for the future of the Middle East, I looked around the room and saw the faces of tomorrow's Jewish leaders from 21 countries around the world. As we listened to two immigrants - one a young Ethiopian woman and another, the daughter of a righteous Gentile from Sarajevo - their captivating stories reminded me that, as Jews, we never forget our brothers and sisters around the world. When we walked around Canada Centre in Metulla (built by UJA Federation donors), we saw how the generosity of one community enriched the lives and boosted the morale of thousands who live close to the northern border. The 225 members of our group come from different countries and cultures and speak different languages, yet, as Jews, we are all connected in our hearts to one another. Together we can make the world a better place in which to live. Yachdav.

Amanda Salem

UJA Federation's Elana Carr with one of several Kiev couples who hosted Yachdav participants.

Babi Yar, where over 200,000 Jews were murdered by the Nazis.

Volunteer Coordinators Conference

Fifteen community professionals responsible for developing and placing volunteers recently led by example when they contributed their own time at a special volunteer coordinators workshop.

Held at Camp Reena, the day-long session, sponsored by UJA Federation, focused on community service as a prerequisite for high school graduation. Ontario's Ministry of Education is ready to make completion of a community service course compulsory, starting on January 1, 1999. The coordinators discussed how to deal with an influx of young volunteers as a result of the new provincial requirement.

The workshop, which also included a representative from the Community Hebrew of Academy of Toronto (CHAT), which pioneered a community service education component, was facilitated by Syrelle Bernstein, Director of Volunteers at the Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care.

Anyone interested in community volunteer opportunities should contact Shelly Rotman at UJA Federation, (416) 635-2883 ext. 137.

Volunteer coordinators congregate at Camp Reena for a UJA Federation sponsored workshop.

Community Matters, *a supplement of the Canadian Jewish News, is sponsored and produced by UJA Federation. Website: www.feduja.org*

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What's New

By Miriam Herman

CANADIAN SOCIETY FOR YAD VASHEM
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DEADLINE REMINDER

What's New and About People deadlines: Monday, Aug. 17, is deadline for Aug. 27 issue, and Monday, Aug. 24, is deadline for Sept. 3. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 391-1836, fax 391-0829.

Thursday, Aug. 13

LISTENING SKILLS

At Forest Hill Place, 645 Castlefield Ave., **Jonathan Siegel** talks about acquiring better listening skills, 2 p.m. Reserve. **Marlene** or **Susan** 785-1511.

Sunday, Aug. 16

CRIME AND PUNISHMENT

Councillor Norman Gardner, chair, Toronto Police Services Board, speaks on Crime and Punishment, Is Leniency Toward the Perpetrator Injustice to the Victim?, featured by Entertainment and Cultural Connection and Shaarei Shomayim Brotherhood, 8 p.m. at the synagogue. Guests $2.

MUSICAL HIGHLIGHTS

Nathan Garnick Productions presents Yiddish Folklore Theatre in *Musical Highlights* from past and future performances, 1 p.m., Earl Bales Park. This is part of the park's summer celebrations.

Selections from this program will be featured at the Canadian National Exhibition Israel Pavilion, for Centre Spotlight, Wednesday, Aug. 26, 7 p.m.

PUPPET SHOW AND BAZAAR

As part of the Kensington Market Festival, Anshe Minsk Synagogue dazzles you and your kids with a performance of *Simon's Promise*, a puppet show based on an old Jewish folktale, 1 and 3 p.m. During the bazaar be sure to take a tour of the shul and its newly renovated sanctuary. Also meet Sam the Pickle Man and learn how to make your own pickles. And there is kosher food. Anshe Minsk Synagogue is at 10 St. Andrew St., Kensington Market. 595-5723.

Monday, Aug. 17

SUPPORT GROUP

Jewish Parents and Families of Gays and Lesbians meets 7:30 p.m., Jewish Family & Child Service, 6th floor, Lipa Green Building, 4600 Bathurst St. Phone in confidence, **Ruth** 763-9111.

Wednesday, Aug. 19

REVERSE BUDGETING

Take ownership of your own financial life. **Allan Pollock** teaches the secrets of Reverse Budgeting, the topic of his upcoming book, 8 p.m., Barbara Frum Library, 20 Covington Rd., 3rd floor. This is the first of many fun, interactive, Jewish discussion evenings with other topics to be announced. **Sharyn** 446-7838.

Thursday, Aug. 20

PROGRESSIVE SINGLES

Beth Tikvah Synagogue Progressive Singles, 35-55, Mix n' Mingles Comedy Night. 8 p.m. $10. RSVP 495-0734 or 223-5262.

And What Else Is New

A DAY IN PARADISE

A Day in Paradise, Jewish Women's Retreat at Camp Robinhood, Monday, Aug. 24. Swim, canoe, wellness classes, barbecue, kid's camp. Call Ohr Somayach 905-886-5730.

BAT MITZVAH PROGRAM

The Village Shul, Eglinton-Bathurst, and Aish HaTorah Thornhill, Bathurst-Clark, bat mitzvah program for girls born in 1987 and 1988, to give girls an education and fun group experience in honor of their bat mitzvah. Curriculum includes classes on Jewish values: kindness, respect for parents, challah baking, Israeli dancing, field trips, community volunteer work. This culminates in a group bat mitzvah brunch where each girl prepares a speech on a personally meaningful topic. Starts in January. **Rhona Hall** 789-3897 for Village Shul; **Ruth Melofsky** 905-764-1818 for Aish HaTorah.

[Cont'd. on page 19]

IGA Kosher
IGA brings down the cost of keeping kosher
Centre Street
Clark Avenue West
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Yonge Street
Steeles Avenue
441 CLARK (AT HILDA)

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Rougemont Apple Juice
1.36 L tin
.88

Levitt's Veal Salami
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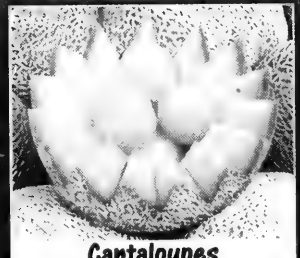
1.10 /100g
499 lb.



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Fresh! Back Attached
Value Club Pack, 3.70 kg
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Pizza Cheese Bagels
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199 lb.

Peaches & Nectarines
Product of U.S.A. or Ontario, No. 1 Grade, 2.18 kg
.99 lb.

Peri's Regular Original Wieners
450 g pkg.
349

Hellmann's Mayonnaise
Regular or Light
750 mL jar
199

Cinnamon Danish
From The Bakery
pkg. of 6
299

Double Rye Bread
From the Bakery
850 g loaf
199

WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO LIMIT QUANTITIES. PRICES IN EFFECT SUNDAY, AUGUST 9 UNTIL SATURDAY, AUGUST 15, 1998.

What's New

[Cont'd. from page 18]

PRE-NATAL COURSE

Bathurst Jewish Centre and Mount Sinai Hospital offer a pre-natal course Wednesdays, Aug. 19-Sept. 23, 7-9 p.m. Limited spaces available. Information and/or registration 636-1880, ext. 229.

FASHION FANTASIA

Fashion Fantasia is a comical fashion show organized and presented by Bernard Betel Centre volunteers with over 25 Fashionettes involved. Fashion Fantasia performs at retirement homes, nursing homes, clubs, synagogues. Bookings are being accepted for spring and summer 1999, 225-2112. The show does not perform during the winter.

HEBREW SCHOOL

West Toronto Jewish Community Association has established a small private Hebrew school for children, taught by experienced teachers. Classes will be held Sunday mornings in the Dundas-Bloor area beginning in September. Spaces are available, 588-4083.

INSTITUTE OF JUDAISM

B'nai Brith Canada annual Institute of Judaism, Sept. 4-6 at Maple Lake Resort and Conference Centre, Parry Sound, in celebration of Israel's 50th anniversary. Theme is A Tale of One City, One King and Two Prophets, the effect of biblical Jerusalem on Jewish history, with **Rabbi Jeremiah Unterman**, scholar in residence. Call **Joyce Aster** 633-6224, ext. 106.

SINGLES EVENTS

Events for singles 25-36 and 36-55. Check with **Rhonda** 905-731-9441. Under the auspices of Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue.

Last call for Muskoka boat cruise, includes deluxe bus, $36.

Upcoming events: Inspirational pre-Rosh Hashanah speaker, answering why, how and when; Rattlesnake Point hike (beginner) and apple picking (P.S. no rattlesnakes); meetings TBA; *Les Miz* tickets soon available.

FOR SENIORS

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: Aug. 30, annual barbecue party and entertainment, members $5, non-members $6; Aug. 24-27 Leelanau Sands Casino, Michigan, $399 Canadian; Sept. 9, Casino Niagara, members $20, non-members $25; Sept. 14, Town Hall Square, members $2, non-members $5; Oct. 15 and 28, Casino Rama. Open for membership $12. 395-7881.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). Aug. 13, bingo and other games; Aug. 20, general meeting; Aug. 27, lecture by **Lisa Armoni**, director, Institute of International Affairs, B'nai Brith. **Jerry Bengall** 905-707-7334 or **Dalia Dahary** 661-4689.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club: Aug. 19, cruise and musical *Little Shop of Horrors*; Oct. 27, *Man of La Mancha* at Stratford. In the planning, a trip to Israel in November, orientation and information meeting Monday, Aug. 31, 1 p.m., **Lena** 785-5773. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel, **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. 225-2112.

Public Affairs Forum, Marriage in the Nineties: For Better or For Worse?, Wednesday, Aug. 19, 1:30 p.m. Panelists include **Joyce Eklove**, Jewish Divorce Agency; **Elinor Gertner**, social worker; **Todd Morganstein**, lawyer; **Harold Segal**, seniors activist; and **Sadie Rose**, moderator.

Alan Knapp, volunteer of the Mood Disorders Association, facilitates discussion on Sharing Experiences About Changes in Mood, Monday, Aug. 17, 1:15-2:15 p.m.

Violence in Society Today with **Andrew Shaul** of York University, Tuesday, Aug. 18, 10 a.m. members $1.50, non-members $3. **Bookie Kwart.**

Healthy Cooking with dietician/nutritionist **Andrea Sturk**, Tuesday, Aug. 18, 1 p.m. $1 for materials.

Pills and Spills (video and discussion), a humorous approach to falls and medication use, Thursday, Aug. 20, 1:15-2:15 p.m.

Israeli Club Etrog meets 7 p.m. Tuesdays for movies, sing-alongs, lectures, bingo, dances. Aug. 18 is a picnic in Earl Bales Park, 12:30 p.m.

Movie, *Three Men and a Little Girl* Sunday, Aug. 16, 2:30 p.m.

ISRAEL SCOUT CARAVAN

The Israel Scout Friendship Caravan concludes its North American tour with performances in St. Catharines at Montebello Park Thursday, Aug. 20, 7:30 p.m., and in Toronto at the Israel at 50 Pavilion Hall B – National Trade Centre, Canadian National Exhibition, Friday, Aug. 21, at 2 and 5 p.m. The visit of the Israel Scouts is sponsored by the Jewish Advisory Committee on Scouting and Guiding and UIA Federations Canada.

SINGLES EVENTS CAN BE FOUND ON PAGE 20

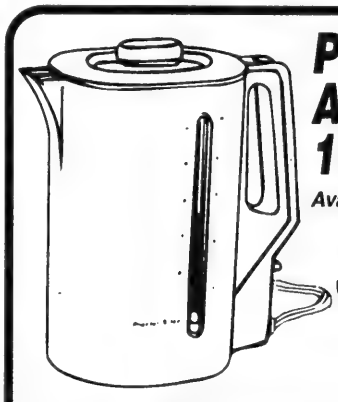
HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Murray Betel celebrated his 65th birthday at the Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, and his wish was that in lieu of gifts those who so desired would make a contribution to the centre. Pictured at the affair are, from left, Esta Wall, executive director; Murray Betel being presented with a lifetime membership; and Yvonne Martel, chair of the board of directors.

ASSOCIATED PRESIDENT

Louis Greenbaum (right) newly elected president of Associated Hebrew Schools, seen here with immediate past president Sheldon Goodman, served as vice-president and chair of the building committee. He will be joined by chairman of the board Dr. Harry Krakowsky; vice-presidents David Brown, Sheldon Carr and James Klein; treasurer Wendi Morein; secretary David Posluns; and co-chairs of the Va'ad Hachinuch Lindy Goodman and Susan Shainhouse.

[Randy Spiegel photo]



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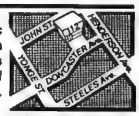

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From coast to coast

Monuments toppled at Montreal cemetery

By JANICE ARNOLD
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — The toppling in a north-end Jewish cemetery of 43 monuments in an apparent act of vandalism could have been prevented, said funeral director Laurence Paperman.

The community has allowed the cemetery to deteriorate to the point that its obvious neglect is an invitation to this kind of criminal act, said Paperman, who has been behind the effort to raise money to fix up the cemetery.

There were no signs of an anti-Semitic motive. The most distressing thing about the incident is that it has worsened the "deplorable" condition of much of the cemetery, where "a few hundred" monuments are now down but there are few funds to set them right, Paperman said. The rest are believed to have fallen over on their own, mainly due to deterioration through aging.

All the 43 monuments are believed to have gone down overnight on a weekend. The incident was reported by a neighbor.

Memorial Gardens, better known as the Back River Cemetery, is located at the busy intersection of Sauve and Berri streets, just across from a metro station. It is owned by nine affiliated congregations and mutual-aid societies, some of which exist only on paper or have few members today, and has about 7,000 plots, of which at least 90 percent are occupied, Paperman thinks. "We do about 30 burials a year there now."

Congregation Chevra Kadisha-B'nai Jacob has the largest section, holding about 45 percent of the land, Paperman said.

It's one of the oldest Jewish cemeteries in Montreal. There are either no surviving descendants in Montreal of those buried there or survivors are no longer in Montreal or are too many generations removed to take an interest. Some graves date back to the turn of the century.

The land was originally bought by Temple Emanu-El in 1883, said historian Allan Raymond, but was subdivided and sold or donated to smaller groups in 1890, when the temple found the land too swampy and the site too far from downtown.

Paperman said all of the 43 stones were located in the King Edward Sick Benefit Society section, near the gate on the St. Denis Street side. The King Edward is one of the affiliates that has virtually disappeared and only a few families maintain individual plots.

Most of the downed monuments are decades old, and righting them could cost $1,000 each, Paperman said, because their crooked foundations need re-positioning as well.

The cemetery had no joint perpetual care fund, until the Memorial Gardens Foundation was launched about five years ago, at Paperman's urging. Despite a determined fund drive in the Jewish community at large, as well as among the families of those buried there, under $200,000 was raised. Paperman said at least $1.5 million is needed.

If that money was in hand, Paperman said $500,000 would be spent on immediate repairs to the monuments, to the paths and benches. Lights and a washroom would be installed, and walls and fencing would be improved. Some of the money raised has already been spent on a section of the wall, Paperman said, because the city had warned it was a danger to the public.

The remaining $1 million would be set aside for maintenance, he said.

Paperman believes the Back River Cemetery should be the concern of the entire Jewish community, not just those with family there, and that it is a shame the response has been so poor.

"North American Jews are spending all kinds of money to save Jewish cemeteries in Europe, yet here is one in our own backyard that is being abandoned," he said.

Paperman said he has obtained "an agreement in principle" from FEDERATION CJA that the Back River is a "long-term community responsibility" but that has not translated into any funding commitment. He would like to see some sort of integration of the Back River with the community's Baron de Hirsch Cemetery on de la Savane Road, which is well endowed.

Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) condemned the act in the strongest terms. "Any violation of the sanctity of cemetery property of any faith denominations is despicable. It is also painful for the families whose loved ones have been laid to rest. Regrettably, this is not the first time our community has dealt with such incidents," said Dorothy Zalcman Howard, CJC Quebec region chair.

This the first vandalism in a Jewish cemetery in Montreal in a few years, as far as Robert Libman, regional director of B'nai Brith Canada, knows. "I would not call this an anti-Semitic act per se. The police have told us that some Christian cemeteries in the area also recently had some monuments turned over."

Rows of overturned monuments were discovered in Black River Cemetery, a Jewish cemetery dating back to before the turn of the century in north-end Montreal. [Ben Shoob photo]

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Corrections

In a picture of Canadian parliamentarians visiting Israeli Knesset speaker Dan Tichon (*CJN*, July 30), Senator Sharon Carstairs, pictured third from left, was not identified.

In a second picture in the Sports page's Canada Day photo collage that included some Canadian parliamentarians, Shari Ritter was the "unidentified woman" on the far left helping to hold the Canadian flag.

We apologize for the omissions.

From coast to coast

Ontario students take part in CJC region kallah

ORANGEVILLE, Ont. — Thirty-nine youngsters from across the province came together at Camp Reena recently to participate in the fifth cycle of the three-year High School Outreach Program of Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC), Ontario region.

The weekend kallah (retreat) enabled alumni from the previous three-year cycle to meet with those just beginning their studies.

For the 18 alumni, it was their first meeting since last summer's five weeks of study and travel in Israel. For current participants, it was an opportunity to mingle with older teenagers living in small communities and ask them about their outreach program experiences.

Jared Raab, 13, of Milbrook (near Peterborough), whose brother Dustin is an Outreach alumnus, said what he found most interesting was talking to other Jews his age.

"It was wonderful to talk about Passover and Chanukah instead of discussing Christmas with my schoolmates. Also, [the Shabbat] services were more meaningful and relevant because they were conducted in English," Raab said.

The retreat's Shabbat program focused on deriving more spiritual value from religious services, said CJC outreach coordinator Leanne Rosen. "Many wanted to concentrate on the meaning behind prayer and how the parshat hashavuah relates to their lives as teenagers," she said.

On Saturday, CJC's new director of community services and youth activities, Michael Soberman, addressed alumni while new students took part in programs and games based on Jewish history.

As well, Erik Petersiel, director of education at Shaarei Beth El Congregation in Oakville, spoke on The Importance of Jewish History, or Why We Take the Time to Study Something 2,000 Years Old, and on Saturday evening, alumni discussed their Israel experiences and answered students' questions.

On the first night, both groups attended a joint program on Jewish identity led by Rosen. The aim was to enhance the alumni's experiences and provide a firm foundation for the newcomers' next three years of study, Rosen said.

Prior to the kallah, participants received homework assignments based on a Jewish history text book sent out by CJC.

Rosen said the current group was "very enthusiastic about learning. There were suggestions for improving future retreats…As for the alumni, it touched me to see how close they have become as a group and how they remain in close contact."

Alumnus Sarah Chalmers, 17, of Peterborough spoke of her positive experiences in the program, "such as having nice Jewish friends, being with people who understand what it's like to grow up in a small town as a Jew, and going to Israel, which was amazing because we were part of a majority."

Other volunteer staffers who helped out at the kallah were Aaron Weinroth, Rob Schaumer, Sara Price and Ari Shapiro.

Winnipeg shul rededicated

By MYRON LOVE
Prairie Correspondent

WINNIPEG — Recently, the members of Winnipeg Beach's only synagogue held a special kiddush to rededicate the nearly 50-year-old shul at its new location on the grounds of Camp Massad.

"We are pleased that the future of our synagogue is now secure," says Laurie Mainster, a longtime active member. "This benefits Camp Massad as well. How many other Jewish camps in North America have active synagogues on site?"

The resort communities of Winnipeg Beach and Gimli just to the north have long been favorite spots for Jewish summer cottagers. They are located on the west side of Lake Winnipeg about a 45-minute drive north of Winnipeg.

The Beach Shul was opened in 1950. Although initially the Orthodox synagogue had daily minyans throughout the summer, in the past few years the congregation has only come together for Friday evening and Saturday morning services through July and August.

"It is difficult sustaining minyans," Mainster says, "because many people only come to their cottage for a couple of weeks in the summer or on weekends. We have about two dozen semi-regulars."

Two years ago, the synagogue membership turned ownership of the synagogue over to the Jewish Foundation of Manitoba to prepare for the eventuality that one day there may be no one left to support it. In that case, the foundation would be able to sell the building and use the money to set up a trust fund for undesignated causes.

The decision to move the synagogue to Camp Massad – just north of Winnipeg Beach – was made by the membership in the spring as a result of a 2-year-old bylaw requiring all buildings at Winnipeg Beach to install indoor plumbing.

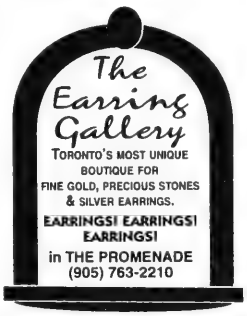
Although the bylaw was introduced two years ago, the synagogue members ignored it because they didn't think it would pose a problem for the synagogue, Mainster says. "When we were threatened with legal action and possible eviction if we didn't comply, we pointed out that we only use the building eight times a year," he says. "We argued that we should be exempted from the bylaw. We also tried to suggest our building receive an historic designation. We were turned down."

After looking into the cost of installing sewer and water works, the congregation members decided instead to approach Camp Massad about moving the building there and incorporating it in the camp program. Camp Massad was quite receptive, Mainster says.

The move was made at the beginning of July. The shul was also renovated with a new, wheelchair accessible entrance and a fresh coat of paint on the outside. The Jewish Foundation contributed half of the $10,000 for the move and renovations while synagogue members contributed the rest.

Mainster reports that Camp Massad is already using the synagogue for programs during the week.

"This is a terrific location for us," says Mainster. "We will carry on with services as long as we can. As long as Camp Massad exists, our synagogue is secure."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From coast to coast

Israeli emissaries in British Columbia

New Keren Hayesod shlichah favors personal touch

By PETER CAULFIELD
Pacific Correspondent

VANCOUVER — The new Keren Hayesod shlichah to British Columbia's Lower Mainland says computerization interferes with social interaction, and it's a problem she'd like to solve.

"You need to get to know people personally, to reach out and touch them," explains Dina Wachtel. "It's not enough just to go on the Internet or read books."

She'll have plenty of opportunity over the next two years to put her philosophy into action as part of the Jewish Federation of Greater Vancouver (JFGV) team.

Her main duties with Federation, she said in a recent interview, will be to take part in the Combined Jewish Appeal (CJA) fundraising campaign and act as a bridge between Israel and Canada by making presentations about Israel to the local community.

"I see myself as a goodwill ambassador from Israel," she said. "I bring to Vancouver a small piece of Israel – me."

JFGV interviewed "many candidates" over the "eight or nine

Dina Wachtel.

month" search for a new shaliach, executive director Drew Staffenberg said. "Dina was far ahead of the other people we talked to. She will fit in well with our team and our system."

Before arriving in Vancouver on July 13, Wachtel worked for Keren Hayesod in Jerusalem for three years. "It was a great experience. I met VIPs and representatives of Jewish communities from all over the world, and also got to see how the money that was raised in campaigns all over the world was spent in Israel," she said.

Approximately 40 percent of the money raised by the Greater Vancouver campaign finds its way to the Jewish Agency for Israel, via the United Israel Appeal of Canada and Keren Hayesod. Canadian donations help fund things like aliyah and new immigrant absorption, rescuing Jews from persecution and war and strengthening Jewish identity in the Diaspora.

Wachtel, 34, has spent time in North America before, living in New York for three years as a teenager.

"My father, Itzhak Tsour, was an Israeli diplomat who worked in New York for the prime minister's office," she said. "I still have strong memories of the experience, because it was the first time I had lived outside Israel. I realized for the first time that to be Jewish was to be a member of a minority group. Although I went to a Jewish school in Manhattan, I was living in a mainly non-Jewish environment."

Although she enjoyed New York, Wachtel returned to Israel for her last year of high school, determined to graduate in her own country. After graduation, she entered the Israel Defence Forces (IDF) and became a lieutenant in the air force.

After three years in the IDF, Wachtel went to Hebrew University and graduated with a double major in sociology and international relations. She then completed a one-year Ministry of Tourism cadet course and served as assistant to the Minister of Tourism.

A year-and-a-half later she became sales manager of the Sheraton Plaza Hotel in Jerusalem, which gave her plenty of opportunity to travel in Europe and Asia.

Wachtel and her husband, Shlomi, have two children: a 4-year-old son, Amir, and a 1-year-old daughter, Shira.

JNF shaliach heads home

By PETER CAULFIELD
Pacific Correspondent

VANCOUVER — Itzchak Fuchs, Jewish National Fund (JNF) shaliach to British Columbia for the past three years, says Jews who live on Canada's West Coast need to get together and build a strong community.

"There's nothing wrong with living in a Jewish ghetto," Fuchs told *The Canadian Jewish News* as he prepared for his return this month to Israel. "Look at Israel. It's a Jewish ghetto surrounded by Arabs."

Fuchs says the Jewish community in British Columbia should get its act together before outside circumstances force it to become unified. "Why wait until anti-Semitism pushes us together again?"

A brigadier-general in the IDF reserve, Fuchs says he is looking forward to going back to his "bad neighborhood" in the Middle East. "It's time to go home; all my targets have been accomplished," he said. "Vancouver is a very nice place, very peaceful, but Israel is home. We've given the best years of our lives to building and protecting it."

Fuchs, whose home is in Yavne, near Ashdod, decided to come to Vancouver after hearing former British Columbia shaliach Kami Robinson sing the praises of the West Coast. Fuchs arrived in Vancouver with his wife Dafna and children Alon, Sharon and Hadar in 1995, the same year he joined the JNF after a 28-year career in the IDF. "I needed a break," said Fuchs. "And the job gave me and my family a chance to live abroad for three years."

Like other JNF emissaries across Canada, Fuchs' main responsibility was to raise money to finance the organization's land reclamation, afforestation and development projects in Israel. Fuchs says that when he started his job three years ago, he knew nothing about fundraising beyond the "people skills" he had picked up while serving in the IDF. "Although my English isn't perfect, I know how to approach people," Fuchs said. "I know that it helps to be direct without being pushy."

Fuchs' know-how paid off when he landed a $1 million-donation from Vancouver millionaire Jimmy Pattison. "Soon after I first came to Vancouver, I learned that Mr. Pattison had donated seriously to the JNF in the past," Fuchs said. "So I phoned him up and went to talk to him. He asked me how much I wanted, and I said 'nothing.' Over time we became friendly. We played golf together, he invited me and my wife to his boat for dinner and, later, to his house in Palm Springs for the weekend. Eventually I asked Jimmy for $1 million, and he said, 'sure.'"

The generous donation by Pattison, who, Fuchs said, is a committed Christian and a big supporter of Israel, helped finance the construction of a water reservoir near Kibbutz Eilon on the Lebanese border.

Although the JNF office is located close to the geographic centre of Vancouver, its territory takes in all of British Columbia. Fuchs often travelled to Victoria and to many of the smaller "up-island" communities on Vancouver Island, as well as to Kelowna and the southern Okanagan, where there is a small but thriving Jewish community, and a very supportive non-Jewish community, too. "Kelowna is having its Negev Dinner on Sept. 13 to honor Mel Cutler," Fuchs said. "The local Jewish community has 50 or 60 members, but the dinner, which has about 350 spaces, is almost all sold out."

Although officially leaving his emissary position, Fuchs will return with the new shaliach and stay for a few more weeks to show him the ropes. Presumably Fuchs will pass on to his replacement his tips for successful fundraising: "The first secret of raising money is that people give to people," Fuchs explained. "The other is that you need to have a good cause if you're going to be successful, and the JNF is a very good cause."

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From coast to coast

Pier 21 brings back happy memories for survivor

By JOEL JACOBSON
Atlantic Correspondent

HALIFAX – Michael Kraus was an 18-year-old with high hopes for a better life when he debarked the *HMS Aquitania* at Pier 21 in Halifax on Aug. 3, 1948.

Fifty years later, Kraus returned to Pier 21 and recalled the moment he arrived in a new land from his native Czechoslovakia.

The 68-year-old Brookline, Mass. resident remembers "standing on the deck of the boat, looking at the town and seeing huge American cars on the docks, cars we saw only on film. I remember a town made of wooden houses, very different from central Europe, where we associated wooden houses only with vacation colonies.

"And I remember being able to drink ginger ale and Coca-Cola, beverages we didn't know in Czechoslovakia."

Now a successful Boston-area architect, Kraus and his wife, Ilana, a pediatrician, recently flew to Halifax and enjoyed time in the city where he had his first taste of North American life.

The couple also spent two days in Lunenburg, where they met Ruth Goldbloom, whose volunteer fundraising and organizational efforts have helped re-furbish Pier 21.

"It is amazing that someone is trying to bring Pier 21 back to life," Kraus says of Goldbloom and her volunteer committee. "It's a celebration of my life and of the lives of hundreds of thousands who also came to Canada through Pier 21."

Kraus spent his early years in Nachod, Czechoslovakia, a city of 15,000, including 400 Jewish families, all of whom were deported in 1942 by the Nazis. Taken to the Teresienstadt concentration camp in Czechoslovakia, he was transferred to Auschwitz a year later and survived the war through what he calls "a series of chances."

His sick father was unable to work and was sent to the gas chamber, while his mother was selected to work in another camp and died six months later.

Being strong enough to work, Kraus moved from camp to camp.

In January 1945, he was sent with 90 other boys to another part of Auschwitz. Half died over the next few months, while the rest were shuttled between concentration camps until spring.

"We were marched to the last camp two weeks before the war ended. We went a week without food or water and had typhoid fever. We were at the end of our lives. I would have died if the war had lasted three days longer," Kraus says.

Liberated on May 5, 1945, he spent six weeks in an American-run hospital in such bad shape that he couldn't celebrate the liberation.

A man and woman from his home town who lost a child in the war took in Kraus– the only Jew from Nachod to survive the war – and helped him get back to school. But in 1948, "they had the foresight to ship me out because they saw no future with the Communist takeover."

He then went to Montreal where he earned a high school certificate and briefly attended McGill University. A cousin in New Jersey arranged his immigration to the United States, where he earned an architecture degree from Columbia University.

Kraus kept a diary during the war years and continues it today. A film producer heard of his records and asked him to participate in a documentary of the war, *Voices of the Children*, which has aired on PBS.

He and the remaining members of the group of 45 orphaned survivors held a 1990 reunion in Israel and still keep in contact.

The return to Pier 21 has special significance for Kraus.

"Because I came to Pier 21 in Halifax, I was given a new lease on life. That is worth celebrating," he says.

Baby dies after flight

[Cont'd. from page 3]

Sources close to the family told *The CJN* the baby was buried on July 28 in Hamilton's Adas Israel Cemetery and the family remained in Hamilton, where Sharon Busch's parents live, for the shivah.

According to police and Air Canada spokespeople, the baby was being breastfed during the plane's approach to Toronto when she apparently stopped breathing. Flight crew staff and a doctor travelling on board as a passenger were unable to clear an obstruction in the child's airway and she went into cardiac arrest. The doctor then started cardiopulmonary resuscitation.

The plane landed at Pearson International Airport at 6:41 a.m. and reached Terminal 2 at 6:49, where it was met by paramedics who rushed the baby to Etobicoke General Hospital, Davenport said.

Trying "valiantly" to revive the baby en route to the hospital, Davenport said, paramedics were able to get a pulse, probably as a result of efforts at cardiopulmonary resuscitation, but the baby was still not breathing on her own. The baby was transferred to the Hospital for Sick Children at about 10 a.m. and died there later in the day, Davenport said.

Hospital for Sick Children spokesperson Helen Simeon called the incident an "odd sort of situation" involving what appeared to be a "perfectly healthy baby that got sick during the flight." For reasons of privacy, she would not elaborate further on the case without consent of the family.

According to the Regional Coroner's Office for Metropolitan Toronto, an autopsy was done on July 28, and the body was released to the parents the same day, which the coroner's office said usually indicates a death is non-controversial.

Officials with knowledge of the case would not release further details, in accordance with privacy laws and at the request of the baby's family.

When contacted by *The CJN*, neither Israeli Consulate officials in Toronto nor Israeli Embassy officials in Ottawa were aware of the case.

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On Campus

Volunteer Leora Glick took bubble solution to Camp Hope in Quito. Looking on is a fascinated one-year-old. [Global Volunteers photo]

McMaster U student volunteers in Ecuador

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — As far back as she can remember, Leora Glick has wanted to be a doctor. This summer the McMaster University student, who hopes to specialize in pediatrics, combined career interest and love for travel as a volunteer in Ecuador.

The 21-year-old Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto alumna, who is entering her third year of kinesiology, recently spent two weeks on a service program run by Global Volunteers. The Minnesota-based nonprofit organization, which Glick learned about on the Internet, sends volunteers to 18 countries.

As part of a small team of volunteers – including a doctor, a physiotherapist and a nurse – Glick took care of young children at a Quito day care/orphanage known as Camp Hope. She also painted murals and accompanied the doctor on gynecology rounds at makeshift medical clinics in and around the capital city.

Glick is no stranger to volunteering – she has had experience at Toronto's Mount Sinai Hospital and Bloorview MacMillan Centre as well as in pediatric oncology at Hamilton's McMaster-Chedoke Hospital and the Magen David Adom program in Israel – but she was particularly struck by the gratitude of the Ecuadorian patients.

"They'd offer you everything from animals to [an invitation to] come to their home for dinner," she said. "They're just so grateful. They hug you and hold your hand and do blessings over your head."

But the highlight of her trip was working with the children at Camp Hope, about a third of whom have disabilities. "Every time we walked in every morning they'd be waiting there with their arms open and big smiles on their faces," she said. "It was so hard to leave them, you have no idea. You'd think they would get attached to us and it would be hard for them when we left, but it was just as hard for us."

Back in Toronto, where she is working for the rest of the summer at a day camp and swim school, Glick pondered some of the things Canadians take for granted. "People live with a whole lot less than we have here. We have so many opportunities that they don't have."

Seeing small children begging on the street was disconcerting. "There are so many beggar kids...How could you not give them money? These babies – dirty little kids – and the amount they're begging for would equal a nickel here."

Glick also spent some of her Ecuadorian *sucres* at outdoor markets, buying sweaters, rugs and hammocks like the one she used in a treehouse when she toured the country after the program ended.

Ecuador is a beautiful country, Glick said, pointing out waterfalls, greenery, and mountains in the photos she took.

Quito, however – which, incidentally, has a small Jewish community – is very polluted, she said.

Pollution, beggars and long hours notwithstanding, Glick's experience was overwhelmingly positive. "I definitely want to go on another program of this sort. I'd like to work in a developing country in the future,"she said.

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The Antiquary: landscape & cityscape

Are you looking for an upscale condominium, close to urban amenities, yet shielded from big-city noise and congestion? Something with all the conveniences of condo living, yet in a pleasant natural setting? If your answer to these questions is yes, take a close look at the Antiquary of York Mills.

Four years ago, Patrick Tsung, president of the L & A Group of Companies, had an inspiration. Involved at the time with projects in London, England, he believed he saw new development possibilities opening up in Toronto. "I had a feeling," he says, "that the market here was going to come back."

Time has proven him right. Tsung has lived in Toronto since 1984; but he has international experience as a builder in Hong Kong, Singapore and London. In the Antiquary, he and his team unite this experience with a thorough knowledge of the Toronto market.

In 1995, L & A built a 120-unit luxury downtown condo complex at 102 Bloor Street West, which attracted buyers from around the world. The Antiquary of York Mills, at 11 William Carson Court, is quite different, and attests to L & A's versatility in satisfying different market segments.

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The Toronto condominium market, says Tsung, is a challenge: buyers are sophisticated and demanding. At the same time, they offer a great opportunity to a team with experience, expertise and imagination; and the financial and psychological satisfaction of success in such an environment is huge.

The target market of the Antiquary is local buyers, currently living within an 8-10 kilometre radius. Some people, however, wanting to move into the city, have come from as far away as Mississauga, Richmond Hill, Thornhill and Gormley.

The Antiquary is selling to upper and middle management, and owners of companies, whose children have grown up and left home. The ideal buyer is active professionally and socially and enjoys the city lifestyle, but values privacy and natural beauty.

The Antiquary is a 6 storey low-rise complex; and the architecture, harmonizing with natural features of Hogg's Hollow, represents a happy marriage of landscape and cityscape. Following the path of William Carson Court as it winds into the Hollow, the building's L-shape hugs the hill it backs onto.

The design was created by Burka Architects, which designed 102 Bloor St. W. The style shows English and European influences. The major building material is a richly coloured golden-yellow brick; and the landscaping features plenty of trees, flower gardens, and a rock garden.

Being near Yonge St., the Antiquary offers easy access to downtown, as well as major highways. Despite this closeness to the amenities, however, it offers you a certain pleasant seclusion: it can not be seen from Yonge St.

Prices range from $198,900 for a ground-floor unit with 1 bedroom + den, to $619,900 for a penthouse. Parking is an extra $14,500. Most units are 1 and 2 bedroom, ranging from 865-1,630 sq. ft.; the penthouses range from 1,180-2,150 sq. ft. There are 5 penthouses left now, all with good views; each has 2 bedrooms + den, and a fireplace.

Ten-foot ceilings make for spaciousness; and every master bedroom has a balcony. Some ground-floor units have landscaped terraces with interlocking bricks. Also, a 5x5' frosted glass window lets light shine through the master into the ensuite bathroom, preserving privacy while brightening the room.

Unlike many residents of 102 Bloor St. W., residents of the Antiquary will be car owners; many of them will own more than one. For the 127 units, L & A is providing 200 parking spots; and every penthouse has 2. There are also 33 visitor spaces, all underground.

Separately metred for hydro, maintenance fees are 34¢ per sq. ft.; they include everything but cable and telephone. There is 24-hour security and concierge service as well. There are 4 elevators, 2 of which are in the centre of the building. For the physically active, there is an exercise room, indoor pool and sauna.

Construction is to begin in November this year, with occupancy scheduled for January 2000. Tsung, who believes the condo market is far from saturated, has no worries about running short of buyers. Over 50 units have been sold already; so don't delay.

Call the sales office at 416-223-2133 or go direct. Sales office hours Monday.-Thursday., 12 noon-7 p.m., Saturday., Sunday and Holidays, 11 a.m.-5 p.m., Friday by appointment only.

Good, Better, Best Drexel Heritage has them all

Often, household budgets dictate the level of quality you can afford in a major purchase for the home.

Young couples starting out, second marriages combining disparate tastes in household assets, established family units, summer homes and retirement living all call for special considerations when choosing furnishings that fit the budget, meet a high quality standard and have intrinsic long-term value.

The recently-opened Drexel Heritage Gallery in the De Boer Studio Collection at Sheppard and Allen Road, is atuned to various consumer needs and presents a 'good, better, best' scenario of home furnishings and accessories, from contemporary to traditional, designed to suit any pocketbook.

"We can also help people sort out their preferences and needs," says Sally Van Camp, Marketing Director for De Boer's Furnishings. "A few simple questions can take the confusion out of decision-making."

Ms. Van Camp's questions often focus on the mood and ambiance to be created in a room setting. Should it be formal, transitional, romantic, active, spacious or indestructible? Should the style be country, contemporary, southwestern or neo-classic?

The choice of woods, colours, fabrics and patterns also presents a befuddlement. The staff at Drexel Heritage is skilled at helping people come to terms with basic needs and wants in home furnishings.

Budget is often the overriding consideration. Whether starting from scratch or choosing a piece that complements existing furnishings, Ms. Van Camp has good advice. "One good quality item is better value than three of lesser quality for the same price," she says, "it is wise, in the long run, to invest in one good item and add to it when budget permits."

A popular start-up choice is the Solutions Collection. This contemporary, serviceable, yet elegantly styled line has surprisingly unique features such as a dining table with a built-in, heat resistant decor panel for hot plates.

For the traditionalist, there's the Corinthian Collection, drawing its inspiration from classic design themes and architectural forms. The result is a collection of rare beauty and matchless quality.

Drexel Heritage is open Monday to Wednesday and Saturday from 10 to 6, Thursday and Friday 10 to 9. Fred Hanes, ASID, ARIDO, Manager. Phone 416-630-5369.

Tennis anyone? Or golf?

Pinehurst inspires gentle, laid back way of life

The lifestyle experienced at the famous Pinehurst Country Club in North Carolina, site of the PGA 1999 Open, inspired the designers of Drexel Heritage's Pinehurst Collection, on view at The De Boer Studio Collection, Sheppard and the Allen, Toronto.

Pinehurst, founded in 1895, is among the most famous golfing resorts in the world. But Pinehurst is more than simply golf. It is a tranquil oasis from a fast-paced world; a place where life can be celebrated in a relaxing ambiance.

The furnishings in the Pinehurst Collection at Drexel Heritage capture the essence of old world charm and comfort. The materials vary... metal, wicker, leather, seeded glass, woven rope and mosaic stone, each crafted with the illusion of age and use.

Each piece in the Collection imparts the unique personality of a treasured heirloom... the soothing memory and priceless character of a cherished collectible.

Fifty to seventy-five percent of the time required to make a piece from the Pinehurst Collection is spent on hand-finishing.

The Pinehurst clubhouse 'look' is luxurious, sophisticated, traditional, classic and rich in colour. The cottage 'look' is light, airy, floral, romantic, nostalgic, simple and elegant. The mix-and-match possibilities are endless.

The signature of the Collection is the complicated 'distressing' process. Twenty-eight separate steps are required to gently create an antique patina on this prized heirloom furniture.

De Boer Honoured by City of Toronto

John de Boer (left) accepts a Scroll of Appreciation from Toronto Councillor Howard Moscoe on the opening of the 17,000 square foot Drexel Heritage Collection in the De Boer Studio Collection at 1100 Sheppard Avenue West, at the Allen.

Brand name furniture captures major stronghold in Toronto

Famous North Carolina furniture manufacturer, Drexel Heritage, has opened a 17,000 square foot, dedicated retail showroom as part of The De Boer Studio Collection at Sheppard and the Allen in North York.

John de Boer, president of De Boer's, succeeded in enticing Drexel into an exclusive representation agreement because of De Boer's experience which spans 48 years in the Toronto marketplace.

Other brand name retailers in the same building are Bernhardt and Henredon, both well-known, reputable furniture manufacturers from North Carolina. "Based on the results we are enjoying, it makes good business sense to present three fine furniture makers in one location," says de Boer. "All share important consumer attributes -- quality, design and value."

Says Daniel Grow, president of Drexel Heritage, "Our alliance with De Boer's is a fine example of the Drexel tradition of partnering with successful retailers, nationally and internationally.

We look forward to serving a growing clientele in the Ontario market.

The de Boer family immigrated to Canada in 1949, and established their first home furnishings store in Toronto in 1950. Today, there are six locations serving Ontario consumers. President John de Boer acknowledges that the firm's success results from recognizing their customers' need for efficient, knowledgeable, superior service, and above all, maximum value.

Drexel Heritage got its start in 1903 in the foothills of the North Carolina mountains. Today, 3,500 people work at Drexel Heritage, many of them second and third generation furniture makers.

Drexel Heritage appeals to a broad consumer segment with traditional reproduction pieces, sophisticated country styles and trendy contemporary designs.

Like John de Boer, Drexel Heritage caters to consumers who have become increasingly aware of the value and quality behind a well-respected brand name.

GRAND OPENING SALE

Mint juleps on the verandah. High tea in the salon. Genteel conversation while lounging in highbacked chairs. Magnolia and dogwood blossoms. Such is the relaxed tranquillity of the gentle way of life that Drexel Heritage has captured in the Pinehurst Collection. Crafted in aged, warm pine, complemented with antique finishes, the pieces are then softened with an incredible level of authentic distressing. If you yearn for a welcoming home with furnishings and fabrics that feel good, soothe, and blend effortlessly with your gracious, yet casual lifestyle, visit Pinehurst and save during our Grand Opening Sale

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Asthma increasing in frequency and severity

To Your Health spoke about asthma with respirologist Dr. Meyer Balter, director of the Asthma Education Clinic at Mount Sinai Hospital in Toronto .

Asthma affects between five and 10 per cent of the population of industrialized nations such as Canada. It is one of the only common treatable conditions that is increasing in frequency and severity despite the development of more potent drugs.

To Your Health

Asthma is underdiagnosed and often undertreated, leading to avoidable hospitalization and even death.

Q. What is asthma?

A. Traditionally, asthma has been defined as a disease of the smooth muscle that lines the breathing tubes (bronchi) that intermittently went into spasm, leading to narrowing of the airways (bronchospasm). Patients experience symptoms such as shortness of breath, wheezing, chest tightness or cough or any combination thereof.

However, research investigations over the past 10 to 15 years have led to the discovery that asthma is a disease caused by swelling, or inflammation, of the bronchi. This inflammation causes the airways to be twitchy, or hyperresponsive, so that they narrow excessively when exposed to familiar asthmatic triggers such as cold air, smoke, allergens, leading to the well recognized symptoms of smooth muscle spasm.

Q. Will I become addicted or resistant to my asthma medications?

A. No! The term addiction implies a psychological and/or physical dependence on a drug. Psychological dependence does not occur with anti-asthma drugs. Physical dependence implies adaptation by the body to a drug as well as a gradual reduction in, or resistance to, the effect of the drug with time. There is little evidence for the loss of efficiency in opening up the airways by asthma drugs used at conventional dosages and the drugs appear to maintain their effectiveness over long periods.

However, for the most part, asthma medications do not cure the disease so that withdrawal of regular therapy when a patient feels better will most likely lead to recurrence of asthma symptoms within a few weeks or months.

Q. Will I outgrow my asthma?

A. This is a difficult question to answer. Somewhere between 20 and 50 percent of childhood asthmatics outgrow their disease by young adulthood, although the symptoms may return at a later date. It appears that the likelihood that your asthma will resolve decreases with age, very frequent symptoms, poor lung function (as measured by your doctor), and coexisting smoking-related damage to your lungs.

Q. Will my children get asthma if I have the disease?

A. There is no question that there is some genetic (hereditary) component to asthma. There is a greater chance you will develop asthma if your identical twin has the disease than if your non-identical twin has it, although both risks are higher than for a non-twin brother or sister. The presence of people with allergies in your family also appears to increase the risk for development of asthma in your children.

The specific genetic factors that underlie an inherited predisposition to asthma have yet to be clearly defined and are the focus of research being carried out at the University of Toronto and Mount Sinai Hospital. Hopefully, discovery of the genetic factors that are at least partially responsible for the development of asthma will allow us to determine the likelihood of an individual's developing asthma in the future, and also lead to more effective therapies.

Q. Why are there so many different types of asthma medications and which ones are best for me?

A. Asthma medications fall into two major groups: drugs that relax smooth muscles (bronchodilators) and drugs that decrease swelling in the airways (anti-inflammatories).

Use of bronchodilators leads to relaxation of the smooth muscle, widening of the airways and subsequent symptomatic relief of asthma within five to 10 minutes. Although symptoms are temporarily relieved by bronchodilators, the latter do nothing to combat the actual airway inflammation causing the disease.

Therefore, therapy of asthma in the 1990s is targeted at reversing this airway swelling with specific anti-inflammatory medications. These medications are quite safe and very effective but must be used on a regular basis to decrease airway inflammation and reduce the associated airway hyperresponsiveness, thereby raising the threshold for developing an asthma attack. It is important to point out that these anti-inflammatory drugs have no smooth muscle relaxing (bronchodilator) properties and thus they will not cause rapid relief of symptoms of an asthma attack.

Patients are usually prescribed medications from both the bronchodilator and anti-inflammatory groups of drugs. There are a variety of drugs to choose from in both groups, each with its own pros and cons in an individual patient, and should be discussed with your physician.

Q. How can asthma be better controlled?

A. Firstly, education is needed to help members of the public recognize asthma symptoms and encourage sufferers to seek appropriate medical care. Secondly, education is required about the rationale for modern therapy of asthma, proper use of medications and appropriate inhaler technique. Thirdly, patient and family education is needed to teach effective management of asthma to enable patients to lead active and relatively normal lives.

Q. What is an asthma education clinic?

A. An asthma education clinic provides the environment and personnel needed to achieve the goals of more effective asthma control listed above. Trained nurse-clinicians, respiratory therapists and/or physicians help teach patients about the causes, triggering factors and therapy of asthma.

Patients' inhaler techniques are reviewed and appropriate means of delivering necessary therapy are decided upon. Patients are taught about the warning signs of worsening asthma and instructed about how to alter their prescribed therapy on their own to effectively treat flares of their disease.

Preliminary studies of patient education programs suggest that they are an effective way of reducing emergency room visits and hospitalizations attributed to asthma.

For more information about Mount Sinai's Asthma Education Clinic, please call 416-586-5009.

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About Nutrition

By LISA WEINBERG

Q. I just found out that I am pregnant and I am trying to consume more dairy products, but I am not sure how much I actually need.

A. We now know that we don't have to consume additional calcium in pregnancy. We do, however, need to consume the recommended amount for our age. For example women 25 to 49 should consume approximately three servings per day of dairy products. A serving could be one cup of milk or a cup of yogurt. There are also a lot of non-dairy sources of calcium including many new soy milk products that are fortified with calcium.

Q. Is it true that skim milk actually contains more calcium than whole milk?

A. It is true, but the difference is very minimal. Eight ounces of skim milk contain 302 milligrams of calcium, 8 oz. of whole milk contain 288 mg.

Q. I really love nuts, but I know that they are fattening. Can you fill me in on some of my favorites, cashews, almonds and hazelnuts?

A. It is true that nuts are quite high in fat and calories. However, they do provide protein, and much of their fat is of the unsaturated type. One oz. of cashews contains 163 calories and 13 gm of fat. One oz. of almonds contains 167 calories and 15 gm of fat. One oz. of hazelnuts contains 188 calories and 19 gm of fat.

Lisa Weinberg is a registered dietitian/nutritionist, specializing in pediatric and adult nutrition in Toronto. If you have any nutrition questions send them to The CJN.

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Israeli team joins rescue effort in Kenya bombing

[Cont'd. from page 1]

down the terrorists. He said early indications were that the bombings were the result of "international terrorism centered on Islamic fundamentalism."

Israeli and U.S. officials said that exiled Saudi billionaire Osama bin Laden, who lives in Afghanistan, was one of the main suspects.

Netanyahu said there is no need to convene an international meeting on terror, but cooperation at the diplomatic level and between the security services of various countries should be increased.

"I think you can say, though, that Israel is committed to fighting international terrorism – and particularly international terrorism of the Islamic fundamentalist type – in two ways," Netanyahu said. "One, by offering, as we did, humanitarian assistance and rescue teams that were promptly on site and have already saved lives; and two, by international cooperation, political and intelligence cooperation, to find the perpetrators and act against those who give them the support to act.

"This is something I discussed with [Kenyan] President [Daniel Arap] Moi Sunday and with President [Bill] Clinton."

Clinton sent the prime minister a letter thanking Israel for its rescue efforts in Kenya.

The Israeli rescue team was highly praised in Kenya. "You came like angels from the sky," one member of the Kenyan Red Cross told the team.

Moi visited the embassy site Sunday morning and said there were some leads in the investigation, but did not elaborate.

The *Sunday Nation* newspaper quoted an unidentified "security man" as saying he saw three Arab-looking men filming the U.S. Embassy for about 20 minutes, four days before the bombing. He alerted guards at the embassy, but they brushed him off, the paper said.

Closed-circuit TV cameras were monitoring the parking area behind the embassy where the bomb went off, but Ambassador Prudence Bushnell said she did not know whether the cameras or film survived the blast.

The FBI, which was sending 60 investigators to Nairobi and a separate team to the other bombing site at Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, has said its top priority is to determine the kind of explosive device used and the type of vehicle that carried it to the scene.

FBI spokesperson Frank Scafidi said this information "can be like a fingerprint of who did it."

Despite hopeful signs that some of the missing may still be alive, the death toll mounted.

Outside the Nairobi embassy, 155 people died, according to the Kenyan government. Inside the embassy, an additional 11 Americans and 24 Kenyans died, an embassy spokesperson said.

One American and more than 100 Kenyan employees at the embassy were still unaccounted for.

Immediately after news of the attack reached Israel, Chief of General Staff Lt.-Gen. Shaul Mofaz ordered the Home Front Command to dispatch the rescue teams and doctors to Nairobi. The delegation is led by Brig.-Gen. Ilan Harrari, chief staff officer of the Home Front Command.

The units rushed through the night to pack a C-130 cargo plane and an IAF airliner with rescue units, doctors and the IDF canine unit before setting off.

Magen David Adom sent 100 units of blood and announced that it is taking donations from those with O blood type at all of its stations.

The final go-ahead for sending the Israeli rescue teams came late Friday night when U.S. Ambassador Edward Walker officially requested the aid.

Netanyahu phoned Moi Saturday night and told him Israel is ready to provide any help needed.

It has been the policy of the Home Front Command's rescue unit for years to offer its services in worldwide disasters. This is one reason it has acquired so much expertise and such an excellent reputation in the field.

In addition, Defence Ministry officials said Israel has never forgotten that Kenya allowed the IAF to refuel its planes after the dramatic 1976 rescue at Entebbe, Uganda.

Warsaw enters row over crosses at Auschwitz

By MARILYN HENRY
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — The Polish government, in an apparent reversal of its initial position, has said it now wants to help deal with a mounting confrontation over crosses erected by Catholics outside Auschwitz.

"The Polish government declares a will to contribute to solving the problem of the presence of religious symbols in Auschwitz-Birkenau, in cooperation with the Church authorities and all interested parties, in the spirit of tolerance and respecting [the] religious sensitivity of the Christians and the Jews," the government said in a statement.

The more than 50 crosses to commemorate 152 Polish Catholics executed at Auschwitz have drawn protests from the Holocaust Martyrs' and Heroes' Remembrance Authority, Yad Vashem, and the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Council.

The government statement offered no details on how Warsaw hoped to resolve the issue.

The statement blamed "a few irresponsible people, who use the policy of accomplished facts, cause an escalation of the conflict and the mobilization of radical elements on both sides." Poles have been spurred to support the crosses by broadcasts from a renegade Catholic radio station, Radio Maryja.

The dispute also delayed the signing, which had been scheduled for last month, of a year-old Jewish-Polish agreement on the preservation and protection of Auschwitz-Birkenau.

Earlier this week, the government said it could not remove the crosses because they were erected on private land and because it was up to the Catholic Church to decide what to do about religious symbols.

Last year, the Polish government and an international coalition of Jewish institutions, including Yad Vashem and the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Council, reached an agreement regarding the future of the site.

The pact called for the removal of all religious symbols. At that time, the problematic symbols were those on Birkenau's Field of Ashes. Near the remains of the crematoria, the field is widely known as the largest Jewish cemetery in Europe, because one million Jews were killed there.

Those symbols were removed last December. However, a cross commemorating a papal mass remained, and other crosses have since been planted.

Warsaw's statement also said that the dispute "contributes to creating false opinions and stereotypes about the Polish society. It also harms a well-developing Polish-Jewish dialogue which has changed the quality of relations between the two nations."

PLC members resign

Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Palestinian Legislative Council (PLC) members nearly came to blows during a debate over the new cabinet of Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat, with many legislators warning they will vote Sunday against what they termed a government that preserves corruption and mismanagement.

The vote had been scheduled for Saturday, but the motion was delayed by the request of 30 of the 88 PLC members to address the legislature regarding the new cabinet.

Outgoing minister Hanan Ashrawi, who, together with Abdul Jawad Salah, announced they would not serve in the new cabinet, called on the PLC to vote against the government.

"This cabinet represents the absence of respect for political institutions," PLC member Mohammed Horani of Arafat's own Fatah movement told the council.

The PLC session was tense as supporters of the new cabinet argued with its critics. The latter attacked Arafat's decision to retain three ministers accused in a PLC audit of waste and mismanagement while demoting two ministers and dismissing one, considered to have been most effective.

Arafat did not attend the session.

On one day: sorrow and celebration

MOURNING TWO FRIENDS

Friends and colleagues comfort each other following the funeral service last week for Shlomo Liebman, 24, and Harel Bin-Nun, 18. Liebman and Bin-Nun, both from the community of Yitzhar on the West Bank, were murdered while they were on security patrol during the night. Hundreds attended the funeral. [RNS/Reuters photo]

ARRIVING AT THEIR NEW HOME

New immigrants from Tashkent, part of a group of 150 olim from Uzbekistan, are welcomed on the tarmac at Ben-Gurion airport last week. The day was designated Yom Aliyah. [Isranet]

Hezbollah undergoing violent split

By STEVE RODAN
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Hezbollah is undergoing a violent split with the quiet support of Syria and Iran, both of which want to decrease the growing independence of the Shi'ite movement in Lebanon, a defence report says.

The report, prepared by Israeli defence analysts, predicts that the feud will turn increasingly violent as the splinter group amasses power and influence.

The rivalry pits Hezbollah secretary-general Hassan Nasrallah against Subhi Toufeili, the former Amal operative who became Hezbollah's first secretary-general in 1986.

Toufeili, believed to have been involved in the kidnapping and killing of U.S. soldiers in 1983, is regarded as more extreme than the current Hezbollah leadership and for the last year has been advocating a confrontational policy toward the Lebanese government.

In July 1997, Toufeili launched his Revolution of the Hungry movement and declared a civil revolt of the Shi'ites in Lebanon's Bekaa Valley, who are regarded as the poorest people in the country and who deal extensively in the planting and production of heroin.

In contrast, Hezbollah's movement is led by residents of south Lebanon.

Toufeili, whose first rally was attended by 10,000 people, is demanding that the Beirut government allocate more resources to the Bekaa and opposes any attempt to curtail the drug trade in the valley.

The report says Toufeili is sending his supporters to Syria for military training.

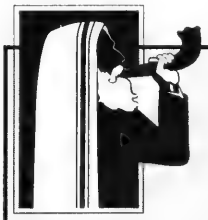
So far, about 200 Hezbollah militants have quit the movement and joined Toufeili. Hezbollah, in response, decided to stop payments to those who joined the splinter group.

The rise of Toufeili has led to a decline in Nasrallah's status in the Bekaa and Baalbek regions. The change has been accompanied by violence, as Toufeili supporters have attacked Hezbollah representatives in the Bekaa and destroyed their property.

Toufeili has been supported by Hezbollah's spiritual leader Sheikh Hussein Fadlallah, who claims to be the Shi'ite spiritual authority, rather than Iran's Ayatollah Ali Khamenei.

Another supporter is Amal leader and Lebanese Parliament speaker Nabih Berri, who prefers to see a divided Hezbollah to ensure his position in the Lebanese government.

The feud has turned so bitter that Nasrallah has appealed to Iran for a religious edict that would allow him to assassinate Toufeili, the report says.



The CJN announces its fourth annual Rosh Hashanah photo contest.

We are asking readers to submit their own original photographs either of Israel or on any Jewish theme in their community.

Anyone can enter except *CJN* employees or members of their families.

A maximum of three photos per entrant may be submitted. Please write your name, address and phone number on the back of each photo. We can only return the photos if you provide a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

You may mail or deliver your photos to: *The CJN* Rosh Hashanah Contest, The Canadian Jewish News, 1500 Don Mills Road, Suite 205, Toronto, Ont., M3B 3K4.

The contest closes at 3 p.m. on Friday, Aug. 28, 1998.

The judges will choose three photographs which, in their opinion, are the most expressive and evocative. These three photos will be published in *The CJN* Rosh Hashanah issue, Sept. 17, 1998. Each of the "winning" photographers will receive a cheque for $100.

We will undoubtedly receive many worthy submissions. But only three will be selected as the "winners." The decisions of the judges will be final. The odds of winning depend upon the number and the quality of submissions received.

Winning entrants will be notified by telephone before Shabbat on Sept. 4, 1998.

Along with these three photos, *The CJN* will also publish 10 photos from the Israel Experience Photo Contest sponsored by UIA Federations Canada, the Canada Israel Experience Centre and El Al Israel Airlines. Israel Experience participants aged 15 to 24 should contact the UIA office for details.

Any litigation respecting the conduct and awarding of a prize in this contest may be submitted to the Régie des Loteries et courses du Québec.

British Jews in uproar

By DOUGLAS DAVIS
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

LONDON — A follower of Louis Farrakhan is creating an uproar in Britain.

Jewish leaders are calling for Paul Twino to be prosecuted on charges of inciting racial hatred after Twino accused the British government of capitulating to its "Hebraic puppeteers" when it barred the Nation of Islam leader from entering Britain last month.

Twino also said in a letter to British Home Secretary Jack Straw that the Board of Deputies of British Jews, the representative body of British Jewry, is a "loathsome and slanderous generation of talmudic vipers.

"With insolence unparalleled," Twino wrote, "the Jews have been shameless in their mutilation of his utterances.

"The absurdity of the false allegations leveled against the Honorable Minister Louis Farrakhan has been outweighed only by their sheer vindictiveness."

Twino also warned the British government of dire consequences if the order banning Farrakhan was not reversed.

Twino sent a copy of the letter to the Board of Deputies.

The board's director-general, Neville Nagler, said Twino's language was "consistently offensive and insulting.

"It is highly abusive toward the Jewish people and has many passages which reflect the writer's hatred toward members of our community. It might incite followers of the Nation of Islam to hatred against Jews."

Responding to the charges against him, Twino said he would be "more than happy to defend in a public forum or at court what I wrote," adding that Farrakhan's exclusion from Britain was unjustified.

A spokesperson for the prosecutor's office said it was still considering whether to take action against Twino.

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Holocaust survivor in Czech cabinet

By RICHARD ALLEN GREENE
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

PRAGUE — One of the Czech Republic's new deputy prime ministers has travelled a perilous path to power.

When Egon Lansky, then Egon Lowy, was 5 years old, his father, a doctor, fled to England after Hitler's troops invaded Czechoslovakia in 1939.

Meanwhile, when the Jews of his hometown of Trencin were rounded up for deportation in 1944, Lansky's mother, also a doctor, feigned medical problems. She and her children were transferred to a local hospital, where sympathetic former colleagues kept them as long as they could.

The family was eventually deported to Auschwitz, but survived.

Now, as deputy prime minister for European integration, Lansky will have as his primary responsibility, preparing the country for possible membership in the European Union.

But he will also have to steer his party and his country to a smoother relationship with Germany.

Lansky is the only Jewish member of the incoming cabinet, which was sworn in on July 22. But there is strong Jewish representation in the Czech foreign ministry. Deputy Foreign Minister Otto Pick is Jewish, for example.

Lansky's involvement with the Czech Jewish community includes membership in an organization called Beit Praha, the Open Jewish Community, which was set up by American Jewish expatriates, with the help of the World Union for Progressive Judaism, to provide an alternative to the official Orthodox community here.

Back in Trencin after the war, the Lowys changed the family name to Lansky, a less Jewish-sounding name to Czech ears, to escape anti-Semitism.

Lansky, now 64, was later thrown out of three universities for anti-Communist activities. He moved to Sweden after the 1968 Soviet invasion of Czechoslovakia which ended that year's Prague Spring reform movement.

In Sweden, where he took citizenship, he earned degrees in journalism and politics. He became known as a conservative political columnist and also worked for the BBC in London and as a political commentator for Radio Free Europe.

Lansky returned to Czechoslovakia after the Velvet Revolution brought down communism in 1989. He became a spokesman for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and then was appointed ambassador in the Czechoslovak permanent mission to the Council of Europe.

When Czechoslovakia dissolved into the Czech Republic and Slovakia at the end of 1992, Lansky took Czech citizenship and worked as a journalist before he became a press spokesman for the leader of the Social Democratic Party, Milos Zeman.

Czech President Vaclav Havel asked Zeman to form a new government after the Social Democrats took a third of the popular vote in parliamentary elections in June.

Lansky joined the party after he ran for the Czech Senate as an independent in 1996 and won convincingly.

"You cannot be a conservative in the Czech Republic if you want to be a decent person," he said. "The right wing here does not have what the Tories in Britain, for example, have – compassion."

The Week in Israel

Aug. 3

• Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu created a new council to fight growing unemployment. The move came after the latest statistics indicated that unemployment had reached 9.3 percent in May, with some 210,000 people out of work.

Aug. 4

• The government, through the embassy in Bonn, denied German press reports that Israel refused to recognize the Orthodox conversion of the daughter of German Foreign Minister Klaus Kinkel and will not grant her citizenship. Embassy officials said there had merely been bureaucratic delays in processing the citizenship application of Andrea Kinkel, who is married to an Israeli and had converted in the United States.

Aug. 5

• Netanyahu told Israel Radio that the slayings of two youths at Yizhar proved the need for a Palestinian crackdown on militants before Israel agrees to further redeployment from the West Bank. *Later in the week, senior Israeli security officials warned against expanding the settlement at Yizhar.*

• Some 1,000 immigrants arrived in Israel from 12 different countries as part of Aliyah Day ceremonies.

Aug. 6

• A leading Orthodox rabbi in Israel called for the institution of civil marriages in Israel that will carry no religious weight. Yisrael Rosen, head of the Chief Rabbinate's Conversion Authority said he believes his proposal is necessary because of the high number of recent immigrants to Israel who are not Jewish.

• Bank of Israel Governor Jacob Frenkel announced an unexpected 1.5 percent cut in the key lending rate, taking it down to 9.5 percent, its lowest level in almost six years. He also announced an inflation target of four percent for 1999.

Aug. 7

• The shekel fell against all major foreign currencies, losing 1.78 percent of its value against the U.S. dollar.

With files from the JTA and JPFS

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C¹	PEUGEOT 306 / MAZDA 323 P.S	266
C²	FORD ESCORT P.S	294
N	KIA BESTA 8 SEATS	490
M	MINIBUS 10 SEATS	630
AUTOMATIC CARS+A.C		
D	KIA PRIDE / SUZUKY SWIFT	266
E	MAZDA 323 1.6 P.S	315
F	* NISSAN ALMERA	350
G	* MAZDA LANTIS	434
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Visitors gather to remember internment of Jews in Cyprus

By WENDY EISEN
Special to The CJN

DHEKELIA, Cyprus – The British internment of 52,384 Jewish refugees in Cyprus from 1946 to 1949 is a lesser-known aspect of modern Jewish history, yet it was a fundamental component in the establishment of an independent Jewish state in Palestine.

Fifty years later, on this island in the eastern Mediterranean, six Canadians were among the 150 Jewish visitors from 25 countries who gathered to remember the Jewish captives who were forcibly denied the right to attempt to fulfill their Zionist dream.

"We are here in Cyprus on Israel's 50th anniversary, to commemorate a short chapter in the history of the Jewish people," said Baruch Gur, director general of Keren Hayesod. "We are here, as well, to pay tribute to gallant Cypriots who assisted the refugees during their period of detention."

The first-ever commemoration of the internment of the Zionist pioneers, which commenced in Cyprus on June 9, launched the 1998 Keren Hayesod United Israel Appeal annual world conference. From Cyprus, the delegates travelled by ship to Israel, but quite differently from the way their brethren did 50 years before.

Jewish refugees, fleeing eastern Europe for a new life in Palestine, were bitterly disappointed. In overcrowded, battered, wooden boats, they set sail from European ports only to find a tight naval blockade of Palestine's coast.

Initially, according to the policy set down in the White Paper, the British interned the "illegal" immigrants at Atlit near Haifa, and released them in a trickle of 750 per month. As the numbers in Atlit became unwieldy, the detainees were transferred to newly created camps on the British-dominating colony of Cyprus.

From Aug. 13, 1946 to April 26, 1948, 39 rickety boats, filled with thousands of refugees, entered the harbor of Haifa. Most were greeted by British naval officers who boarded the boats wearing steel helmets and wielding billy-clubs, and with the use of water cannons and tear gas forced the *ma'apilim* – the would be immigrants – onto ships that took them to the island 16 hours away.

There, they were dumped into 12 detention camps in two blocs: the summer camps in Karalolos and the winter camps in Dhekelia. The camps were surrounded by barbed wire and water-towers, reminiscent of the hell they had just survived.

Dhekelia, still under British sovereign territory today, is where the Keren Hayesod group met with several former refugees and former members of the Israeli underground who had travelled from Israel to Cyprus to share stories.

"We did offer resistance," said Ya'acov Gilead, a retired Israeli naval officer, whose son was one of 2,200 babies born on Cyprus. "Our wooden trawler that had set sail a week earlier from Romania carried 1,400 refugees. As we entered the harbor, we found ourselves surrounded by three British warships.

Cypriot hero Prodromos Papavissiliou (left) with Shemi Tzur, Israel's ambassador to Cyprus.

We beached in Haifa, and for two days and nights armed only with potatoes that we threw at the soldiers, managed to resist – until our water ran out."

The dozen refugee holding camps in Cyprus consisted of grimy tents and small huts, filled with thousands of men, women and children. Though food was rationed and water was in short supply, the illegals enjoyed full autonomy in governing their daily lives.

Their existence on Cyprus was ameliorated by the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee and underground emissaries sent from Palestine. The emissaries formed a living bridge between the camp inmates and their future homeland. They helped to develop an internal structure with a school system, Hebrew language classes and a clandestine newspaper. In carefully planned operations, the emissaries smuggled refugees out through secret tunnels.

Lack of sufficient water resulted in inadequate toilet and laundry facilities, which led to abysmal hygiene. As disease permeated the camps, doctors and nurses arrived from Palestine to minister to the sick.

In the fall of 1946, Nehama Guttman was sent as chief nurse to set up medical clinics in the winter camps in Dekelia. "I can still smell the stench and feel the suffering of the mothers for their babies. Years later, I would be awakened from my sleep by the nightmare of Cyprus."

Tears clouded the eyes of Prodromos Papavassiliou, the 79-year-old Cypriot hero, when tribute was paid to him for his steadfast assistance to the Jews. Everyone in the camps revered Papavassiliou for his efforts in facilitating the distribution of food, clothing and medical supplies to the internees.

"We were very sorry when the camps were built," the small, stout man told the assembly. "Sympathy came from the joint struggle by the Zionists and the Cypriots against British rule. Here were the British liberators from the war against the Nazis, building camps for the Nazis' victims. We protested when they were built, we protested when they opened, we protested when the first Jews arrived and we celebrated when they closed."

When the State of Israel was declared on May 15, 1948, 27,000 persons had made aliyah from Cyprus by both legal and illegal means. But approximately 25,000 remained. The British continued to enforce a UN embargo on "arms and fighting men" entering the country, so the camps remained open.

The last detainees left the camps on Feb. 2, 1949.

The 52,384 Jews who were interned in British detention camps in Cyprus represented almost one-tenth of Israel's population at that time. Their detention was a cruel twist on the road to Jewish freedom and Israeli statehood.

"Ike," a commander of the *Exodus* (left); the illegal immigrant ship *Haim Arlosoroff* ran aground on Israeli shores, with a British destoyer in the background.

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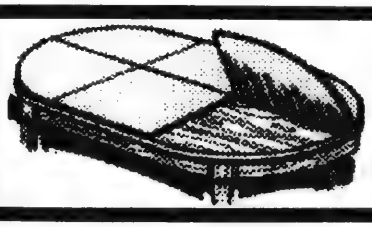

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Book helps author cope with brother's death

By BILL GLADSTONE
Special to The CJN

Nomi Berger's non-fiction work tries to solve a puzzling mystery

TORONTO — The last time Nomi Berger saw her brother Peter, he was 19 years old and submerged in Montreal's pot-smoking and acid-dropping hippie counter-culture.

The year was 1968. Peter, who lived in a house with several others, had recently been arrested for drug possession and had fought bitterly with his parents. "Help me," he had beseeched his sister, hugging her, making her break into tears.

"My husband dragged me out of the room and I never saw my brother again," says Berger, who was then 23 years old. "When the brother you love says 'Help me' and three weeks later he's dead, what do you do? The feeling that I had failed him was so strong and the guilt so powerful that I just went into a tailspin. The shock of it, the guilt of it – I didn't know how to cope."

Berger, now a Toronto-based novelist with seven novels to her credit, says that the act of re-searching and writing her first work of non-fiction – *My Brother Peter: Murder or Suicide?* – has helped her to gain mastery over her grief and over the nagging doubts about how her brother died.

"This book," she said during a recent interview, "is an illustration that there's no statute of limitations on either grief or guilt, but especially on one's ability to look for answers and find piece of mind."

Peter, who had been scheduled to appear as a witness in another drug-related court case, died mysteriously with a knife in the heart. "The police ruled it a suicide but I always thought it was a murder to silence him," says Berger, who three years ago launched her own intensive investigation. She contacted many of Peter's friends, found doctors who had treated him during his brief stay in a psychiatric hospital, even tracked down the RCMP officer who had arrested him.

She also followed a paper trail of official documents, many of which she had to pry from recalcitrant and uncooperative bureaucracies. "I was told 'no' but I pushed and harangued and eventually used the Access to Information Act to get everything I wanted. I set legal precedents at every step of the way because every bureaucracy said to me, 'We don't know what to do with you, you're a test case.' That's another reason I wrote this book – to help people through the system.

"The more I got into it, the more obsessed I became. It took me over a year, full time, seven days a week, every moment of every day – phoning people, hiring lawyers, going to commissions, and just never letting go.

"Because it seemed to me that every answer I got opened up 20 more questions. Many times, when I was going through this, I questioned not only my own sanity but my ability to survive it, it was so horrendous."

In *My Brother Peter*, which reads like a detective story, Berger does not reach a definitive opinion about his death. "The conclusion is that there was not enough evidence of murder" – but she invokes a sort of closure on the tragic event of three decades ago. In some way, she says, she had become stuck in her mourning, unlike her father, Michael Berger, a prominent immigration lawyer who died nine years ago, or her mother, who now lives in Toronto.

"It was she who told me many years ago, 'I don't think you've ever come to terms with Peter's death.' I always thought I had. We were very close and I missed him terribly. He appeared in every one of my novels, short stories and poems. Only much later did I recognize that it was true, I had never gotten over his death."

This book marks a departure for Berger, whose previous works fall into the category of mainstream contemporary or women's fiction. A 1983 book *Devotions* became a Canadian bestseller and several others have been translated and distributed internationally. Her most recent book before *My Brother Peter* was *Dreams to Keep*, a novel of the Holocaust.

My Brother Peter is certain to be of interest to general readers, but Berger says she is also "reaching to my constituency – the bereavement community. There are bereavement and suicide groups in every major city. Suicide touches almost everybody, and to dam up the grief cripples you. It doesn't have to be that dark secret that you hide away like an insane aunt who's locked in the attic."

Published by Robert Davies Publishing of Montreal (800-481-2440), *My Brother Peter* is 256 pages long and is available in bookstores or from the publisher for $21.99.

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Writing music part of singer's grieving process

By JOSEPH SERGE
Arts Editor

TORONTO — Sometimes it takes a tragedy to give an artist that extra burst of creativity. In Marnie Levitt's case, it was the death of her sister Stacey, who died in a car crash at the age of 18 a few years ago.

"After sitting shivah for seven days, you ask yourself what you are left with," singer/songwriter Levitt, 23, said recently. "You become so raw. All of your senses are heightened and you become very aware of everything around you."

Levitt said this heightened awareness has helped her creatively. "I am able to take things in far more sensitively, which makes for better songwriting. A good songwriter has to be in touch with her emotions in order to write from the heart.

"Grief is a very physical experience; your head hurts, your stomach churns, your chest hurts."

Although she has been playing guitar since Grade 10, she said she was not comfortable playing her songs for others.

"It wasn't until my sister died that my music became meaningful and made me want to share it with others. The pain that I feel deep inside my body is transferred out of me through my voice. Somewhere in that transfer the pain turns into healing.

"Music is so healing. A lot of my songs are about grief and loss, but some are about hope for a better future – they're not all depressing."

She says this "transfer" gives her music a spiritual edge. "My music gets me in touch with a lot of things I cannot see, such as my emotions and my sister Stacey's spirit. I hope this is communicated in my songs."

Levitt's brand of folk rock has a contemporary flavor to it – "folk rock with a twist," she calls it. Based on the two songs I've heard, it sounds like a jazzed up Sarah McLachlan meets Holly Cole.

Singer Marnie Levitt, 23, is in touch with her emotions.

"I like to push the boundaries of folk rock by adding a bit of jazz, r&b and alternative," Levitt said.

Born and raised in Toronto, Levitt is attending the Women's Studies program at McGill University in Montreal, where she has gained a popular following. Her musical inspiration comes mostly from female artists like McLachlan, Noa, Ani DiFranco, Me'Shell, Joni Mitchell and others.

"I feel more connected to women writers than men," she said. "I relate more to the way they sing, write and perform."

Levitt credits her parents with giving her a lot of support. "They definitely encouraged me musically. I think that expressing yourself and not being inhibited are very Jewish traits.

"In Montreal I get a lot of encouragement from the Jewish community; a lot of the people who come to my shows are Jewish students at McGill. On the other hand," she said, "being Jewish has its disadvantages. People expect you to pursue legitimate professions like law, medicine, etc. Sometimes it's difficult for people to understand you want to do something else."

Her diverse vocal range and strong songwriting skills have attracted the attention of top promoters and producers. She is hoping to record a CD with a variety of musicians in the next year. She's also looking forward to going on a major tour.

Levitt plays many shows in Montreal and has played in New York. You can catch her in Toronto Aug. 18, 9 p.m., at the Free Times Cafe (320 College St.) as part of the Acoustic Spotlight Women's Night.

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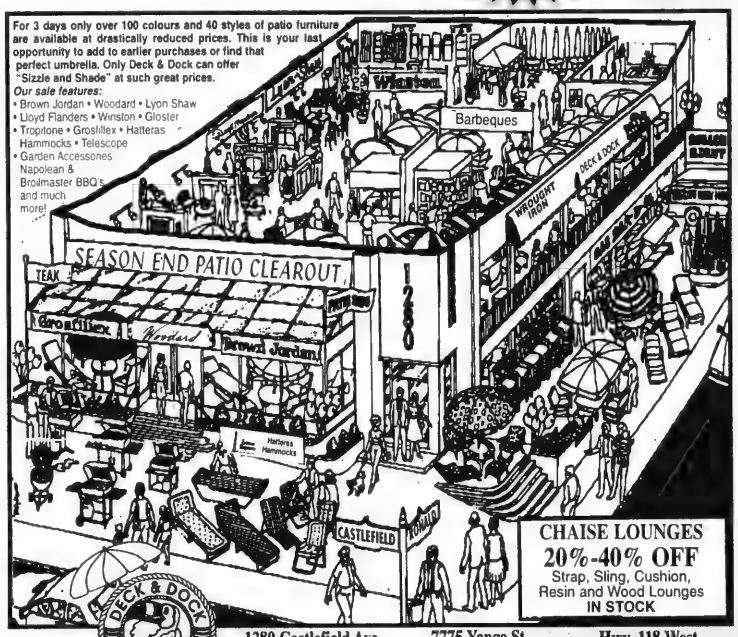

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Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

SIMCHOVITCH BOOK OF POEMS REPRINTED

Lugus Publications of Toronto recently issued a second edition of Toronto poet **Simcha**

Simcha Simchovitch

Simchovitch's collection, *A Song Will Remain*, featuring more than 150 short poems selected from a lifetime of poetry writing. Most of the poems in the volume were translated from their original Yiddish and Polish into English.

Simchovitch, who was born in Otwock, Poland in 1921, displays a wide range in these poems. They focus on a spectrum of subjects, such as the medieval Spanish-Jewish philosopher **Ibn Pakuda**, the pained Polish landscape the poet left behind, vistas of Siberia where he fled during wartime, and scenes from the Holocaust.

Numerous poems also focus on post-war Canada, which the poet graciously celebrates, as in this short ode to Toronto, called *Homecoming*: "The lights of Toronto/ greet me from afar/ at homecoming. They tell me,/ 'You have a place on earth/ and arms to embrace you.'"

This is the volume that Bernard Baskin, writing in *The CJN*, called "a lasting contribution to Canadian Jewish poetry," and which Arnold Ages, writing in the *Globe and Mail*, said would "permit English readers an opportunity to feel and understand the Yiddish cadences that have animated [Simchovitch's] vision of at least three different worlds – pre-Holocaust Poland, wartime Siberia and modern Canada."

A Song Will Remain, with an introduction by **Adam Fuerstenberg**, is available at bookstores or directly from Lugus Publications, 322-5113. E-mail [lugust@tvo.org].

* * *

Yiddish Folklore: Nathan Garnick Productions presents Yiddish Folklore Theatre in Musical Highlights from their past and future performances.

This show is part of the Summer Celebrations taking place at Earl Bales Park (Bathurst Street south of Sheppard). Show time is 1 p.m. on Sun. Aug. 16. Admission is free.

Selections from this program are also scheduled for performance at the Canadian National Exhibition, Israel Pavilion, for Centre Spotlight, Wed. Aug. 26, 7 p.m.

* * *

Comedy Fundraiser: An evening of comedy and music hosted by **Peter Henein** and featuring **Gord Disley**, **Ophira Eisenberg**, **the GTO's**, **Gavin Stephens**, **Tim Reichert** and **Soulmouth** is scheduled for Aug. 16 at the Rivoli, 334 Queen St. W., Toronto.

Show begins at 8:30 p.m. Tickets $7 at the door. Proceeds from this fundraiser for Comfort & Joy partially benefit The Teresa Group, an organization that provides various forms of support to children and their families with or affected by HIV/AIDS.

* * *

More Comedy: Comic **Lawrence Morgenstern** is making at least two appearances in the Greater Toronto Area this month. He's appearing with **Martha Chaves** and **Shaun Majumder** at Yuk Yuk's West, 5165 Dixie Rd. in Mississauga, Aug. 13 to 16.

Morgenstern, known for focusing on politics, sports and relationships in his comic routines – he's been called "the thinking man's Homer Simpson" – is also scheduled to appear at Yuk Yuk's Superclub, 2335 Yonge St. at Eglinton, Aug. 26 to 30.

Call 967-6425 for showtimes and reservations.

* * *

Perlman Returns: The **Toronto Symphony Orchestra** has announced the return of legendary Israeli conductor-violinist **Itzhak Perlman** to the stage of Toronto's Roy Thomson Hall – and this time, he's bringing his very talented daughter, pianist **Navah Perlman**. The Perlmans highlight a program of **Mozart**, **Chopin**, **Beethoven** and **Tchaikovsky** on two evenings, Oct. 7 and 8, marking the elder Perlman's Canadian conducting debut.

Tickets $72-$22.75. 593-7769, [www.tso.on.ca].

* * *

Judaic Auction: Sotheby's has announced another of its very interesting and successful sales of Judaic objects. The company's next auction of Important Judaica occurs Nov. 9 in its new premises on Rothschild Boulevard in Tel Aviv.

The sale is supposed to include illustrated manuscripts, books, fine objects of ritual silver and of early Bezalel, and paintings and graphics of Judaic interest. For a short time, consignments are still being accepted for this auction. Contact Esta Kilstein or Sigal Mordechai at 972-3-560-1666; fax 972-3-560-8111.

Sotheby's Tel Aviv is also planning a fall sale of International and Israeli Art on Oct. 8.

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2	Broadview & Gerrard (Kentucky Fried Chicken)					10:15AM	6:00PM
3	Dragon Centre (Hong Kong Bank)	9:45AM	Yorkdale Subway (Bus Lane 13)	10:15AM	Jane/Wilson (Coffee Time)	10:30AM	5:00PM
4	Commerce Gate (505 Hwy 7 Second Cup)	10:15AM	Kennedy & Steeles N.E. Corner (Tripmate Tours)			10:45AM	6:00PM
5	Bathurst & Steeles (Mac's Milk)	9:45AM	Miss. Golden Sq.Ctr. (Rear Entrance of Fuji Optical)	10:15AM	Miss. Chinese Ctr. (Rear Entrance of HK Bank)	10:45AM	6:00PM
AFTERNOON							
6	Spadina Chinatown Centre (Furama Bakery)					2:15PM	9:00PM
7	Kennedy & Steeles N.E. Corner (Tripmate Tours)					2:15PM	10:00PM
8	Jane/Wilson (Coffee Time)	2:15PM	Mississauga Chinese Centre (Rear Entrance of HK Bank)			2:45PM	11:00PM
9	Kennedy & Steeles	4:15PM	Broadview & Gerrard	4:45PM	Chinatown Centre	5:15PM	1:00AM
MIDNIGHT							
10	Spadina Chinatown Centre (Furama Bakery)					7:45PM	3:00AM
11	Kennedy & Steeles	8:45PM	Yorkdale Subway (Bus Lane 13)	9:15PM	Jane/Wilson (Coffee Time)	9:30PM	4:00AM
12	Spadina Chinatown Centre (Furama Bakery)					10:30PM	5:00AM

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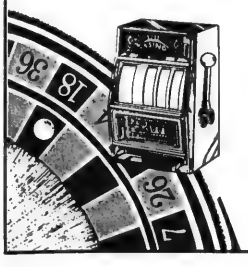

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Harpist boldly goes where none has gone before

DANIEL WOLGELERENTER
Student Intern

TORONTO — Harpist Joanna Jordan's self-designed Web site says she's "on a harptrek, boldly going where no harpist has gone before."

That she's a harpist designing her own Web site is proof enough.

But it's her innovative approach that really sets her apart. After all, how many harpists mix – or would try to mix – Prokofiev, The Doors and a Harpo Marx impersonation in the same concert?

Combining jazz, rock, blues, world and classical music on one program – with some theatrical flare and standup comedy thrown in – furthers Jordan's goal of making the harp, and classical instruments generally, relevant to modern audiences.

Many people consider the harp elitist and are frequently put off by the often "snobby and arrogant" classical world, she says.

"They're just out of style, and that's why a lot of classical music is dying now," the Toronto-based Jordan says.

But to those for whom pop and jazz harp are heresy, the 20-year veteran player notes that Mozart was as iconoclastic and popular in his day as rock groups like AC/DC are now.

With four albums mixing classical and modern genres to her credit, including two with CLAZZ, her ensemble of bass, harps and drums, the 40-something Jordan pushes a similar envelope.

Traditionalists were shocked, she says, when she recently won, by unanimous decision of the judges, the 3,000-member American Harp Society's (AHS) 1998 Concert Artist Award.

Award-winning harpist Joanna Jordan.

Awarded biannually, it's the most prestigious prize in the harp world and comes with a modest $7,000 stipend, intended to help the winner perform concerts promoting the harp at AHS chapters around the world (the misnamed AHS is an international organization), as well as finance some educational and promotional costs, such as demo tapes and brochures.

The goal is preparation for a date at either Carnegie Hall or Lincoln Centre in New York City.

To win, Jordan played excerpts from her concert repertoires for both adults and children, which include dramatic use of lighting and comedic impersonations of what celebrities like Tina Turner and Michael Jackson would act and sound like as harpists.

For the august AHS, it was all "very taboo" says Jordan. "There are probably some people who do not like what I'm doing."

Unlike some harpists, "I don't have an arrogant, snotty approach when I put on a concert," she says.

Although she's twice won prizes at the International Jazz and Pop Harp Festival, just being one of seven harpists chosen to audition for the June AHS competition "felt like I had won a bit of battle," she says.

"I tell you, they [the AHS audience-members] were sitting there trying not to like [my performance]," says Jordan.

Nevertheless, the 300-member audience of her peers "went mad" for her act. "They know how hard it is to go from Hendrix to Handel in a minute."

Evolving from a hunter's bow and arrow to the innovative electric harp used by Jordan – which she paid for by selling her downtown apartment and prefers for its lack of noisy mechanical pedals – the harp has faced extinction in the past, Jordan says.

Despite its popularity with both audiences and composers up to the Baroque period, "the harp almost became extinct," Jordan says, due to J.S. Bach's innovative chromatic music.

Bach's music catalyzed innovations like the key-based harpsichord and the piano – which Jordan jokingly calls "a cheap renovation of a harp."

The classical harp, restricted to diatonic music based on a seven-note scale, needed pedals to play chromatically, she says.

Even so, the harp was neglected for a period of 150 to 200 years, as composers like Beethoven and Mozart (who "hated the harp," says Jordan) wrote little for the instrument.

Harp is in danger today because, with 46 strings versus a piano's 88 keys, it's difficult, even with pedals, to play popular genres like jazz and rock, says Jordan.

Despite her talent, she says many thought her late start on the harp would preclude a professional career.

Originally a math and psychology major at George Washington University in Washington D.C., with plans to be an actuary or a dream therapist, she took harp as an elective, rekindling a childhood dream. By second year, she had become a music major.

When her father, a retired U.S. Air Force colonel, moved to Toronto in 1973 to open the Canadian arm of a lighting firm, she came to study with renowned Toronto Symphony harpist Judy Loman at U of T.

In the early 1980s, she landed a cocktail-hour gig at the Royal York's Gazebo Room, where she was exposed to the likes of Ella Fitzgerald and Tony Bennett, who both asked her to jam with them in their Imperial Room sets. She even once double-dated with Bennett and his bassist.

"A lot of people who first saw me at the Royal York dining room when I first got started can't believe I'm playing at an international level," Jordan says.

But it was the reception from audiences at five 1989 concerts in Northern Ontario which really sold her on performing for a living.

"It's sort of like if you have a little taste of smoked salmon, you say, no more tuna fish for me," she says.

After one performance, "the whole audience formed a receiving line – 300 people and everyone wanted to hug me."

Honing her performance skills, she spent 1990 to 1997 studying jazz performance and composition at Humber College and comedy at Second City, tapping RRSPs and borrowing money from her parents.

"Trying to create my art at a higher level has really maxed me out financially," she says.

But Jordan's gift for performance has brought her unforeseen rewards.

As a volunteer playing for palliative care patients at Mississauga's Credit Valley Hospital, she was recently asked to play guitarist Stevie Ray Vaughan's *Pride and Joy* at the funeral of a patient for whom she learned the piece.

The man's family said it would help their grieving process.

"I have received many honors in my life, but this was the greatest honor of all," she says.

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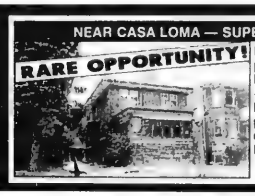

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Rare opportunity in this prestigious location! Spacious 4 bdrm. 2 storey overlooking ravine — country in the city! Oversized lot. Asking $3,500 / month. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

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BATHURST / GLENCAIRN — DESIRABLE CENTRAL LOCATION!
40 x 133 ft. lot, close to TTC, shops, schools ++, det. brick 2 bdrm. bung. now on property, $249,900. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

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BATHURST / YORK DOWNS — LOTS OF HOME, LOW
4 + 2 bdrms., 5 baths, parquet floors, 55 x 122 ft. lot, sep. entry to in-law suite, only $339,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / HILLMOUNT
Renovated det. bungalow on gorgeous 50 x 135 ft. lot, reduced to $309,000. **ACT NOW!** Call Richard Cash (416) 787-1712.

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Updated 3 + 2 bedroom, 2 storey home, 4 baths, new kitchen, breakfast room walk-out to deck and garden, hot location, asking only $339,000! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

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CLANTON PARK — LOVELY QUIET STREET!
3 bedroom home, 50 ft. frontage, separate entry to in-law suite, only $259,000. Call Esther Rubenstein (416) 787-1712.

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Fabulous 4 bdrm. home with library, main floor family room, kosher kitchen, finished bsmt. with kitchen & sauna! *Karen Seltzer

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BAYVIEW NORTH OF 16TH – APPROX. 5,700 SQ. FT.
$499,900! 5 bdrms, part fin. bsmt., gourmet kit., extras galore! Must see. *Ted Waxman

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ATKINSON-CENTRE – REDUCED TO SELL!
On Green Acres, gorgeous 4 bdrm., finished walk-out bsmt., gourmet kitchen, professionally decorated. Must be seen! *Lora Yakobson

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PRIME LOCATION – BATHURST & CLARK CUL-DE-SAC
4 bdrms., main flr. family room, white kitchen, w/o to deck, mirrored walls in family room & living room, main flr. laundry, huge master with huge ensuite, bsmt. 75% finished, flexible possession. Do not miss this sought after model! *Becky Wener

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BATHURST-CENTRE LUXURY END UNIT TOWNHOME
Beautiful 3 bdrm. with double garage! $$ in upgrades, 19 ft. rec. rm., kitchen & master bdrm., ensuite with sep. shower & oval tub. *Perry Waisglass

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BATHURST-STEELES LARGE SEMI
$279,900 - 4 bdrms., finished bsmt., L-shape living & dining, eat-in kitchen, immaculate! **Joan E. Landy

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CONDOMINIUMS FOR SALE

BATHURST-CLARK 2 BDRM. CORNER UNIT!
Largest unit in bldg., appls., locker, built-ins, value++$259,900! *Ted Waxman

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6 br., 4 bths., circ. drive, high/dry bsmt., 56x130. F. Sversky** 488-2875

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Upper Village! Up dated! 50' lot. Jeffrey Wagman** 488-2875

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Fab. duplex - 53 ft. front, 6 car. L. Reitapple* 488-2875

402 BROOKE AVENUE! $488,888!
Gorgeous new SOLD 4 bth., mn. fam. + 2 pce! Nanny ste! Fenced 30'x132' lot. call Sandon Schwartzben** 226-1987

1ST AD! GLENCAIRN/BATHURST
$269,900. 50'x133' lot. Tobi Smith* 226-1987

345 HORSHAM AVENUE! NOW $264,800!
Value packed 3+1 br., 2 bth. bungalow w/nanny suite on fab. 54'132' lot! Call Sandon Schwartzben** 226-1987

1ST AD! 99 GREENWIN VILLAGE ROAD! $262,800!
Bathurst S/Steeles, 3+1br., 3 bth., semi w/nanny ste! Move in cond! Sandon Schwartzben** 226-1987

1ST AD! 30 FLANDERS ROAD! $247,888!
Prime Cedar Vale! Mint 2+1 br., 2 bth. bung! Priv. 30' lot w/grge! Nanny ste! Sandon Schwartzben** 226-1987

BAYVIEW PROPERTIES

7 VALLEY RODGE 100'X250' $1,295,000
3 bedro SOLD utive bung. Professionally landscaped, mature trees, p call Mark Cowan* 226-1987

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Gorgeous reno'd home,109'x113'. bath, 4 bdrm., + studio, pool +++ Faithe Sversky** 488-2875

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BAYVIEW PROPERTIES

BAYVIEW/YORK MILLS 60'X175' SOUTH LOT
Walk to own public, St. Andrews, 2 storey, dble. gar., large master w/ens. Reno or build. Olga Guvenal* 226-1987

BRIDLE PATH/POST ROAD AREA!
$498,818! Fab. 4+2 br! Nanny ste?office! Gorg'us 90'x146' irreg. lot! Sandon Schwartzben** 226-1987

33 NORTHWOOD DRIVE! $298,000!
Bayview SOLD er 4+1 br., 3 bth., fab. 100'x75' treed corner lot! Won't l call Sandon Schwartzben** 226-1987

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AFFORDABLE LOT IN OLDE THORNHILL
Build 2500 sq. ft. in heritage area, trees + privacy - priced to sell at $229,000. Hedda Zaionz* 226-1987

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1 bdrm., den, balc., 3 bths., brks bar. Locker, 2 pk., 24 hr. sec. & rec., many extras! Nust see. P. Mack* 226-1987

260 HEATH STREET WEST! $365K!
Sun SOLD r., 2 bth., large terrace w/panoramic ravine views! Wo fast! Sandon Schwartzben** 226-1987

260 HEATH STREET WEST! $345,000!
Prime Forest Hill! Seldom available, 2+1 br., 3 bth., garden town home! Call Sandon Schwartzben**226-1987

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2 bdrm., 2 bath, co SOLD rox. 1200 sq. ft. $269,500. Allen Tobe** 488-2875

COVINGTON/BATHURST - 2 BR., $200K.
Decorated, 938 sq. ft., b/ins., value plus+++ L. Cooper* 488-2875

AFFORDABLE LUXURY - LOCATION GREAT
Courtland corner r/w exp. 1 bdrm., one 2 baths ens., laundry, den, sol. + balc. Ruth Bass* 226-1987

BATHURST & STEELES $163,500
2 br. + 2 parking + balcony + locker + 3 yr. new buld., 5 appls., walk to TTC - pool - tennis, security. H. Zaionz* 226-1987

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Lovely 2 br. condo + sol., 1294 sq. ft., 1 prkg. Faithe Sversky** 488-2875

UPPER VILLAGE CO-OWNERSHIP $116K
One bedroom + den + balcony. Russell Pearsall* 488-2875

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Same owner 25 yrs, 750 sq. ft. plus basement. R. Sud* 488-2875

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5 HOUSES FOR SALE

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RESULTS
RESULTS
RESULTS
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FINE HOMES

AVENUE RD/LAWRENCE - $879,000.
Fabulous, custom built home on 66 ft. frontage. Boasts 4-5 bdrms. Main fl. family room. CAC. Fin. lower level. Exceptional finishings thruout. Private drive, dble. gar. *Barbara Kaplan.

• • •

JUST LISTED - $698,000.
Spectacular home in country retreat setting. Yonge/Sheppard convenience.This one has it all - superior finishings, wonderful design for family living, fin. lower level w/nanny's quarters. CAC. Built-in garage. *Herman Wood.

• • •

HILLHURST BLVD. - $698,000.
Exceptional 5 bdrm. home. Kitchen w/walk-out + breakfast rm Main fl. family rm., laundry & powder rm. CAC. Private drive. Double garage. *Leslie Dennis.

• • •

OTTER CRES./KIMBARK
Stunning centre hall plan. 3+ bdrms. Main floor family rm. w/wet bar. Updated baths & kitchen. Skylight. Working fireplaces. Fin. lower level. Lovely landscaped grounds. *Susan Bandler.

• • •

CEDARVALE - $398,000.
Stunning renovated home features new kitchen & baths. Central air. Finished lower level. Private drive & garage. *Jacqueline Yaffe.

• • •

ALLENBY AREA - $358,000.
Charming 4 bdrm. Tudor features inviting living rm. w'hardwood fl. & fireplace. Beautiful leaded windows & wainscotting. Private drive & garage. *Linda Rose.

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LYNDHURST/WELLS HILL
Very special 3 bdrm. townhome overlooking a picturesque ravine setting. Features large family rm. w/walk-out, double built-in garage. *Edith Weiss.

• • •

SPADINA/ST. CLAIR - $599,000.
Walk to Village shops. Spacious 3 bedroom townhome with family room. High ceilings. skylights. Landscaped garden. *Edie Winberg.

• • •

BAYVIEW/DAVISVILLE - $549,000.
Custom built. 3+ bdrms. Main flr. family rm. Eat-in kitchen. Skylight. Fireplace. CAC. Fin. lower level. Dble. garage. Homes & Gardens decor. *Sharon Lokash.

• • •

BAYVIEW - $629,000.
Handsome 4+ bdrm. home. Main fl. family rm. + panelled library. Lower lvl with rec. rm. + extra bdrm. Fireplaces. CAC. Double garage. *Betty Cohen/*Lena Rauchwerger.

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ROSEDALE VALLEY CONDO - $449,000.
Spacious & well-appointed suite overlooking Rosedale ravine. 2 bdrms. + den. Huge balcony. 2 parking spaces. 24 hr. security. Quiet residential building. Steps to TTC & fine shops. *Bernard & *Elaine Pike.

• • •

GRANITE PLACE CONDO
Prestige residence boasts 2 bdrms. + den. 3 baths. Large balcony. Thousands in upgrades. Fabulous view of city & Lake. For details call *Edith Weiss.

• • •

HEART OF THE CITY - $249,000.
Wonderful 3 bdrm. Victorian semi awaits your touch. High ceilings. Original mouldings. Parking. Located close to College St. cafe strip & TTC. *Carol Cotton

• • •

COUNTRY HOMES

UXBRIDGE RETREAT - $585,000.
Stunning 10-acre estate offers exceptional home, inground swimming pool, tennis court, sculpture garden & showplace landscaping. *Bobby Simpson.

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BATHURST & WILSON
Detached 3 bed. brick home on premium lot. Finished basement, hardwood, C.A.C., Great Armour Hts loc. $275,000.
VIVIENNE OSEN
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THORNHILL - Bathurst/Clark
Just reduced $338,900
4 bdrms., w/sep. ent. to fin. bsmt., 2 kit., steps from synagogues. Best buy on street!
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AVENUE RD./GLENCAIRN
BATHURST/LAWRENCE
$488,000 - Quiet street. 2 storey w/family room. Priced to remodel. 50'x123' lot. Loads of potential. Jeffrey Joseph**

YORK MILLS/BANBURY $579,000
Spacious 5 bdrm., marble ensuite, marble foyer, gas heat, hrdwd flrs., decorative mouldings, neutral decor. Cheryl Graff*

DENLOW ESTATES $579,000
Fresh paint & carpet, neutral decor. Wet bar in rec. rm., 4+1 bdr., 4 bths. Priv. mature garden. Close to park. Cheryl Graff*

DEER PARK AREA $699,000
3 sty. w/CAC, hrdwd flrs., family room & powder room. 5 bdrms., 4 baths, fin. rec. room., subzero fridge. Cheryl Graff*

CEDARVALE RAVINE $719,000
Walk to subway & Forest Hill Village. Delightful architecture & inviting spaces. Priced to remodel. Jeffrey Joseph**

ORIGINAL HAZELTON LANES $959,000
2 storey, 3 bdrm. + den overlooking The Lanes. Walk-out from all rooms to deck. High ceilings. Cheryl Graff*

YORK MILLS GARDEN $1,499,000
Newly built stucco home, 4 car garage, quiet court, private large lot, circular drive. Walk-out rec. room. Cheryl Graff*

BAYVIEW - YORK MILLS LUXURY! $1,680,000
2 yr. new. Breathtaking design, quality!! 10 ft. ceilings, fully fin.. All bdrms. w/ensuites. A pleasure to view. Michele Noar*

POST RD./BAYVIEW $2,999,900
Imagine your own tennis court/indoor pool/home theatre/hot tub, his/her ensuite baths, library & fam. room too. Cheryl Graff*

OLD THORNHILL $3,298,000
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Split lvl., 3 bdrm., 3 bths., fam. rm., w/out, dble gar., don't miss.

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BATHURST STEELES
2 storey link SOLD rm., den, fam. rm., fin. bsmt., gar., great buy.

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TRI-PLEX BATHURST WILSON
2-3 bdrm. + 1-1 bdrm., garages, balcs., steps to all.

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3 bedroom detached, family room, fireplace, bsmt. with hot tub, jacuzzi, 4 baths, great condition! Look! Buy!
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3 bdrm. bungalow on prime lot 50'x150'.New kit. & appls.
BILLHA DANIEL, Sales Rep.
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Bath. N/Steeles - Lux. builders home, 4+1 bdrm., 5+1 bth., open concept, 3 car garage, 62'x300'. $660K. 905-882-1549.

Bath./Centre - off Beverly Glen, like new, 2 stry., 4 bdrm., mn. flr. lib., 2 1/2 bth., jacuzzi, 5 appl., alarm system, central air, lge. fenced pool size yard, hrdwd. flrs., many upgrades, spotless move-in condition. $399,900. 905-882-4770.

Bath./Drewry, Lux. new custom home, 3600 sq. ft., 4 bdrm., 4 bth., 6 walk-in closets, hrdwd. flrs., granite, 50+ windows, skylight, loaded. $619K. 250-5625.

Hamilton - 4 bdr., 2 1/2 bth, 2 fam. rms., fin. bsmt., 5 min. walk to McMaster Hospital, shul, day school, Yeshiva, golf. $315K. 905-526-8257.

OPEN HOUSE, Bath./Shepp 31 Kennard, Aug. 22&23. 1-5 PM. 3 bdr, L-shape, fin. bsmt Private. No agents 633-1796

25 HOUSES WANTED TO RENT

Shomer Shabbat family needs 3-4 bdrm. house. 416-635-7031

30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE

135 Antibes Drive, 1 bdrm., 1 bth, ideally located, private sale, no agents. Arthur, wkdays 867-3439, eves/wkends 491-2564.

REAL ESTATE Section

30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE

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SKYMARK
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Santee Leung, F.R.I. (416) 441-2003

THE MULTI-LINGUAL CONNECTION

Bath./Steeles - 11 Townsgate, 2 bdrm., 2 bth., sol., balc., private, $240K. No agents. Sam, 905-886-5522 or 905-763-0898.

35 CONDOMINIUM FOR RENT

SKYMARK - THE CLASSIC. Don Mills/Finch. Lux. 1 bdrm. + den. 2 bth., 5 appl., cable/pay TV, CAC, pkg. Avail Oct. 1. 416-402-8379.

55 ACCOMMODATION WANTED

Prof. working female 50 seeks room w/private bath in Kosher home, no bsmnt. 416-806-9784.

70 UNIVERSITY ACCOMMODATION

Thornhill, room & kitch., BAYT, TTC,male, $375. 905-886-2273

105 COTTAGE FOR SALE

WATERFRONTS

BELLE EWART
1223 Maple - SOLD
1291 Maple - SOLD
1211 Maple - new 2-stry., 3 bed., 2½ bath., yr. rnd., f/place, air, dock & boat lift.
1395 Maple - 4 bed., 124' lot, well, breakwall, boathouse, marine rail, motivated vendor.
119 Alfred - 6 bd., 62'x316', gar., boathouse, shed, nr. shul
1041 Wisker-95', 4 bd., dock, deck.
LAKE OF BAYS - 10 bdrms., 6 baths, 3 kit., air, tennis crt., winterized, near shul; 100'x600'.
SANDRA ROTH (BOTNICK)
RYBAK REALTY LTD.
(416) 782-0598

Muskoka/Bracebridge, modern 3 bdrm, lkfrnt, encl. porch, safe, sandy bch., Jewish community, low carrying cost, 905-731-4466

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

BATHURST WILSON

CONVENIENT NORTH YORK LOCATION

NEWLY DECORATED SPACIOUS 2 BDRMS.
- Large balconies
- Central air conditioning and heating
- Hardwood Floors
- Sunken living rooms
- Surveillance cameras and card access system
- Outdoor swimming pool
- Close to conveniences and TTC
- Underground parking available

125 Neptune Dr.
(416) 787-7171

BATHURST-SHEPPARD
Very lg. 1, 2, 3 Bedrms., ample closets, some 1½ baths & 2 balc., roof, laundry, ravine setting; pool, ind. pkg., 6 apts. per flr. From $850.
960-3238 - Bus.
631-9377 or 631-0388 - Super

Bath./Finch - Steeles, New 1 bdrm. 1st flr. apt., sep. entr., $760/mo. incl. 416-733-9401.

Eldorado, 2500 Bathurst, lge. 3 bdrm. + den, wrap around balc., southern exp., CAC, immediate. 416-783-0542, 416-787-9451.

80 SHORT TERM RENTAL

Bath./Steeles - furn. condo, 2 bdr., 2 bth., pkg. Aavail. Nov. 1 - April 1. Call 416-665-8303.

82 ROOM FOR RENT

Bath/Steeles furn. room, quiet home, shared facil. w/one person. TTC at door.416-225-6277

105 COTTAGE FOR SALE

Belle Ewart - 8 bdrm., 2 stry., fin. bsmt., C/VAC, CAC, alarm, dble. lot, modern, walk to shul & beach, avail. immed. 781-0101.

125 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE

West Palm Beach
LANDS OF THE PRESIDENT
Luxury Condos
Available from $50,000 and up
- Garden Court Villas
- High Rise Condos
- Townhomes

Call for free brochures and price lists.
Charlotte Sharkey Real Estate
561-640-4199

130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT

Century Village, Deerfield, 2 bdrm. condo, 1 1/2 baths, available for 4 months from December. Call 416-244-4845.

West Palm Beach, Century Village, 1 bdrm condo, 1 1/2 bth., balc., liv./din. area, kit. $3,500 US/season. 972-964-1144.

130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT

Miami Beach - Beautiful condo, one convertible. Video avail. 1 1/2 baths. 17 flr. facing ocean. 24HR. security. 450-672-4251

135 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT

ANBER MOVERS
(LOCAL MOVING)
SPECIALIST IN:
TORONTO ↔ VANCOUVER
NEW YORK ↔ FLORIDA
(514) 735-8148
1-800-561-MOVE

Sunrise Lakes, upper garden apt., 1 bdr., 1 bth., compl. furn., immac., new fridge. Close to clubhouse, satelite. Reas. price. Owner anxious to sell/rent season or long term. 514-486-2227

140 FLORIDA ACCOMMODATION WANTED

Palm Aire area for Feb. or March, 2 or 3 bdrm. furn. apt. Call Ray Kizell at 613-548-7919 or 613-548-8834 eves, wkends.

143 FLORIDA SHARED ACCOMM. AVAIL.

Hallandale Beach, nice sr. lady wishes to share with same, lux. 2 bdrm, 2 bth apt. Doorman bldg, choice loc., Nov.-April (or partial), $500./mo. 498-7221.

192 FURNISHED VACATION PROPERTIES

Palm Desert, CA - Desert Falls C.C., 2 bdrm., 2 bth. Overlooking lake & 12 PH, new decor. Call 805-255-5178.

230 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

This is a small ad with a BIG OPPORTUNITY. Call Susan 416-410-1715/905-826-9949

240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

SHIPPING/RECEIVING/ SALES

A capable person for a **Shomer Shabbos distributor.**

Successful applicant should have a pleasant personality and have computer familiarity.

Send résumé to:

Box #7084,
The Canadian Jewish News,
1500 Don Mills Rd., #205,
North York, Ont. M3B 3K4

Enthusiastic creative, Hebrew teacher req'd. Sun. mornings & Wed. afternoons for downtown school, beginning Sept. 1998. Successful classroom experience & teacher training req'd. Phone Joan Schoenfeld 924-6211 or fax Joan at 924-0442, please include references.

240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Independent Orthodox Day School (in Vancouver) N - 7, requires Judaic Studies teachers immediately. Fax resume to 604-263-7464.

Opportunity for self starter. Ideal for student, homemaker, semi or retired. P/T can develop into F/T. Computer, sales, office exp. important. 416-544-3516.

Telephone Sales. High energy level and willing to work hard? Quick mind? Good voice? Persistent? Leads supplied, hourly rate/commission, in business over 17 years, Thornhill location. Call Bob at 905-731-1636.

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

Avail. to work as a nanny, elderly caregiver, 3 yrs. exp., live-out, references avail. 656-9017

Cleaning lady with exp. Good references. Call 416-658-7161.

EC Access Employ. Agency
Filipino owned.
Nannies/ Hskprs/Companions.
905-475-2518 416-759-4333

Exper. cleaning lady seeks job, homes, good refs. 289-4392.

Frustrated by trying to find a suitable nanny? Let us help you. We have dependable, caring nannies who are thoroughly qualified, personally interviewed & pre-screened. All refs. are checked. Some are CPR trained. Low finders fee.
Wee Care Placement Agency
416-789-3070

High quality house cleaning. Call Dora, 736-1179.

I will clean your house or apt. any day of the week. Call after 8pm. Eva. 416-498-7822.

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

NEED A NANNY?
• No Fee to Employer
APPLE
DOMESTICS
(416) 730-0127

DOMESTIC SEARCH

Our Company is dedicated to fulfilling the domestic needs of your family. Tired of searching for the right nanny, housekeeper, elderly caregiver? We pre-screen, interview & verify references personally. Why not let the search end here?

CALL (416) 630-3773

GOLDEN CARE LTD.

There's *no place* like HOME!
Live-in & live-out Caregivers & Nannies. Staff training in safety, appropriate behaviour and even Jewish cooking!
On-going contact with you after placement.
LOW RATES WITH THE BEST PERSONAL SERVICE
Honey Hecker
665-1435, 665-4229

Nannies, live-in/out, full/part-time, in-home elderly care, FT, PT, RN's, nurses aides, cleaning. Bonded,refs. **416-630-0674** or **416-224-9907**. **#1 Domestic.**

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

Affordable nursing grad, exp., mature, car, refs. For senior care, foot care. 416-667-7117.

Polish exper. cleaning lady, refs. Call 247-4157.

Reliable housekeeper looking for a live-in steady job for elderly, speaks English & Hungarian. Refs. 225-4119, after 6pm.

Reliable, exp. cleaning lady avail. any day of the wk/wkend. Call after 8pm. 614-7334, Barb.

255 DOMESTIC HELP WANTED

Capable woman for housekeeping & cooking, must drive, 8am - 4pm, refs. 416-483-6780

Live-in nanny, 2 kids (3 & 5). Light housekeeping, cooking, references, Richmond Hill. Call 905-780-8191.

P/T Nanny/Hskpr, Mon.-Thurs., 3:30-8pm,Bath./Egl. Must speak Hebrew. Call Shelley 402-8379.

258 HEALTHCARE WANTED

Exp. cargegiver for elderly, orthodox lady. Live-in 5 days, light housekeeping, references. No Saturday calls. 398-8847.

260 BUSINESS PERSONALS

B"H

"At Soulmates we know that for every soul G-d created he also created their mate!" Find your mate now! **SOULMATES INC.**
Call **905-709-3868**
www.soulmates.net

Bringing People Together INC a confidential, personal service, call Ruth at 905-731-5204.

260 BUSINESS PERSONALS

Jewish Singles Registry, over 1630 members. Website, www.total.net/~jsreg. 483-4151

264 SOCIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Move over John Elway!! Michelle Black & Howard Marcus are the proud parents of a son, Ari Moshe, born July 20, 1998, at Rose Medical Center, Denver, Colorado. Maternal grandparents are Miriam Black of Denver and the late Sidney Black. Great - grandmother is Bella Miller of Florida. Ari's big sister is Shulamit Ilana. Mazel Tov and love from all your aunts, uncles and cousins in Toronto!! We're all on a Rocky Mountain High! **Go Broncos!!!!**

Marty & Terri Garson and **Donnie & Ophra Starkman** are thrilled to announce the engagement of their children **Tami** to **Jordan Cary.**

270 PERSONALS

Bathurst/Eglinton. Hard of hearing senior lady seeks 3 hard of hearing ladies for bridge games. Contact "Bridge", c/o 7 Broadway Avenue, Frontdesk, Toronto, M4P 3C5.

Looking for energetic & adventurous female travel companion, 25-45. Eastern or Western Canada for some time in August. Barb at 416-638-1532.

IT PAY$ TO ADVERTISE IN THE CJN CLASSIFIEDS
CALL TANYA AT (416) 391-1836
For Advertising Rates
CJN Classifieds Really Work!

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

To **Listen** & **Respond** To Ads call **1-900-451-4552** ***Ext.#*** **65**
The cost of the 900# is only $2.99 per minute

To Place Your **FREE** Ad call **905-276-6167** ***Ext.#*** **65**

The Meeting Place

Brought to you by the Canadian Jewish News

Women seeking Men

THEATRE & DINING OUT
Single female, late 40's, 5'4", blondish brown hair, hazel eyes, voluptuous, pretty, enjoy theatre, dining out, romantic walks, seeking a well established male, 48-50, handsome, caring, for sincere relationship. Ad# 1394

COME ENJOY LIFE WITH ME
Slim, attractive widow, 5'4", very refined, curious, adventurous, warm, caring, real love for life & laughter, seeking gentleman with a real zest for life to share all the wonders of life with. Ad# 1408

LONG TERM RELATIONSHIP
Jewish lady, blonde hair, blue eyes, seeking Jewish gentleman, 36-46, height & weight not important. Ad# 1412

KIND HEARTED
Single female, 30, Jewish, petite, attractive, fit, down to earth, great sense of humour, seeking a Jewish male, 32-39, sincere, attractive, kind hearted, for friendship,possible relationship. Ad# 1415

TRUSTWORTHY
Single female, middle age, enjoy dancing, dining, travelling, sports, seeking a male who is trustworthy, for serious relationship. Ad# 1417

LASTING RELATIONSHIP
Divorced Jewish female, 49, loving, caring, loyal, great sense of humour, enjoy dining out, dancing, long walks, travelling, seeking a male, 49-57 for lasting relationship. Ad# 1420

CAPABLE
Single Jewish female, 40 something, intelligent, sexy, humourous, enjoy dancing, fishing, walks, music, seeking a Jewish male who is available, capable & sensual. Ad# 1421

GOOD VALUES
Single Jewish female, 38, petite, easy going, down to earth, nonsmoker, laid back, good values, seeking a Jewish male, 35-42 to be best friends & lifetime partner Ad# 1424

ZEST FOR LIFE
Single Jewish female, single parent, seeking tall, fit, sincere, kind, witty, sun loving male, kids OK, honest & caring, 40-55 Ad# 1425

BEST IS YET TO COME
Single female, Jewish, 5'7", blue eyes, sincere, intelligent, attractive, enjoy theatre, travelling, quiet evenings at home, seeking tall gentleman, 50+, warm & sincere who has a passion for cooking. Ad# 1432

ROMANTIC AT HEART
Single Jewish lady, 55, 5'6", red hair, nonsmoker, independent with a great zest for life, seeking gentleman, 55-65, stylish, handsome for long term relationship. Ad# 1520

DINING & DANCING
Single Jewish mom, 37, 5'3", blonde hair, blue eyes, 2 teenage children, enjoy movies, dining & dancing, theatre, outdoor activities, romantic evenings, honest, outgoing, fun loving, seeking male with similar interests & qualities. Ad# 1436

SHARE SAME INTERESTS
Single Jewish female, 35, 5'5", nonsmoker, brunette, blue eyes, enjoy movies, dining in & out, quiet evenings cooking, baking, long walks on the board walk, seeking a Jewish male, 30-43, nonsmoker. Ad# 1378

ROMANTIC MOMENTS
Single female, 50, passionate, caring, sincere, enjoy working out, travelling, dining out, dancing, seeking male to share romantic moments. Ad# 1468

To renew your ad call 416-236-6644

ONE OF A KIND
Single Jewish lady, 5'5", attractive, kind, sincere, seeking Jewish gentleman, 40-55, tall, with a great sense of humour & traditional sense of values & professional attitude. Single dads OK. Ad# 1380

DESIRES OF THE HEART
Young lady, Jewish, 25, vegetarian, nonsmoker, good sense of humour, kind, sincere, enjoy outdoor activities, seeking gentleman, Jewish, 28-35, nonsmoker, loves pets & has similar interests Ad# 1381

LOVE CONNECTION
Single female, Jewish, great smile, love pets, kids & life, looking for Jewish gentleman 38-45, honest, sincere, caring to share the sunshine with. Ad# 1384

DINING & DANCING
Divorced female, 40, 5'2", teacher, enjoy exercising, plays, concerts, dining & dancing, nonsmoker, looking for male with similar interests.Ad# 1382

FOR YOUR EYES ONLY
Attractive, adventurous, upbeat lady, 53, mother of 2, seeking gentleman, down to earth, sincere, nonsmoker, good listener, solid values, very understanding. Ad# 1367

DESIRES OF THE HEART
Attractive, petite, modern Orthodox lady, early 30's, enjoy hiking, camping, movies, long walks, good conversation, looking for gentleman, handsome, intelligent, strong sense of humour, with similar interests. Ad# 1371

AVAILABLE
Female widow, 40 something, with 3 grown up boys, sexy, humourous, enjoy music, walking, dancing & fishing, seeking an available Jewish male who sensual & enjoys movies. Ad# 1369

ROMANTIC GOALS
Single female, tall, long legged, not slim, open minded, real woman, seeking unattached male 35-55 slim, single dad's & smoker's are welcome for long term relationship. Ad# 1373

FRIENDSHIP
Single petite Jewish female, healthy, financially secure, attractive, enjoy dining out, dancing, arts & theatre, seeking male 63-73 with similar interests for friendship & companionship Ad# 1331

FRIEND FOR THE SUMMER
Single female, 45, like dancing, dining out, music, long walks, nature, travelling, seeking a male with similar interests. Ad# 1333

DREAMS CAN COME TRUE
Single Jewish female, 35, cute, slim, petite, enjoy long walks, good conversation, dining out, dancing, seeking a Jewish male 32-39 with similar interests. Ad# 1343

Men seeking Women

INCURABLE ROMANTIC
Single Jewish male, 39, 5'7", enjoy music, movies, dining, dancing, seeking cuddly lady to enjoy the finer things in lifeAd# 1433

WELL BUILT
Single male, 59, 5'10", 182 lbs., well built, handsome, good sense of humour, nonsmoker, nondrinker, enjoy dancing, travelling, cooking, music, seeking a female, 45-52 with similar interests. Ad# 1398

FRIENDSHIP FIRST
Single Jewish male, 30, brown hair, brown eyes, variety of interests, sports, movies, concerts, always willing to try something new, seeking a lady with similar interests. Ad# 1414

OUTGOING & CARING
Single male, outgoing, caring, enjoy live theatre, seeking a female for a relationship, someone who is honest, trustworthy, loyal, good listener & communicator. Ad# 1379

ROMANTIC AT HEART
Gentleman, sincere, sentimental, affectionate, love to cuddle, enjoy movies, music, romantic times & winters in Florida, seeking a slim, attractive lady, 55+ with similar interests. Ad# 1383

WHAT A CATCH
Single jewish male, 33, 6', brown hair, blue green eyes, slim, handsome, spontaneous, enjoy dining, dancing, movies, outdoor activities, travelling, seeking a single Jewish female 28-34, attractive, slim, easy going, brunette. Ad# 1387

ENJOY LIFE
Single male, 54, tall, romantic, easy to look at, athletic, nonsmoker, enjoy sports, quiet evenings, seeking a single Jewish female who enjoys life. Ad# 1391

KIND & HONEST
Jewish gentleman, sincere, kind, honest, not into bar scene, seeking companionship of nice Jewish girl with strong sense of humour, kind & sincere. Ad# 1364

AN ORIGINAL
Gentleman, kind, sincere, intelligent, easy going, professional, enjoy dining, dancing, quiet evenings, seeking lady with similar interests for long term old fashioned relationship. Ad# 1409

STAND BY ME
Gentleman, 26, Jewish, police officer in Toronto area, educated, hoping to return to college, seeking good natured lady with good sense of humour, no more broken hearts. Ad# 1368

AMBITIOUS
Single male, 30, ambitious, outgoing, enjoy travelling, sports, long walks, dining out, seeking a warm, compassionate female who is sensitive & outgoing. Ad# 1370

DRIVES IN THE COUNTRY
Very conservative gentleman, 5'8", stock analyst, enjoy art auctions, drives in the country, looking for a lady or single moms, you don't have to be slim. Ad# 1348

SEEKING GOOD COMPANY
Gentleman, Jewish, 51, very good natured, witty, creative, professional, seeking lady, pleasant, kind, sincere, very good sense of humour, for future relationship. Ad# 1351

GREAT TIMES TOGETHER
Single Jewish male, 63, 5'9", 160 lbs , like to give a lot of tender loving care, enjoy arts, sports, seeking a slim Jewish lady who is elegant & proud of her Jewish heritage & religion. Ad# 1357

GOOD CONVERSATION
Single Jewish male, 56, enjoy travelling, movies, walks, have a good sense of humour, goo conversation & romantic, seeking a female who is attractive with similar interests Ad# 1372

MARRIAGE MINDED
Gentleman, 70, widower, sincere, trustworthy, kind, seeking lady up to 65 years for possible future relationship Ad# 1318

LASTING RELATIONSHIP
Divorced male from Eastern Europe, handsome, sincere, fit, professional, enjoy movies, dancing, biking, seeking a kind & affectionate female in 30's, slim & attractive. Ad# 1388

PLAYFUL
Single white Jewish male, no dependents, 175 lbs., blonde hair, blue eyes, fit, secure, well educated, seeking lady, slim, attractive, under 40 years. Ad# 1319

BRIGHT BLUE EYES
Gentleman, 50's, caring, romantic, handsome, slim, blue eyes, brown hair, good sense of humour, seeking lady, age & religion not important, attractive, should look good in jeans. Ad# 1322

DINING & DANCING
Gentleman, 33, 6', brown hair, green eyes, well established, financially secure, enjoy travelling, dining, dancing, movies, seeking a Jewish female, 28-34, 5'5" or taller, slim, attractive, well read with strong sense of humour. Ad# 1307

TRADITIONAL & KIND
Traditional, down to earth Jewish man, good sense of humour, fun to be with, healthy, good looking, kind & easy to get along with. I seek someone for a relationship, maybe marriage. Ad# 1265

Questions ??? 416-236-6644

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

A wish to reciprocate qualities of **respect**, intelligence & humour, is put forth to a mensch by a 35 yr old girl who is warm & caring, fun & fit, family & goal oriented. Our best is yet to come! 416-724-3395 voice mail.

Active, devoted, well educated, Russian female, 53, who enjoys nice conversation, art, meeting friends, seeks Russian speaking, well educated, gentle, optimistic male with sense of humour, under 60 for serious relationship. CJN Box # 7082.

SJM, prof., 40, 5'11", 160 lbs., outgoing, traditional Jewish values, seeks attractive, accomplished SJF, 28-35 with similar background. CJN Box #7057.

SJM: Retired academic, Ph.D. Tall, handsome. Honest, kind, empathetic and unpretentious. Seeks attractive, kind, mature female. CJN Box # 7084.

Very attractive, female prof., bright, fit, with warmth, wit and good values, seeks an easy going, accomplished, giving male prof., 36-50 with integrity & humour. CJN Box # 7081.

Young prof. 52 SJM, handsome, loves dancing & music seeks bright, energetic, SJF 42-50, slim & fit, well groomed, natural beauty, 5'3"-5'6" for lasting relationship. CJN Box # 7080.

*** CJN Boxes for Personal Companions Wanted ads are valid for 30 (thirty) days only (from 1st publication date). Replies must be received within this time frame in order to be forwarded to the correct CJN Box #.**

Replying to a Companion ad with a CJN Box Number?

Address your mail to:

The Canadian Jewish News
1500 Don Mills Rd.
Suite 205
North York, Ontario
M3B 3K4
Box # _____

CLASSIFIED ADS/ SERVICE DIRECTORY ADS
· CUSTOMER SERVICE ·

The CJN **requires that advertisers check their advertisement upon publication, as *The CJN* will not be responsible for more than one incorrect insertion, and there shall be no liability for non-insertion of any advertisement. Liability for errors in advertisements is limited to the amount paid for the space occupying the error. All copy is subject to the approval of the management of *The CJN*. *The CJN* reserves the right to classify all advertisements.**

Service Directory & Classified Ad Deadlines are Wednesday, 8 days previous to the issue, by 4 pm.

280 ANNOUNCEMENTS

Singles Set Bowlers is our name, we are seeking new members to play our game. Men & women who are 60 plus, come on out and have fun with us! We're a social league who has outings, parties and BBQ's too everything is planned to suit all of you. We bowl 2 games every Monday night, from 6:30 - 8 then go out for a bite. Give us a call for more info. Paulette, 441-2717 or Sam, 638-3409.

Welcoming new bowlers! **Sinai Ladies Bowling League 55+.** Every Wednesday from September 9, 1:00 at Bowlerama. Barbara Lewis, 416-497-0140.

330 OBITUARIES

PELCHOVITZ, Dr. Sheldon With deep sorrow we announce the untimely death of Sheldon Pelchovitz at the age of 48 in Cincinnati, Ohio, on the 20th of July, 1998. He will forever be lovingly remembered by his wife and best friend Ellen Essig Pelchovitz and his precious children Brett, Jordan & Daniel. Sheldon was the cherished son of Etty & the late Sam Pelchovitz and adored son in-law of Thelma & the late Joel Essig of Cincinnati, Ohio. He was the caring brother and brother in- law of Linda & the late Marvin Bronfman, Sharon & Robert Train, Mindy & David Frimer, Pam & David Baron, Linda & Martin Mandel. Sheldon will be sadly missed by all his nieces, nephews & family members in Toronto, Cincinnati & New Jersey, as well as his many friends, colleagues & patients. If desired contributions may be made in Shelly's memory to the Canadian Cancer Society.

ATTIAS, Alia - on July 28, 1998, late of 429 Walmer Rd.
ELLIS STERN, Diana - on July 28, 1998, late of 1 Northwestern Ave.
RANDALL, Anne - on July 28, 1998.
FELDBERG, Molly - on July 29, 1998, late of 3595 Keele St.
SAIDAKOVSKY, Ida - on July 29, 1998, late of 29 Silverpine Ave.
SHIAMAN, Soloman - on July 30, 1998.
BURKE, Sydney - on July 31, 1998, late of 48 East Lynn Ave.
LAZER, Myna - on Aug. 2, 1998, late of 136 Palm Dr.
SINGER, Moric - on Aug. 2, 1998, late of 2900 Bathurst St.
WEINSTOCK, Harry - on Aug. 2, 1998.
KABACZNIK, Jacob - on Aug. 3, 1998, late of 25 Ivan Nelson Dr.

Steeles Memorial Chapel

330 OBITUARIES

MOSES, Carolyn - on July 17, 1998, late of 297 Betty Ann Dr.
TALSKY, Lou - on July 17, 1998, late of 645 Castlefield Ave., #G03
VAILE, Arthur - on July 17, 1998, late of 23 Sherbourne St. N.
GRANT, Monty - on July 18, 1998, late of 10 Shalimar Blvd., #609.
LEDERMAN, Shirley - on July 18, 1998, late of 40 Rosehill Ave., PH B.
BARANY, Margaret - on July 19, 1998, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
FIENBERG, Bill - on July 21, 1998, late of 2075 Bayview Ave., K. Wing.
BARTA, Johanna - on July 22, 1998, late of 110 Bloor St. W.
SHERMAN, Etta - on July 22, 1998, late of 6 Glen Cedar Rd.
APPLEBAUM, Sadie - on July 23, 1998, late of 4300 Bathurst St., #212.
JACOBS, Constance - on July 23, 1998, late of 10 Tangreen Crt., #2102.
TREFLER, Meyer - on July 23, 1998, late of 25 Canyon Ave., #1003.
CONSTANT, Jack - on July 24, 1998, late of 2500 Bathurst St., #407.
ISRAELI, Jack - on July 24, 1998, late of 7 Millbank Ave.
LEVANT, Ruth - on July 24, 1998, late of 1101 Steeles Ave. W., #302.
THOMAS, Minnie - on July 25, 1998, late of 569 Sheppard Ave., #510.
JACKSON, Lou - on July 26, 1998, late of 267 Winnett Ave.
KIRSCHNER, Janet - on July 27, 1998, late of 22 Lansbury Crt.
GREENBERG, Joseph - on July 28, 1998, late of 22 Feick Cres.
CHITEL, Paul - on July 29, 1998, late of 101 Richview.
COHEN, Sidney - on July 29, 1998, late of 7440 Bathurst St., #102.
TEMKIN, Hilda - on July 29, 1998, late of 21 Wyvern Rd.

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

BANKAS, Abel - on July 25, 1998, late of 429 Walmer Rd.
FINSTEIN, Irving - on July 27, 1998, late of 4415 Bathurst St., #720.
TSESIS, Yuri - on July 29, 1998, late of 4383 Bathurst St., #503.

A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
HEBREW BASIC BURIAL
TRADITIONAL GRAVESIDE SERVICE

IZENBERG GOLDBERG *Monuments*

Serving the Jewish community for over 80 years

- Finest quality memorials crafted in our own factory - under our supervision
- Very reasonable prices

MONUMENTS CAN BE PREPARED WITHIN SHLOSHIM

EXPERIENCE QUALITY - SERVICE

3173 BATHURST ST.
(just north of Lawrence)
(416) 787-0319

335 UNVEILINGS

yad vashem monuments

UNVEILINGS for SUNDAY, AUG. 16

DOVID FRANKFURT ז"ל	Bathurst Lawn Chevra Shas Section (10) 11:00 a.m.
JOSEPH SHAPERO ז"ל	Pardes Shalom Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Section (UU) 9:30 a.m.
PERCY ZINBERG ז"ל	Pardes Shalom Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Section (UU) 12:30 p.m.

Personalizing Memorials For Over 20 Years **416.782.8995**

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
LILY *(Liba)* GARFINKEL ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Aug. 16th, 11:00 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Lodzer Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
MAX ROSEN ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, August 23rd, 1:00 p.m.
Pardes Sholom Cemetery
Adath Israel Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
PHILIP MINCER ז"ל
husband of Ann Mincer,
father of Harvey, Samuel, Stanley, Steven & Jason
will take place
Sunday, August 16th, at 11:00 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Beth Emeth Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

yad vashem monuments

Because the most important name on a monument is that of your loved one *(not the manufacturer)*

CONTINUING TO ACCEPT ORDERS FOR INSTALLATIONS & UNVEILINGS PRIOR TO HIGH HOLIDAYS 5758

3687 Bathurst St.
416.782.8995
Personalizing Memorials For Over 20 Years

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
MIRIAM (MANIA) ROSENBERG ז"ל
will take place
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Grabb excels at Canadian Open tennis

MARVIN GLASSMAN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Only in the world of professional tennis are you considered a senior citizen at age 34.

But American Jim Grabb, the oldest tennis player to compete at the $2.5-million du Maurier Canadian Open held recently at the National Tennis Centre at York University, feels he has just begun to play his best tennis.

"I thought in January that 1998 would be my last year on the pro circuit. But I have played a lot better than I expected. Even now at 34, I am learning how to improve my strokes. For example, my return of service is more consistent now than it has been for the past five years," said Grabb,who was the only Jewish player competing at the Canadian Open.

Grabb has rebounded from a poor season when he was ranked 32nd in doubles. (He stopped playing singles in 1996.) He has a strong 26-15 record in 1998, finishing as a finalist once and as a semi-finalist in three other tournaments, to maintain his current ranking at 13th.

Teaming with Martin Damm of Czech Republic, Grabb finished as a quarter-finalist at the Canadian Open, having his most impressive result with a 6-7 (12-14), 6-3, 6-0 victory over Americans Doug Flach and Michael Tebbutt.

In that match, Grabb's long reach (he is 6 foot 4) and powerful serve baffled Flach and Tebbutt in the final set. Trailing in three of his service games at 0-40, Grabb maintained focus, saving countless break points and leading his team to victory.

Since turning pro in 1986 after graduating from Stanford University, Grabb has won the prestigious French and U.S. Open doubles titles (in 1989 and 1992) and was ranked number 1 in doubles for five weeks in 1992. Grabb played Davis Cup for the United States in 1992 and won the doubles title in Tel Aviv in 1995.

"To say the least, I've earned a better living at tennis ($3 million in career earnings) than anything else and I want to keep at it as long as I can," said Grabb.

* * *

Gilbert a guru? To former Canadian, U.S. and Wimbledon champion Andre Agassi, coach Brad Gilbert is the secret to his success.

"I've worked with Brad for over five years. Brad knows more about the game than anyone else and he has settled me down when I thought my career was at an end," said Agassi at the Canadian Open. (Agassi's four titles in 1998 raised his ranking from number 122 to 11.)

Gilbert is best known as one of the three Jewish players who made tennis history (along with Jay Berger and Aaron Krickstein) by becoming the first Jewish trio to lead the United States to the Davis Cup in 1990.

"I've won 20 singles titles and was ranked as high as fourth in the rankings, but the Davis Cup victory is my most treasured memory," said Gilbert.

* * *

Drop Shots: Pete Sampras, the current number 2 player and perhaps the best player of all time, may have played at the Maccabiah Games in Israel for Canada had circumstances been different. His father is Jewish and his mother lived in Canada briefly when she was 24.

"I ended up born in the U.S. and raised in the Greek Orthodox religion," said Sampras.

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The Canadian Jewish news

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B2

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The Israel Family

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Toronto team to Detroit

DANIEL WOLGELERENTER
Student Intern

TORONTO — A team of 98 athletes will represent Toronto at the Jewish Community Centre Maccabi Games in Detroit later this month, says Grant Smith, one of two delegation heads.

The 70 boys and 28 girls ages 13 to 16 years-old, 60 percent of whom are members of either the Bathurst Jewish Centre (BJC) or the Bloor Jewish Community Centre (JCC), will join 20 coaches at the games Aug. 16 to 24, says Smith, the BJC's program supervisor.

Organizers expect over 3,000 athletes to compete at the 16th annual games.

The Toronto team, which Smith says is consistently "one of the biggest" and "one of the best," will join Canadian teams from Montreal Hamilton and Ottawa; teams from U.S. cities like Los Angeles, Dallas and New York; and national teams from places like Great Britain, Israel and Mexico.

Participants did not need to be BJC or Bloor JCC members to attend the tryouts held last March for the various team sports, says Smith. The only requirement is that one parent be Jewish.

"This is our most successful outreach program for Jewish teens," he says.

Toronto will compete in boys and girls basketball, tennis, track and field, swimming, and table tennis, as well as boys baseball, soccer and beach volleyball.

Smith expects medals from the "very strong" baseball, basketball, track and tennis teams.

Four-player beach volleyball is a medal sport for the first time at these games (regular volleyball has six players per side, and standard beach volleyball has two).

Unfortunately, there are only seven teams competing, says Smith, including two from Toronto, which received permission to send two five-member teams after having selected a 10-member team thinking regular volleyball would be played.

Smith says the Toronto delegation is still looking for sponsorships to help subsidize the cost of sending athletes – each of whom pay $665 for transportation, accommodation and other expenses – "because for every big athletic thing like this, we're always in the red."

This year's Toronto team will have its team uniform for the opening ceremonies – to be held at the Palace in Auburn Hills Michigan, home of the NBA's Detroit Pistons – supplied by Roots, complete with "poor boy hats" similar to those worn by the Canadian Olympic team at the 1998 Nagano winter games.

Athletes get to keep the five-piece ensemble after the games.

"There's no medal given out for the best uniform, but I think we're going to win it hands down," Smith says.

The Inside Back

ספרותנו

מאת: יעל זליגר

שם סידרות הדיג: שלוש נובלות
מאת: חנה בת שחר, הספריה החדשה, הוצאת הקיבוץ המאוחד.

נאמר על חנה בת שחר, ששמה הספרותי (שחר) מרמז על סוד כתיבתה. שחר נובל במונח שיחרור, או שחר היום. על כל פנים משהו חדש, משוחרר. אכן קולה של בת שחר משמיע ניגון בלתי-צפוי שכן הקול בוקע מהמיגזר הדתי, חרדי. צרכניה החילוניים של כתבי הסופרת (וסביר להניח שמרבית קוראיה של שחר הם חילוניים) ירצו להאמין שבת שחר מבקשת לפרוץ את מוסכמות החברה החרדית בהבעתה שאיפות נשיות כמוסות, ואף אחבות ותשוקות אסורות; מסוג הדחפים הגלויים והמקובלים בחברה הלא-דתית אך המוצנעים בחוגים דתיים. לכאורה, נותנת הסופרת עצמה עדות חיה לחיזוק ההנחה של "שחר" כשחרור מכבלי המסורת. בראיון רדיו גלוי-לב מספרת בת שחר שעתה, לאחר פירסום ספרה הרביעי, יודעים בעלה וילדיה על היותה כותבת. אך את ספריה עדיין לא קראו. אין בעלה עוצר בה, אך היה מעדיף שתחדל מעיסוקה. קרוביה ושכניה אינם יודעים שאשה דתיה זו, אשת רב חרדי, הישבת במחיצתם מוכרת לקהל הקוראים הישראלי בזכות כתיבתה המחוננת על הווי חיים נשי בחברה סגורה.

ואולם אני סבורה שטועה מי שסובר שבפניו תופעה של אשה דתיה, סופרת מוכשרת, שתקועה בחברה ממנה היא מנסה להימלט. את העולם החילוני כבר טעמה בת שחר. היא קוראת ספרות חילונית ולומדת ספרות עברית לתואר שני. והיא אומרת: "ישום דבר בחילוניות לא מושך אותי חוץ מהאמנות."

היא ערה להקצנה בחברה החרדית ואף שאיננה מעודדת תופעה זו, היא מפרשת את הדברים כהתגוננות מפחד התמוטטות המסגרת.

תכני הספרים שבת שחר כותבת פורצים מחסומים וחודרים לעמקי החושניות והסערה שבתשוקה. ובכל זאת נייכר סיגנון הכתיבה העדין שכולו צניעות והבלגה. נעיתה נוגעת ולא נוגעת. "היא נכספת לקרבתו, אך כאשר הם יחד היא חשה שהמעצ ביניהם שטחי, לא ממצה, שהמעמקים אינם נדלים. הם אכלו, שוחחו, נגעו, אך תמיד כמו בתהליך מכני, לא טבעי."

שם סידרות הדיג הוא קובץ של שלוש נובלות. שלושת הסיפורים, 'שם סידרות הדיג', 'שבעת ימי המשתה', ו'תיזרזה וקמילית' נמסרים לקורא בגוף שלישי, בשם הגיבורה-המספרת. בשלושת הסיפורים העלילה נרקמת סביב דרמה משפחתית ותפקיד מכריע ניתן לנשים ובפרט למוטיבים פסיכולוגיים בנפשן.

מסופר על אהבה אסורה בין גיס וגיסה, בין אשה מבוגרת לגבר צעיר ובין אשה למספר גברים. האהבות, כולן ככולן בלתי מומשות בשל מעמד ההלכה או מתוך מוסכמות החברה החרדית. הלב יוקד, הנפש פגיעה ("אם רק יאמר לי הישארי, אשאר") ושאלות חריגות נשאלות: "האם מותר לאשה לשמש מיטתו של גבר ללא אהבה...", אך את המוסכמות אין שוברים.

הנשים בסיפוריה של בת שחר חשות במלוא הכאב שבכמיהה לאהבה. הגברים חיים את עולמם מתוך איזו תרדמת חושים אפרורית. רק הנשים בנובלות אינן יראות לשאול מדוע הקדוש ברוך הוא, שברא את העולם, ברא אותנו כל כך פגיעים בסביבה כל כך בלתי מושלמת. "והיא הולכת ביניהם, נושאת את משאה, את לבטיה, את אהבתה...אהבה שמצמיחה לה כנפיים, אך גם מכבידה עליה כל כך." הגיבורות אצל חנה בת שחר פגועות אף שיש בהן עוצמה, ערגתן הכמוסה נואשת אך הן לא חוצות את הקווים: די אמות החברה החרדית. בת שחר נותנת דרור לחוש את להבת חיצרים, אך אין היא מכוונת לנטישת הסביבה המשפחתית, המסורתית.

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SINGAPORE SLAW

1 med. green cabbage, shredded	1/4 cup salad oil
1-1 lb. jicama (Mexican sweet vegetable that looks like a huge brownish turnip) peeled & cut in julienne strips	2 tblsp. sugar
	3 tblsp. rice vinegar
3 oranges, sectioned	1 tblsp. sesame oil
1 green pepper, cut into julienne strips	2 tsp. soy sauce
1/2 med. red onion, thinly sliced	1/2 tsp. dry mustard
1/4 cup chopped cilantro	1/2 cup peanuts

In large bowl combine cabbage, jicama, orange sections, sweet pepper, red onion, and cilantro. Cover and chill till serving time or up to 4 hrs. For dressing, combine salad, oil, sugar, rice vinegar, sesame oil, soy sauce, and dry mustard. Shake to mix. (Dressing can be made up to 1 wk. in advance and chilled, covered). To serve, toss salad with dressing, sprinkle with peanuts.

About families

Dear Susan,

I have a 10-year-old son who has Attention Deficit Disorder (ADD). This was confirmed recently by a psychiatrist. He was prescribed Ritalin because he behaves in a scattered and disorganized manner. Although he is coping well with the disorder, he is often the victim of people's misconceptions about kids with ADD, and about Ritalin.

Dear Reader,

There are three basic types of Attention Deficit Disorder – hyperactive, hypoactive and inattentive. Based on what you have said, I would suggest that your son is part of the third group, which is often the most overlooked. First you need to have a comprehensive assessment done in order to confirm or disconfirm the diagnosis. The inattentive types are often the least likely to be identified because they tend to be the most effective at coping. They usually demonstrate good social skills and tend to successfully master academic tasks until a later age.

The media has been largely responsible for perpetuating myths about the first two groups as well as about the benefits and pitfalls of Ritalin. The psychiatric community is also divided about ADD and the best treatment approaches.

I am a believer in multi-faceted assessment. School reports from day 1 should be studied both for achievement and for any editorial comments that could be relevant. I look for themes that are consistent throughout the years.

Psychological testing is helpful, but these children frequently underscore on the relevant parameters. Since the testing is usually administered on a one-on-one basis, the noise and distractions usually found outside the test environment will not come into play.

A structured interview with the child and parents separately is helpful in terms of assessing history and development. The inattentive group are the most difficult to test because only 30 percent respond to Ritalin. The other 60 percent live constantly with a level of anxiety or depression and will therefore respond more favorably to anti-anxiety and/or anti-depressant drugs. Blood levels and careful monitoring should be a key part of the Ritalin protocol.

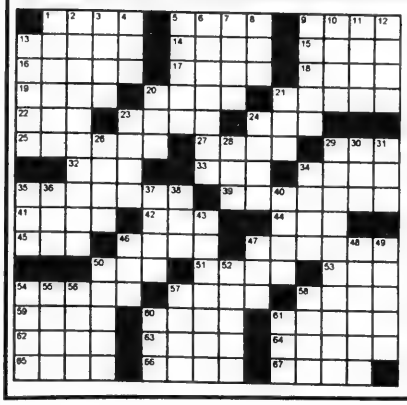
Ritalin is not the panacea to the problem, and other approaches must also be utilized. A structured home and school program will assist the child in developing and maintaining a set of coping skills that will compensate for the ADD. A multi-disciplinary approach is not accepted by many clinicians, with the result that you will often have to struggle to ensure all of your son's need are met.

Susan Leventhal is a psychotherapist with 20 years of experience.

The Canadian Jewish news

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

The Canadian Jewish news



Across

1. Niel Simon sections
5. Transmit
9. Agadah
13. Puppeteer Lewis
14. Purim month
15. Seventh king
16. Ithamar's Dad
17. Sacrifices
18. Cass Elliott
19. Spelt
20. Shamsky goal
21. Ted Key comic strip
22. "Barney Miller" __ Linden
23. Actress Madeline
24. __ Kochba revolt
25. Solomon's sweetie
27. Twelve wells site
29. K'Tonton
32. "__ Largo", Bacall film
33. Age
34. "Abba" to Marceau
35. Biblical killers
39. Moshe Dayan
41. Writer Ferber
42. Sound of awe
44. Hester Street time zone
45. Job for Getz or Sedaka
46. Chazzan's concern
47. Gives a tenth
50. Makes a "fey" a "pey"
51. Adam's son
53. Ithamar high priest
54. Userer's request
57. Robed
58. Gordon and Caesar
59. Airline
60. Tefillin letter
61. Burrows or Caan
62. Bloody river
63. Negev plenty
64. Schrieber
65. Mitzvah
66. Sheitels
67. Name on towel

Down

1. Benjamin's boy
2. Singer
3. Torah tones
4. Hebrew letter
5. Abraham's wife
6. Lou Grant actor
7. Shem (Eng.)
8. Salk and Sabin
9. Mother to line of Judah
10. Eleventh king of Judah
11. Jacob after the Angel
12. Israeli Mountain
13. Retail giant
20. Feh ! !
21. Noah's boy
23. Comedian Danny
24. Adam's apple
26. Zeta __ Tau, fraternity
28. Register
29. Gestalt inventor
30. B.C.E. word
31. Wiggling tref fish
34. Plague
35. Portion (abv.)
36. 1501
37. Seder plate item
38. Zimram to Abraham
40. Singer Diamond
43. Comforting service
46. Chatchke (Eng.)
47. Koppel
48. Medad and Eldad
49. Leah to Rachel?
50. Hebrew letter
52. Klezmer groups
54. Prepare clothes for funeral
55. Holocaust voice
56. "__ of Settlement"
57. Eighteen
58. Preserve from harm
60. Jerusalem to Be'ersheba (dir.)
61. Yes to Sven

These puzzles are the work of Kathi Handlerof Waterbury, Connecticut.
(Last week's answers are on page 36.)

Campaign for Fifty

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This Week

National

Messianic newspaper hits Toronto area again. *Page 3*

Murdered businessman donated to Jewish causes. *Page 5*

Shabbaton a first for Toronto Jewish deaf community. *Page 6*

On Campus

Shabbat in Nairobi was anything but normal. *Page 22*

Arts

Alternative theatre gives Israel a bad rap. *Opinion.* *Page 34*

Sports

Trainer keeps on track with one-horse stable. *Page 42*

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Shabbat Re'eh/Rosh Chodesh Elul
Candlelighting: 7:55
Av 29, 5758
Havdalah: 9:00

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Swiss settle out of court

But how will compensation be disbursed?

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — It remains to be seen how the $1.25-billion (US) settlement reached last week between Switzerland and claimants to Holocaust-era assets will be distributed.

But the lawyer representing claims in Canada fears the Swiss have made a deft move: By settling out of court, says Sergio Karas, "they have transformed this from a Swiss problem to a Jewish problem."

For Karas, who represents 25 Canadians seeking compensation from Swiss banks, the complex task of disbursing the huge settlement is only now beginning.

The money, which amounts to nearly $2 billion Cdn, will be paid out over three years. The historic deal is in exchange for the dropping of all legal claims, including those involving dormant accounts, against private Swiss banks, among them the two largest, UBS AG and Credit Suisse.

The deal also puts an end to potentially crippling sanctions threatened against the Swiss by New York City, New York State and California.

The agreement covers material assets, including dormant bank accounts and securities the Nazis stole from Jews.

Some reports said it also covers all claims against the Swiss government and Swiss industry.

Karas believes it does not include claims against the Swiss National Bank; thus, the question of looted gold is still up in the air.

As well, Karas said, the deal does not include claims against Swiss insurance companies, which are likely to face additional pressure in the coming months.

But the bigger issue, as he sees it, is how to make sure the sum is disbursed fairly without creating a Jewish bureaucratic quagmire.

"We have heard rumors that the World Jewish Congress (WJC) was pushing for some of the money to go to the needy," Karas told *The CJN*. "[But] we want to see account holders or their heirs compensated first and foremost, and the rest distributed to all Holocaust survivors.

"We want money to go to [claimants] now. You can't carve [some] out for the poor. No criteria for poverty should be applied."

He added: "We don't want to see a bureaucratic infrastructure created. We don't want some Jewish bureaucrat in New York, or some committee, making decisions."

Karas said the "proper" thing to do is to designate a large accounting firm to distribute the funds.

Continued on page 24

TRYING TO SAVE A HUMAN LIFE

Two soldiers with the IDF's special rescue team search for survivors in the wreckage near the U.S. embassy in Nairobi. *Please see related story on page 28.* *[RNS/Reuters] photo]*

ROSH HASHANAH PHOTOS

Reminder to all our readers, the deadline for our photo contest entries is 3:00 p.m. on Friday, August 28th.

IDF rescuers receive warm welcome — please see page 28

The News in Brief

CANADA

Lay Cantor Deported

TORONTO — A former Metro-area lay cantor who was convicted on several sex-related offences has been deported to France.

Immigration authorities placed Alain Oziel, 61, on a flight to France late last month.

In 1996, he was sentenced to five years in prison for sexually abusing a boy who attended the synagogue where Oziel was a cantor.

The Ontario Court of Appeal later reduced the sentence to two years, citing Oziel's poor health.

Sue Dobrin, a spokesperson for the Immigration Department, told *The CJN* that Oziel, who had been a permanent resident, was deported because of his criminal conviction.

CJC Offers Condolences

TORONTO — Keith Landy, chair of Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario region, was among the 12,000 mourners who attended the funeral of William Hancox, the Toronto undercover police officer slain while on duty.

CJC also sent a letter of condolence to Police Chief William Boothby.

Ad Campaign Launched

TORONTO — B'nai Brith Canada (BBC) last week announced the start of a national media campaign to create "greater understanding of Jerusalem as the eternal, undivided capital of Israel."

The campaign will begin with a series of television commercials on local Toronto stations. BBC says 1.2 million people will view the ads.

Delegation To S. America

WINDSOR — A delegation from Windsor's Jewish community will travel to Argentina and Brazil next week to learn more about those countries' Jewish centres.

Spokesperson Ruth Liebman says the local community is concerned about the plight of the communities in the two countries, and will encourage Jews from there to immigrate to Windsor.

ISRAEL

Oslo Invite Turned Down

JERUSALEM — Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu last week turned down an invitation from the Norwegian government to attend the fifth anniversary commemoration of the Oslo accords. An aide said Netanyahu "thought it would not look good if he attended, when the Oslo work is not completed here."

Former prime minister Shimon Peres and Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat plan to attend the Aug. 23-24 events in the Norwegian capital.

Draft Budget Approved

JERUSALEM —Israel's cabinet approved a draft of the 1999 budget. Finance Minister Ya'acov Ne'eman is proposing a budget of about $62 billion (US) that shifts priorities from battling inflation to boosting economic growth and employment. He set an inflation target at four percent, down from this year's estimate of seven to 10 percent.

But labor and social affairs minister Eliyahu Yishai stormed out of the meeting after charging that the budget would not help the country's growing unemployment.

WORLD

Cantor Arrested

LOS ANGELES — Stuart Friedman, a former cantor at Beth Israel Synagogue in Halifax, was arrested this month in Los Angeles on charges of distributing child pornography.

He appeared in court last week in his native Baltimore, charged with mailing a computer disk from Halifax to California. The disk is alleged to contain explicit material.

Friedman, 43, was convicted of possessing child pornography in Halifax last year, and fined $2,000. He now faces a maximum sentence of 15 years in prison and a $250,000 fine.

Clinton To Visit Moscow

WASHINGTON — Thirty-four members of the U.S. Congress have urged President Bill Clinton to visit a Jewish site in Moscow when he travels to the Russian capital next month for a scheduled summit with President Boris Yeltsin. Such a visit would "make clear our commitment to countering ethnic hatred and anti-Semitism in Russia," the congressmen wrote in a letter. White House officials had no immediate comment on the president's travel plans.

Delay Memorial Decision

BONN — Germany's opposition candidate for chancellor called for delaying any decision on a proposed national Holocaust memorial here until after the Sept. 27 national elections. Gerhard Schroeder said he would handle the project differently than Chancellor Helmut Kohl, who is trailing in the polls.

Schroeder also said he believed Germany's former concentration camps would have more impact as memorials than any monument designed by an artist.

Driver Taken To Court

BUENOS AIRES — Argentina's anti-racism unit is taking a Buenos Aires bus driver to court for assaulting a 14-year-old Jewish boy. Witnesses who came to the boy's aid said the driver tried to push him and threw his kippah off the bus after shouting, "No Jews get on my bus."

The bus company is also investigating the incident.

Israel Aliyah Fact Sheet

- Israel's 1948 Jewish population at the time of the establishment of the State of Israel was 650,000.
- Since then, 2,684,000 olim have arrived in the country.
- In the current aliyah wave (since December 1989), 874,000 immigrants have arrived.
- The peak aliyah year was 1949, during which 239,954 immigrants arrived.
- The aliyah low point was 1986, when only 9,506 arrived.
- The millionth immigrant arrived in 1961; the 2.5 millionth arrived in 1995.
- In the last decade, the peak year was 1990, during which 199,516 immigrants arrived.
- The peak aliyah on a daily basis was in May 1991 when Operation Solomon brought 14,200 Ethiopian immigrants in 36 hours.
- The title of "oldest immigrant" is held jointly by two women who both arrived in 1996 at the age of 111: Zippora Matiba of Chechnya and Rahel Shemshiashvili of Georgia.

Figures supplied by Keren Hayesod, Israel

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Messianic newspaper hits Toronto area – again

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A U.S.-based messianic movement has made good on its pledge to locally distribute its newspaper, which urges Jews to worship Jesus as their messiah.

Some 5,000 copies of the *Messianic Times* were hand-delivered to Jewish homes in Downsview, Willowdale and Thornhill to help spread the group's message.

After handing out over 1,000 copies of its spring edition in Toronto, the paper pledged it would distribute five times that many copies of its summer issue here.

The professional-looking 32-page publication can easily be mistaken for a mainstream Jewish newspaper. It is filled with color photographs and articles on Jewish life, synagogues and Israel. A careful read, however, shows the paper's central thrust: that "Yeshua" (Jesus) is the "true" Jewish messiah.

Members and volunteers associated with at least two Toronto-area messianic congregations helped distribute the newspaper.

People who got the paper "are really upset," said Julius Ciss, director of Jews for Judaism, the counter-missionary group. "[The paper] clearly shows the global scale of the messianic problem. It illustrates vividly what we've been trying to tell community for decades. Maybe this is the jolt the community needs."

The slick quarterly bills itself as the world's only international messianic Jewish newspaper. It was founded in Toronto in 1990, and was immediately denounced as another tool to convert Jews, especially Russian immigrants, to Christianity. Founder Zev Isaacs moved the operation to Bryn Mawr, Pa. in 1995.

Asked about the Toronto distribution, Isaacs said he would fax *The CJN* some quotes so the reporter could not "twist" facts.

"I think your attitude stinks," Isaacs said, and hung up the telephone.

5,000 copies

In his fax, Isaacs said the *Messianic Times* was distributed in Toronto's Jewish community "to educate Jewish people on what Judaism is: a personal relationship with the Living God of Israel."

One "problem" in the Toronto Jewish community, Isaacs' fax continued, is that Reform, Conservative and Orthodox rabbis "are not teaching their congregations about messianic prophecies in the Tanach.

"The Messiah has always been a central theme within Judaism and it is only the Messiah himself as explained in Isaiah: 53 who can take away the sins of the Jewish people in Toronto and give them everlasting life."

Isaacs said he believes "it is a matter of life and death for each Jewish person in Toronto…to personally find God and the Messiah of Israel, Yeshua."

Jeffrey Forman, spiritual leader of the City of David Congregation in Thornhill, said his followers helped hand out copies of the paper.

"It presents another point of view," he said. "People may not agree with it but it's the actual picture. It's an eye-opener. It presents the messianic movement for what it is."

Some 1,000 copies were distributed by volunteers associated with Congregation Melech Yisrael on Ranee Avenue.

Jack Farber, the congregation's spiritual leader, said the paper was handed out to Jewish homes to counteract "the bad press" messianic Judaism has been getting, and to show that it's "not a fringe, lunatic movement of a few people, but [rather] an international organization that should be given some credibility."

Rabbi Michael Skobac

Although he said he's also received several calls from people "disturbed" by the newspaper, Rabbi Michael Skobac, the director of education of Jews for Judaism, said this is just the latest offensive by the messianic movement.

"This sort of thing goes on all the time," he told *The CJN*. "It's just another manifestation of missionary activity. There are lots of other things going on, by dozens of groups in and around Toronto.

"We have to keep our eye on the ball, and this isn't the ball."

He said the missionary movement considers Toronto and York Region fertile ground.

One way to guard against all this proselytizing, he said, is "to strengthen ourselves Jewishly."

Jews for Judaism is asking the public to mail the *Messianic Times* or any other messianic literature to it care of 2795 Bathurst St., Box 41032, Toronto, M6B 4J6, or to drop material off at its office in the Main Exchange Plaza at 800 Steeles Ave. West, Thornhill.

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From the editor's desk

Common legal cultures

Canadians should be deeply interested in the young, evolving judicial/legal system of Israel.

For almost a decade, many of this country's most incisive, brilliant, and thoughtful legal minds – judges, professors and lawyers – have been actively involved with Israeli counterparts in exchanging constitutional law ideas and, in particular, in sharing the cumulative wisdom from the still relatively novel Canadian Charter of Rights experience.

In May, Canadian and Israeli jurists met at Tel Aviv University for a three-day Canada-Israel Law Conference. The theme of the conference was Litigating the Values of a Nation and was organized by the Canada-Israel Legal Cooperation Programme, a consortium that includes Canadian law schools from McGill University, University of Toronto and the University of Alberta. *(See The CJN, May 28.)*

It was the third such conference since 1992. As McGill Prof. Irwin Cotler told the delegates in Tel Aviv, there is a "strong connection between the legal cultures of Canada and Israel.

"Both Canada and Israel are parliamentary democracies," Cotler elaborated. "Both are exploring the possibility of judicial review in an evolving constitutional democracy. Both are mixed jurisdictions enjoying a civil and common law heritage. Both eschew in constitutional and cultural terms the absolute separation of church and state... Both are concerned with group rights, as well as individual rights. Both are multicultural democracies...grappling with the role and rights of not only linguistic and cultural minorities, but national minorities, the francophonie national minority in Canada and the Arab national minority in Israel."

The parallels between the two legal cultures is unlike any within the democratic, western world. As a result, as Cotler pointed out, *"there is a particular relevance for Canada, as Israel evolves the notion of the meaning of Jewish and democratic state."* (My emphasis)

Adding to that relevance is the involvement of a number of Canadians in the International Association of Jewish Lawyers and Jurists (IAJLJ).

The IAJLJ is a non-political group of Jewish jurists from around the world. It plays no "hard-edged" substantive jurisprudential role in relation to either courts or to governments. It is chiefly a social and educational organization.

Nevertheless, the association does perform the symbolically meaningful role of bringing together Jews from around the world to discuss issues of law, human rights and justice. Its bulletins are invaluable sources of information on legal developments in Israel and on Jewish law.

The association was founded in Jerusalem in late August 1969 as a result of a deep stirring among Jewish jurists throughout the Jewish world in the wake of the Six Day War, to explore common trans-national legal problems on the basis of shared trans-national Jewish experience.

At the association's first annual congress in 1969, some 350 representatives from 20 different countries attended. The objectives of the non-political organization were broadly defined in the following terms: "To study and seek solutions to the legal problems of common interest to Jews all over the world, and those concerning the State of Israel in particular."

Nine specific objects are enumerated in the association's founding articles.

Six Canadians were among the founding members of the association: Cotler and Norman May as vice-presidents; Justice Bora Laskin, Philip Givens, Prof. Henry Molot and Mark Rosenstein as members of the executive committee.

There are two Canadians among the association's officers today: Bert Raphael and Isidore Wolf. Cotler is its special counsel. The president of the association is Hadassah Ben-Ito.

The association's publication, is called *Justice*. It is always an interesting compendium of articles, commentaries and features on the most up-to-date developments in Israeli law and on legal matters of unique relevance to the Jewish people wherever situate.

The summertime issue of *Justice* arrived recently on my desk. It features interviews with the president of the Israel's Supreme Court, Aharon Barak and with Justice Menachem Elon, both of whom reflect on Israel's legal system 50 years after it was created.

Chief Justice Barak is a world-renowned scholar. He has spent considerable time studying and teaching in Canada. Indeed, he is scheduled to return to Canada for a special lecture series in the near future.

Chief Justice Barak is regarded as a judicial activist in Israel. But his activism is not popular in all circles. Earlier this year threats were uttered against him by extremists in the haredi community, forcing him to move about under constant personal protection.

Because of the "particular relevance for Canada" in Israel's evolving legal system, as described by Cotler and as manifested by the ongoing exchange of legal scholars, I shall excerpt some of the observations by Chief Justice Barak and Justice Elon in next week's column.

MBD

Israel's Jubilee 50 — *from the archives*

WE'LL SEE YOU IN ISRAEL

Family and friends in Moscow bid farewell to prospective new immigrants to Israel in the summer of 1979.

[Keren Hayesod – UIA Communications photo]

* * *

For the latest in *Israel at 50* news, check out the *Israel at 50* Web site: [www.feduja.org] or call the *Israel at 50* hotline 416-635-2883 ext. 706.

Greater Toronto Area

Murdered businessman donated to Jewish causes

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A prominent Toronto businessman who was shot to death last week in a shocking daylight murder was active in the Jewish community.

Frank Roberts, 68, donated to the United Jewish Appeal, the Baycrest Foundation and many other Jewish and non-Jewish causes.

Roberts, who made millions with his invention, the Obus Forme backrest, was at one time, a member Temple Har Zion in Thornhill. He had been a member of Holy Blossom Temple until 1996.

Rabbi Michael Stroh, spiritual leader of Temple Har Zion, told *The CJN* that Roberts had been instrumental in forming the temple's brotherhood.

"He was easy to deal with and good to his employees," said Rabbi Stroh, who delivered the eulogy at Roberts' funeral last Sunday. "He was very charitable."

Roberts also contributed to Beit Halochem (Aid to Disabled Veterans of Israel), Jewish National Fund and She'arim, a school for children with special needs.

Frank Roberts

"He was a fine gentleman," said Saul Feldberg, president of Global Upholstery, which manufacturers Obus Forme backrests under licence. "He was always polite and full of energy."

At a 1996 golf tournament sponsored by Jewish National Fund and Reena Foundation, Roberts donated backrests to all participants.

He was a sponsor of this spring's annual Baycrest gala, where he presented comedy legends Mel Brooks and Carl Reiner with personalized Obus Forme backrests.

Roberts was shot to death in the parking lot of his factory where he had just arrived for work on the morning of Aug. 13. More than a dozen police officers and homicide detectives scoured the scene but as of last week, police had few clues.

Police issued a call to the public for help with the case.

Roberts was born in Boston and had been a prisoner of the Chinese during the Korean War. He came to Canada in 1959.

He came up with the idea for a portable backrest after suffering a back injury in a tennis game. Obus Forme Ltd. was founded in 1980 and has sold millions of the trademark pain-relieving backrests in 26 countries.

The company's sales were estimated at $200 million annually.

Roberts was widely praised as a generous, kind man who took an interest in all his employees and his many charitable activities.

He leaves three ex-wives; sons Brian and David, daughter Joy and 13 grandchildren.

Goldstone remains active at 85

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Monty Goldstone, 85, has 20-20 eyesight and is a volunteer driver for the Hebrew Club for the Blind.

An ardent advocate of "life begins at 80," Goldstone devotes six days out of seven to volunteering for Jewish causes.

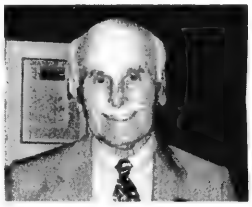
Goldstone, 1998 winner of the Man of the Year Award from Adath Israel Synagogue Brotherhood, heads the Red Cross volunteers on Monday and Friday at the George Hees wing of Sunnybrook Hospital.

On Tuesday he works with the Men's Service Group at Baycrest Hospital, and helps Adath Israel Brotherhood sponsor brunches at Baycrest Centre. He is also involved with the mazel tov entertainments once a month there.

On Wednesdays he visits members of the Adath Israel Brotherhood living in retirement homes at Lifestyle, Greenview and Donway.

On Sundays he is available for whatever comes along and a lot usually does.

"I wouldn't have time for all the volunteer work if I wasn't a bachelor," he said.



Monty Goldstone

Born in England, he was a manager with Marks and Spencer for many years, and in Toronto he was with Belmont Property Management for 17 years. He spent five years as a professional tour escort before he retired 13 years ago.

The North York resident was given a 20-20 eyesight rating at his recent driving test and gained 80 out of 100 on his written exam.

Standing 5 foot 5 and weighing 146 pounds, Goldstone says he is in good health, has never had cataracts, but gave up golf two years ago because of the expense of renting a cart and high green fees.

"People at age 80 and beyond have a lot they can do and I encourage them to get out and do it," he said.

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Yovel is a production of Keren Hayesod — United Israel Appeal in celebration of Israel's Fiftieth Anniversary.

Greater Toronto Area

Shabbaton a first for Jewish deaf community

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — The president of the Toronto Jewish Association for the Deaf (TJAD) said that when he was growing up in Windsor, he often felt left out of religious celebrations because there were no special programs to make Judaism accessible to deaf children.

Now in his mid-30s, Alan Cheifetz said he had to struggle through a Sunday school program and had no way of understanding synagogue services.

"No [sign] interpreters were provided for me. I would go to High Holiday services. I didn't know what was going on. I missed out on a lot."

Cheifetz said his experience typified that of many deaf Jews who often feel isolated from worship and holiday celebrations because they cannot participate fully in synagogue services for the hearing.

He said he plans to reach out to those Jews through TJAD's first Shabbaton, to be held in honor of Israel's 50th anniversary Aug. 28 to 30 at the Howard Johnston Hotel in Scarborough. He stressed that the Shabbaton is for all Jewish deaf throughout the Greater Toronto Area (GTA) regardless of their religious affiliation.

"This weekend for the deaf is the first of its kind in the country where deaf Jews can meet each other, plug into their Jewishness and celebrate Israel's 50th anniversary."

What makes this inaugural Shabbaton particularly unique is that it will be lead by two deaf rabbis, Cheifetz said. "This weekend is significant. For one thing the deaf Jews of Toronto can look up to one of their own who has an insider's viewpoint of deafness; second, a deaf rabbi demonstrates that the deaf can do anything they set their minds to."

Rabbi Chaim Tzvi Kakon

Rabbi David Rabinowitz

Each of the two rabbis have a connection to Toronto, Dr. Hartley Bressler, TJAD's chair of development, told *The CJN*.

Rabbi David Rabinowitz, the first deaf rabbi ordained in the United States, is a descendant of a long line of distinguished rabbis and is the grandson of Rabbi Naftoli Tzvi Horowitz, who was a rabbi in Toronto.

Rabbi Chaim Tzvi Kakon, Rabbi Rabinowitz's grandson, grew up in Detroit, but attended Toronto's Ner Israel Yeshiva, where he graduated as valedictorian.

Bressler said both he and Rabbi Kakon share the same dream: to set up a Jewish educational institute for deaf children so they can have the same access to day school education as other Jewish children.

One of the biggest obstacles for deaf Jews is their limited knowledge of Judaism, Bressler said, drawing an analogy to Jews from the former Soviet Union, many of whom never received a Jewish education in their homeland.

The Shabbaton will expose participants to "a unique Shabbat service that will be unlike anything else in North America."

But there's an "interesting twist," Bressler added. "While the services are geared to the deaf, organizers are making sure that the hearing people feel included. For the benefit of the hearing people in attendance, there will be voice translation [of the signing]."

Both Bressler and Cheifetz expressed gratitude to UJA Federation's action committee on Jewish continuity, which awarded TJAD a $15,000 grant to subsidize the Shabbaton. It makes the retreat more affordable for participants and offsets the cost of bringing the rabbis and their families from the United States to Toronto, they explained.

In addition to prayer services, children's programs and entertainment by a mime and a magician, the Shabbaton will also include workshops on being Jewish and deaf, as well as lectures by guest speakers such as York University humanities professor Dr. Carl Ehrlich, Marc Bookbinder of UJA Federation and Dr. Arnold Noyek, executive director of the Isabel Silverman Canada-International Scientific Exchange Program (CISEPO).

For more information about the Shabbaton call Joely Bernstein at 416-785-7949, or e-mail her at [joely@palomablanca.com]. Or contact Shabbaton co-chair Jack Osten via TTY at 416-756-9951.

CORRECTION

In last week's article about Judy Engel, she was incorrectly referred to as the 1998 UJA Women's Campaign chair. She is the 1999 UJA Women's Campaign chair. Agi Mandell was the 1998 chair. *The CJN* regrets the error.

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Mon. Eve.	Sept. 21
Tues. Morn.	Sept. 22

YOM KIPPUR

Tues. Eve.	*Kol Nidre*	Sept. 29
Wed. Morn.	*Yiskor*	Sept. 30
Wed. Aft.	*Mincha*	Sept. 30

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The Toronto Chapter of the
Dysautonomia Foundation
mourns the passing of our Founding President
BERTHA DERMER ז"ל
Her extraordinary devotion and dedication to improving the quality of life of Jewish children afflicted with Familial Dysautonomia was boundless.
Our sincerest condolences to her husband Angel and to the entire family.
Bertha was a courageous woman who dreamed while not asleep.
Tova Israeli, Dena Weiman
Co-Presidents, F.D. Toronto

Hearings for alleged Nazi war criminals

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Deportation hearings against two suspected Nazi war criminals are scheduled to take place in the coming weeks.

A hearing to determine whether Ludwig Nebel should be deported for concealing his Nazi past is scheduled Aug. 28 in Niagara Falls, where Nebel lives. Immigration officials have suggested the hearing be transferred to Toronto.

Nebel, who is not a Canadian citizen, is alleged to have taken part in a "resettlement" of between 200 and 250 Jews who were handed over to the Gestapo in the Galician town of Sambor.

According to the war crimes unit, Nebel joined the Nazi party in Austria in 1933 and the SS in 1938.

And deportation proceedings against Wasily Bogutin of Toronto, 89, will take place this fall, perhaps as soon as next month, officials say.

In a rare move, the federal cabinet stripped Bogutin of his Canadian citizenship last month and ordered him to face a deportation hearing.

Last February, the Federal Court of Canada ruled that Bogutin lied about his activities in Nazi-occupied Ukraine when he immigrated to Canada in 1951.

The court, which had even convened in Ukraine to gather evidence against him, found Bogutin gained entry to Canada "by false representation or fraud."

The Justice Department's war crimes unit has launched 15 cases since 1995, when Ottawa shifted away from criminal trials to denaturalizing and deporting suspects.

Bogutin's case was the first of those to go to court. He is alleged to have served in a police district in the Ukraine and collaborated with the occupying Nazis.

Accusations against him include participating in the murder of civilians, deporting civilians to camps in Germany and rounding up people for use as slave laborers for the Nazis.

Bogutin would be only the third suspected Nazi war criminal to be deported from Canada. Konrads Kalejs of Toronto was a visitor and was deported last year, while Jacob Luitjens was deported to Holland in 1992.

Two other suspects, Ladislaus Csatari of Toronto and Monerts Maciukas of St. Lambert, Que., were also stripped of their Canadian citizenship. Csatari left voluntarily last year, while Maciukas has said he would not contest the government's action.

Three suspects – Antanas Kenstavicius, Josef Nemsila and Erichs Tobiass – have died.

The trials of two suspects, Vladimir Katriuk of Montreal and Peteris Vitols of Toronto, have ended and are awaiting judgment.

According to war crimes unit director Paul Vickery, six cases will begin between now and December: those of Nebel, Helmut Oberlander of Kitchener, Johann Dueck of St. Catharines, Wasyl Odynsky of Scarborough, Michael Baumgartner of Windsor, and Eduards Podins of Burnaby, B.C.

Justice department and Federal Court officials are in Riga, Latvia this month to gather evidence against Podins, 80. He is alleged to have been a police officer in the Valmiera camp in Latvia, where political prisoners were confined, tortured and executed.

He's also alleged to have lied about his past when he entered Canada.

SCHOOL GIRLS KNIT FOR BAYCREST RESIDENTS

Edith Kapan and her 1997/98 Grade 4 class at Eitz Chaim School, Spring Farm branch in Thornhill, hold a blanket they knitted for residents of Baycrest Centre. Each of the students knitted one square, then all the squares were joined together, with the help of mothers and grandmothers.

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Cowards

Terrorists are cowards. They live in shadows, faceless murderers who cringe in the full light but find purpose and meaning in the sly, stealthy slaughter of defenseless victims, men, women, children, babies.

Cowardice is not only their *modus operandi*; it is part of their very deep essence. Behind a mask, behind a slogan or behind the protective shelter of evil governments and craven despots, they are always hiding.

Two weeks ago, 257 people were killed in the bombings of the U.S. embassies in Nairobi, Kenya and Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. More than 5,000 people were injured. Last week, a car bomb tore to shreds 28 people in Omagh, Northern Ireland. More than 220 people were injured.

In greeting the IDF's Home Front Command rescue team last week upon its return to Israel from the bombed-out rubble in Nairobi, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu spoke an irreducible truth about terrorism when he said: "It was not just our war, or that of the U.S., Kenya or Tanzania, but that of the whole democratic world."

Indeed, no country has been or is immune from terrorism. The murderers have found new shadows in which to hide and new victims to kill or to maim on the streets of Europe, South America, the United States, Africa, the Middle East and Asia.

Is it then, not past the time for the peace loving, law abiding, decent countries of the world to coalesce against the perpetrators of terrorism? Is it not, finally, past the time for the peace loving, law abiding, decent countries of the world to cast out from all international trading arrangements and quasi-legislative forums the regimes that sponsor, fund or otherwise encourage terrorism?

Canada has always been in the vanguard of innovative, morality-affirming foreign policy initiatives. We therefore urge the government to undertake a new initiative. This initiative would begin the process of organizing all willing states, not only the democracies, to pressure, *publicly and in the open*, rather than behind the scenes, those regimes that inspire, finance and equip these cowardly, but lethal shadow dwellers.

Tangled web

We also urge the government of Canada, which has in the past stated it will do all it can to advance the Middle East peace process, to register a severe protest with Yasser Arafat regarding the Web site of Fatah, the organization he leads. As we discovered last week, Fatah's constitution opposes "any political solution offered as an alternative to demolishing Zionist occupation in Palestine." It also calls for the "complete liberation of Palestine and eradication of Zionist economic, political, military and cultural existence."

When told of its contents, Fares Kadurah, a member of Fatah's top representative body in the West Bank and a member of the Palestinian Authority, thought only to criticize the negative publicity as an Israeli stunt. He could not find the words to utterly reject and condemn the substance of the offensive language. Kadurah observed that "Fatah supports the peace process." But he added that "if we fail, we shall maintain the option of popular struggle, *including reasonable violence*..." No doubt the bombers in Omagh, Dar es Salaam and Nairobi also considered their own deadly handiwork to have been merely reasonable violence too.

Arafat must immediately publicly reject his movement's constitution. He must also rebuke Kadurah for his unwillingness to reject it outright. For its part, the Canadian government must immediately let Arafat know that it is vital for peace that he do so.

WISDOM OF THE AGES
"Necessity can break iron."
Yiddish saying

Dry Bones
THIS KILLER HEAT WAVE IS CAUSED BY EL NIÑO.
DON'T BE SILLY!
THE HOLE IN THE OZONE IS DOING IT.
WELL... WHATEVER THE CAUSE IS...
ISRAEL'S CURRENT WEATHER IS A CATASTROPHIC DISASTER!
YUP. JUST LIKE..
OUR INT'L RELATIONS, ROAD SAFETY, THE "PEACE" PROCESS, AND LOSING NBC FROM CABLE TV!
©Dry Bones

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War crimes list does not include settlements

Gerald Steinberg, in a column titled "The UN: Still a source of hatred" (*CJN*, July 30), wrote: "The UN-sponsored conference [on an international criminal court in Rome from June 15 to July 17] bowed to Egyptian and Syrian pressure to include 'settlements in occupied territories' in the list of war crimes."

I was a member of the Canadian delegation to the Rome conference as a nongovernmental adviser and had a chance to follow the proceedings closely. I am mystified by Steinberg's quote.

What most closely approximates the Steinberg quote is a provision in the draft statute used for negotiating purposes throughout the conference, which had as an option that the definition of war crimes include "the establishment of settlers in an occupied territory and changes to the demographic composition of an occupied territory." This option was rejected by the conference and is not in the statute as approved.

I accept the general drift of Steinberg's article that the UN is still a source of hatred towards Israel. However, for that criticism of the UN to be convincing, it must be accurate.

David Matas
Winnipeg

Can't break into 'closed' Toronto scene

I was much moved to read the letter about the position of Jewish singles recently arrived in Toronto. (*CJN*, Aug. 6) It is a terrible thing that single Jewish men and women have come to a populous Jewish centre and have to remain single, unattached and without partners, never to have children. But perhaps this is not only a Jewish concern. Did someone say that Jews take on the attributes of their environment? Perhaps they have to.

My wife and I came to Toronto 20 years ago, after she retired from a successful teaching career at McGill University. Her French was poor, and she wished to continue her work professionally.

Knowing only former Montrealers, we tried to get acquainted with Toronto people. To this end, we would from time to time invite people we had met, for dinner and a pleasant evening. My wife was an excellent cook and an excellent hostess.

The invitees were a mix of Jew and gentile. Over the years, we thus entertained probably more than 60 or 70 such couples, separately or in a small group. Everyone said they had a lovely dinner, a most enjoyable evening, and left. We never saw one of them again, though one woman did come back to retrieve an umbrella she had left behind.

Now I may be traducing Torontonians, but during our many years in Montreal, whenever we invited people for an evening, everyone, without exception, would sooner or later invite us back, whether for dinner or otherwise. We thus formed many good and lasting friendships that lasted even after we left Montreal.

Does this mean that Montrealers are different from Torontonians, perhaps more warm-blooded, perhaps less shy to get close to strangers? The answer is beyond me. More than once I have heard from recently arrived South Africans, of the impossibility for them to break into Toronto circles.

It means that Jewish singles, many of them lovely people, will have a hard time finding suitable partners, when they come from outside Toronto. It's a great pity for all of us.

John Freeman
Toronto

Letters to Arafat a waste of time

Re: Editorial, "Set an Example" (*CJN*, July 30).

Send a letter to Yasser Arafat?

As a former president of a B'nai Brith Lodge and a former spokesperson for the CZO, I find CPMJO's (Conference of Presidents of Major Jewish Organizations) and your naivete hard to believe.

What would Arafat's response to your letters mean?

Is it possible *The CJN* hasn't read what Arafat has said repeatedly? What part of "Don't believe anything I say or anything I sign" isn't clear?

George Avery
Toronto

Calling all New Zealanders

Assuming there are other New Zealanders (besides myself) living in Canada, they may be interested to know that Habonim New Zealand is holding its 50th Reunion in Wellington Jan. 8 to 10, 1999. If they care to contact me, I would be happy to pass on relevant details to them.

Janice Bernstein
Toronto
416-781-1090

Veterans hold reunion

For the first time, the Burma Bombers Association is holding its biennial reunion in Toronto, Oct. 1, 2, and 3, 1999, at the Sheraton Centre.

As well as renewing old friendships, this group of veterans will be remembering 454 Canadian airmen who did not return, who lie in the war cemeteries in Rangoon, Singapore, Ranchi and Taukkyan.

C. Nat Kaufman
Toronto

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures. Letters sent by e-mail must also include the sender's municipal address.

Perspectives

Recalling Zionism's Sephardi names

By SARAH TAIEB-CARLEN

Imbued with ideas such as historian Jacob Talmon's that "the State of Israel is a direct continuation of the culture and society created by the secular Jews of eastern Europe," there has been very little recognition given to the events or the people of the pre-1880s aliyot – the Sephardi Zionists who, as urban pioneers, helped build many Israeli cities.

Historians have also ignored those who, impelled by faith and a strong love for Zion, have throughout the centuries, alone, with their families or with their whole communities, undertaken the always arduous and sometimes dangerous trip to Palestine, by foot or on horseback, not always lucky enough or strong enough to reach their much-cherished destination.

At the time of Israel's 50th birthday, no doubt Theodor Herzl, Max Nordau (both of whom, incidentally, asserted that they were of Sephardi ancestry), Menachem Begin and Zev Jabotinsky will often be mentioned, and rightly so. However, such Spanish kabbalistic and literary figures as Avraham Abulafia, Dona Gracia Nasi and Moshe Zacuto will likely not be mentioned, and if they were, they would be unknown to most people.

A crucial characteristic of Sephardi Zionism is, according to Hebrew University Prof. Daniel Elazar, its "unquestioned merging of religious and political aspirations. Having never undergone secularization…or embraced otherworldly pietism…unlike the Ashkenazim of the modern epoch, the Sephardi world was earlier attuned to seeking political solutions to the Jewish condition, at the same time never divorcing such solutions from a deep religious commitment."

Nowhere is this better exemplified than in the extraordinary life of Dona Gracia Nasi, (1510-1569). Born in a Marrano family, Dona Gracia returned to Judaism, settled first in Turkey and later in Tiberias, where, with her nephew Joseph Nasi (1524-1579), Duke of Naxos, she worked tirelessly to help the new immigrants who had come, often on foot, from North Africa or the Middle East.

Palestine was then part of the Ottoman Empire, and Dona Gracia and Joseph Nasi, who were personal friends of the Turkish sultan, Suleiman the Magnificent, used their influence and their enormous fortune to help their coreligionists and to rebuild Tiberias. When Joseph Nasi died, Solomon ibn Yaish (Abenaes), another very successful financier and friend of Suleiman, continued his work.

Sephardim consider the merging of religious and political activities as an inherent element of their Jewishness. This is why they have not produced a Neturei Karta (an anti-Zionist religious group), nor a Hashomer Hatzair (a revolutionary, anti-religious, social movement). Such groups found good breeding ground for their supporters in the authoritarian regimes collapsing all over central and eastern Europe and the Balkans. This is also why the Balkan Sephardi communities were able to successfully develop Zionist organizations.

In Africa and Asia, however, the authoritarian regimes were stable and extremely wary of any threat to them; thus there was no room for sociopolitical movements such as Zionism. There were, however, underground Zionist movements whose glorious stories have yet to be told.

In the 18th and 19th centuries in Iraq, for example, leaders of the Somech, Gabbai, Sassoon, Kadouri and Yehuda families, among others, built such strong communities that in the early 20th century, they were able to form Zionist organizations all over the country. After the demise of the British Mandate, they had to go underground and they were able to set up committees for secret emigration.

In *The Exiled and the Redeemed*, former Israeli president Yitzchak Ben-Zvi, who understood the importance of Sephardi Zionism, pointed out that Jews from Iraq had given "with munificence" to the Yishuv by building villages and founding yeshivot. He also wrote that Persian Jews were among the first Sephardim to settle in Palestine in the 1880s, "establishing special quarters and sending their sons to work on the land…The thousands of Kurdish Jews who came to the land of Israel long before the Zionist movement were among the first agricultural workers in Galilee settlements. They constituted the core of the Jerusalem working class at a time when many in the old Yishuv largely depend on the charity of their coreligionists abroad."

As urban pioneers, Sephardim have been deeply involved in rebuilding Jerusalem, Safed, Tiberias and Hebron. These cities had traditionally attracted a high intellectual elite from the Sephardi communities of the Mediterranean Basin, thus triggering a revival of Jewish intellectual and cultural life in Palestine.

Spanish and Bukharan Jews financed by an American Sephardi, Judah Touro, and led by an English Sephardi, Moses Montefiore, helped build the first settlements outside the Old City of Jerusalem. In the early 20th century, Salonika Jews built the port of Haifa, and Sephardim were to be found in great numbers in entrepreneurial activities in Jaffa and Tel Aviv.

After 1948, they continued to be involved in the development of new urban centres. As Elazar has explained, a fundamental difference between Ashkenazi and Sephardi Zionism is that "the former demanded internal revolution as much as a transformation of the Jewish condition, while the latter was a Zionism of redemption that sought continuity with tradition and did not require revolution."

I will mention only a few of the most well-known Sephardim whose Zionism was deeply imbued with spirituality and tradition.

Yehuda Halevi (1075?-1141?), author of, among other works, the *Kuzari* and the *Zionides*, had a love for Zion of such intensity that in September 1140, he left Cordoba for Palestine. It is not known whether he ever reached his beloved Holy Land. In his single most often quoted poem, one can read such famous verses as these:

"My heart is in the East and I in the uttermost West./ How can I find savor in food? How can it be sweet to me?/ How light in my eyes to leave the bounty of Spain;/ How bright in my eyes the dust of the shrine again."

This untitled poem was eventually included in the liturgy of *Tisha b'Av*, and Naomi Shemer borrowed a verse from it for her song *Yerushalayim Shel Zahav*: "I am a harp for thy songs."

Dona Gracia Nasi portrayed on a medal by Pastorino de Pastorini.
[Encyclopedia Judaica]

Fleeing from forced conversion to Islam, the Rambam landed on May 1165 in Acco, albeit for only five months, because the region was then in the hands of the ruthless European Christian Crusaders.

Both Benjamin of Tudela and David Rubeni, well-known travellers of the 12th and 16th centuries respectively, included Palestine in their itinerary. Rubeni even openly stated that it was time for the Jews to raise an army and take Jerusalem and the whole of Palestine back from the Muslims.

Communal leader Moses Nachmanides (1194-1270) had to flee Spain after his thorny disputation with Pablo Cristiani. He went to Acco and from there to Haifa where he died.

Kabbalist Abraham Abulafia (1240- after 1291), deeply convinced that members of the Ten Lost Tribes had been exiled along the Sambatyon, went to Palestine in 1260 looking for the famous river and for his brethren.

Abraham Zacuto (1452-1515?), whose perfected astrolabe and astronomical tables were used by Christopher Columbus, refused conversion in 1497, fled from Portugal and spent a few years in Tunis before moving to Jerusalem.

Joseph Caro (1489-1575), famous kabbalist and author of the Shulchan Aruch, moved to Safed in 1535. There one of his students was Moses Cordovero (1522-1570), the prominent kabbalist.

Rabbi Jacob Berab ordained Joseph Caro and Caro then spread the study of Kabbalah from North Africa to Safed.

Closer to our time, we must mention the following:

Albert Cohen (1895-1981), a famous Sephardi writer and Nobel prize nominee was born in Corfu. He had such a deep lifelong involvement with Chaim Weizmann and Zionism that, in September 1979, a forest planted in the outskirts of Jerusalem was named in his honor.

Moses Montefiore (1784-1885), famous philanthropist and ardent Zionist, gave generously to Jewish, Christian and Muslim charities in Palestine. He created farm villages so that the Jews could work the land; he introduced industry, printing presses, flour mills and textiles; he built Yemin Moshe, today one of the most prestigious neighborhoods in Jerusalem.

Benjamin Disraeli (1804-1881), a romantic Zionist, wrote in his novel *Tancred* about "those days of political justice when Jerusalem belonged to the Jews." He played an important role in the parliamentary struggle for Jewish emancipation and often expressed very strong Zionist feelings.

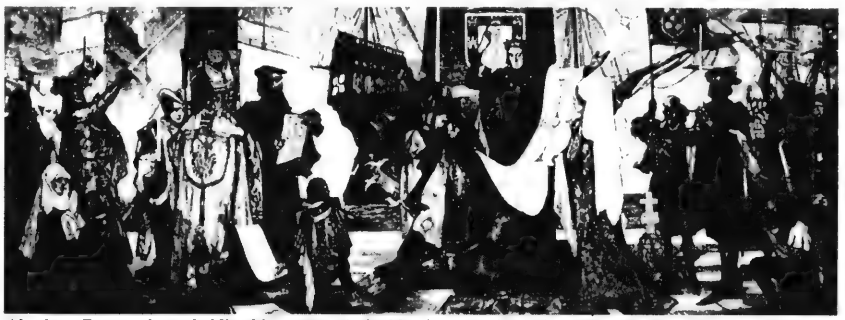
Finally, a few families worth mentioning:

The Hanegbi rabbinic family lived in Hebron for at least 500 years before the creation of the State of Israel.

The rabbinic family of one of Israel's most famous artists, Moshe Castel, fled Castille in 1492 for Palestine to settle in Gaza, where they lived until 1799, when Muslims and Jews fled the conquering army of Napoleon. The Castels went to Hebron, where they lived until the 1929 Arab massacre, in which Rabbi Meir Castel was murdered. The family escaped to Jerusalem.

Yitzhak Navon (b. 1921) was born into a rabbinic family that had settled in Jerusalem in the 17th century. One of the rabbis in the family served as Rishon Le-Zion. His uncle helped the first two Zionist colonies, Rishon Le-Zion and Petah-Tikvah, to secure title to their lands and he helped build several neighborhoods in Jerusalem. In 1890, to connect Jerusalem and Jaffa, he built the first railroad in Eretz Israel. In 1978, Yitzhak Navon was sworn in as president of the State of Israel.

In order to provide our children with a fair, unbiased and complete picture of the history of Zionism, I hope these names and many others will henceforth find the place they deserve in the books dealing with the subject.



Abraham Zacuto, shown holding his astronomical tables, in a mural painting of Vasco de Gama leaving Lisbon in 1497. The painting is by J.M. Amshewitz.
[Encyclopedia Judaica]

Sarah Taieb-Carlen is a professor at York University in Toronto.

Opinions

Electoral reform — again?

Outsiders looking at Israel always blame its political system for all that ails that society. Especially in the last year, as the debate over the Conversion Bill has exercised Jewish communities in North America, the power available to smaller parties in the system of coalition government has again been criticized.

By Shira Herzog in Toronto

In Israel itself, the perspective is somewhat different. Two years after the first experiment in direct elections of the prime minister, and two years before the next national election (if the government serves its full term), the debate over the new system, its costs and its benefits, is raging once again. In fact, a renewed, aggressive effort is underway to reverse the system to a variation on the old, one-ballot theme.

In 1996, voters were offered a new electoral system: They could cast two ballots, one for a prime ministerial candidate of their choice, and a second for a party running for the Knesset in the existing system of proportional representation. In this system, 1.5 percent of the popular vote grants a Knesset seat, thereby allowing parties that represent even tiny minority views to be elected. The decision to change the system was the culmination of more than a decade of public debate and controversy. Even when the idea garnered public support, it was opposed by many of the country's political scientists and leading political figures.

In their electoral systems, democracies seek to balance the principles of equitable representation and effective, stable governance. In its move to direct elections, Israel sought to maintain the broad representation inherent in a system of proportional representation, while improving the effectiveness of government.

Proponents of the new system argued that the clear-cut, immediate choice of prime minister would prevent the prolonged period of coalition negotiations. In effect, this had become a "buyer's market" for small parties, who had the power to determine the prime minister through a parliamentary majority. Instead, they claimed, the negotiations for a coalition would be more like a "seller's market," since small parties, especially those in the centre, would clamor to enter the government to enjoy the perks of power.

In turn, opponents of the system argued that negotiations between the "coalition-maker" and the potential partners would be even more intense than before. They would take place before the elections (to get their voters' support for the candidate), after the elections and between the first end second round of prime ministerial elections, if a second round was called for. Furthermore, they claimed, because of the split vote, even greater fragmentation would ensue. Smaller parties would gain significantly, thereby increasing their power.

Two years into the system, those opposing it seem to have gained momentum. It is true that the prime minister derives his power directly from the people and that he was able to form a government relatively quickly. But the fragmentation in Israeli politics and the reduced powers of the Knesset to check the prime minister have resulted in instability and a heightened competition among the sectoral interests within the cabinet. The combination of an extremely low threshold of representation – 1.5 percent – and the split vote, has created a Knesset that is in effect, a collection of interest groups. Sectoral interests have no incentive to come together on the basis of compromise, and the voter, in turn, can vote for a narrow interest in the Knesset ballot, since the vote for prime minister is separate.

Speaker of the Knesset Dan Tichon has already speculated that the next Knesset will have 20 parties, rather than the 15 now represented. This would be a prescription for political chaos.

As for the coalition itself, it works best with one dominant party that brings along a number of natural partners who, together, represent a broad majority. But when there are several parties virtually equal in size, the competition is so fierce as to make a common vision virtually impossible. Indeed, Netanyahu's government has been described as a "coalition of outsiders" brought together by their disaffection with the old establishment rather than through any common ground.

The new effort at electoral "re-reform" is aimed at reinstating one ballot and raising the threshold of representation. This would reduce the number of parties and the number of seats they hold, while strengthening the power of the Knesset in a parliamentary system.

A significant number of Knesset members agree, but the two key individuals, Benjamin Netanyahu and Ehud Barak, are hesitant. Both feel they stand a better chance of election in the existing, split-vote system, although they recognize the weaknesses it has created. It is unlikely that they will want to compromise their short-term interest for the greater good. Only a combination of serious public pressure and significant political will within the two large parties may force the leaders' hands.

Competing demographic forces in Israel

Twice within the past year, I have had depressing conversations with Israelis visiting Canada. Both were with long-time Jerusalemites of non-Orthodox background. They feared for the very future of the country as they understood it and knew it. To the dismay of these Jews, the Jerusalem they knew was being transformed by the growth in an Orthodox and haredi population, one which, in their perhaps alarmist view, was increasingly intolerant.

By Morton Weinfeld in Montreal

It would seem that more and more, the religious dimension in Israel is adopting a regional pattern. Some time ago, *Jerusalem Report* columnist Ze'ev Chafets wrote a piece in which he advocated "partition" as a solution to the religious cleavages emerging in Israel. While his tongue was likely firmly in his cheek, it may well be that some form of territorial solution, whether cantonization à la Switzerland, other quasi-federal approaches or simply more autonomy for religious neighborhoods in major cities, may evolve.

Right now the major regional distinction seems to be between Jerusalem and the rest of the country (with some exceptions like Bnei Brak). It is increasingly common to hear secular Israelis lament the fact that they feel less comfortable in Jerusalem.

In Jerusalem, it is likely that the proportion of the Orthodox and Haredim will grow. This is due in large part to natural increase, which is much higher than among non-Orthodox Jews in Jerusalem. In addition, it seems that the factors of internal and international migration are also acting to enhance the religious dimension of Israel. Many younger Israelis from non-Orthodox backgrounds in Jerusalem seem to be moving elsewhere in Israel, at least according to anecdotal evidence. (I am unaware of official government statistics that trace the internal migration of non-Orthodox Israelis that would confirm these impressions.)

The *1998 Annual Report on Immigration and Absorption in Israel* for the years 1989 to 1997 inclusive illustrates the impact of international migration. In many ways, the future character of Israel will depend on whether international migration among the non-Orthodox or natural increase among the Orthodox proves more decisive.

In the nine years under examination, almost 848,000 immigrants arrived. Of this number 722,400, or 85 percent, came from the former Soviet Union (FSU), the vast majority of them non-Orthodox and indeed rather secular. A large minority or even a majority of the remaining 126,000 immigrants may well identify with Orthodoxy of one type or another. But the overall impact of international migration would be to add to the non-Orthodox and/or secular element in Israel.

Recent immigrants as a whole comprise just 6.7 percent of the population of Jerusalem, far below their proportion within the Jewish population of Israel and that found in other Israeli cities. For example, the figures for Haifa are 18.9 percent, Beersheva 26.2 percent, and Ashkelon 80 percent.

Perhaps equally significant is the fact that the proportion of recent immigrants from the FSU, those more likely to be non-Orthodox is the lowest in Jerusalem. The figure is only 61 percent, far below the national level of 85 percent from the FSU. This reflects among other things the attraction that Jerusalem holds for Orthodox immigrants from the English-speaking world and western European. Even religious Conservative and Reform Jews from English-speaking countries find a deep attraction in Jerusalem's spirituality, despite the growing frictions with the Orthodox establishment.

The character of Jerusalem may increasingly diverge from that of other cities and regions in Israel. It is not clear what policies, if any, can or should be implemented by authorities to reverse the pattern. Israel already has entrenched patterns of regional/urban ethnic residential segregation, notably between Jews and Arabs and between Ashkenazim and Sephardim, though the latter may also reflect differences in economic class. Religious segregation should be added to the list. Given that religion may reflect the most fundamental values and cultural differences, it may be most immune from efforts at residential integration.

Residential segregation at the local or regional levels is common in most pluralistic societies, and nowadays is largely voluntaristic. It is found within many Diaspora Jewish communities. And it is not a tragedy. The cohesion of Israeli society will be determined mainly by policies at the national level, on issues such as negotiations with the Arabs or national service for the Haredim.

Jehovah's Witnesses and the Jews

Nowadays, to talk about the terrible silence of major Christian churches during the Holocaust, is like hauling coals to Newcastle. Some of the denominations – especially Protestants in Germany – have frankly owned up to their past, while others have been reticent about it.

By Rabbi Gunther Plaut in Toronto

There was, however, one denomination that was exceptional in this regard, and it is time to recognize its exceptional role. This was the Jehovah's Witnesses, an independent Protestant denomination founded about 140 years ago in the United States that today has a worldwide membership of several million.

Many readers of this column have probably been exposed to the briefest of contacts with members of this church, when two people – often an adult and a child – rang your doorbell and tried to interest you in accepting the magazine *Awake!* as well as listening to some information about their religion. My doorbell too was rung a few times, and while our conversation was always brief, I found that the Witnesses were invariably courteous and took my rejection in good grace.

A word about their name. It was (and still is) the habit of some churches to render the biblical term for God as "Jehovah." This rendering is the mistaken reading of a 12th-century Christian scholar who interpreted the vocalization of the Hebrew word for the Divine Name as Jehovah. This reading was popularized in English when the King James Bible printed it in its editions.

The Witnesses make it a duty for their members to testify to their beliefs, one of which is that the nearness of a world catastrophe – the battle between good and evil – will determine the second coming of their savior. In addition, and prominently so, is the Witnesses' unswerving pacifism, an attitude which has brought them a great deal of trouble in many countries.

While other Christian denominations made the recognition of the political state the centre of their religious strategy, the Witnesses have refused to do so. This became crucial on the arrival of Hitler, when only the Witnesses were found to preach against him as a group and reject his teachings as anti-religious. Needless to say, this earned them the enmity of the Nazi state, and many of their followers became prisoners in concentration camps and suffered death.

Prof. Christine King summed it up as follows: "Jehovah's Witnesses did speak out. They spoke out from the beginning. They spoke out with one voice. And they spoke out with tremendous courage, which has a message for all of us."

Similarly, Prof. Susanna Heschel (daughter of Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel and a well-known scholar in her own right) has this to say to Christian audiences when she is asked, "What could we have done?" She answers, "You could have been like Jehovah's Witnesses."

A few years ago, in August 1995, *Awake!* devoted an entire magazine to the 50th anniversary of the Holocaust. I have yet to see a denominational publication that has depicted the realities and horrors of the Shoah so vividly and honestly.

The Kirshner File

Kidnapping scandal helped unify Italy

Edgardo Mortara was a Jewish boy whose kidnapping played an integral role in the unification of Italy – the Risorgimento – in

By Sheldon Kirshner

1861. His abduction, on June 23, 1858, helped weaken, then finally destroy, the temporal power of the Roman Catholic Church. This, in turn, paved the way for the establishment of the modern, secular Italian state.

Despite its significance, the Mortara case, strangely enough, was given short shrift by historians, even in Italy. And the only scholarly treatment of the affair, written in 1957 by Bertram Korn, dealt exclusively with the American reaction.

With the publication of David Kertzer's magnum opus, *The Kidnapping of Edgardo Mortara* (Alfred A. Knopf), this startling gap has been admirably filled. Having delved into the archives and immersed himself in the literature, Kertzer, a Brown University historian and anthropologist, has produced the most comprehensive work on the topic.

The facts of the scandal are not in dispute. Born in 1851, Edgardo was the son of Momolo and Marianna Mortara, a middle-class couple from Bologna, a city falling within the boundaries of the Papal States. A few months after his birth, the family's 18-year-old illiterate servant, Anna Morisi, a pious Roman Catholic, took it upon herself to secretly baptize the sickly child. She had been told by a neighborhood grocer that, if baptized, Edgardo would "go to heaven" in the event of his death.

In the eyes of the Vatican, which regarded the conversion of the Jews as a prerequisite of the Second Coming of the Messiah, a converted Jewish child was no longer a Jew and could not remain with his or her family.

With this in mind, the Catholic inquisitor in Bologna ordered Edgardo's abduction. He was literally wrenched from his father's arms by a police posse, in total disregard of civilized norms. Yet, by Kertzer's reckoning, the brazen kidnapping was not a throwback to a darker age but was rather in keeping with Catholic dogma. As astonishing as it sounds, in 19th century Italy the taking of Jewish children from their parents was not uncommon.

Be that as it may, the Mortara kidnapping was different, since it occurred when the debate over the temporal powers of the papacy, and hence the wisdom of a theocratic state in Western Europe, was reaching a climax.

By 1858, when Italy was still a patchwork of independent principalities, the struggle for Italian unification was coming to a head.

The battle lines were clearly drawn. Traditionalists, backed by Pope Pius IX, adamantly opposed a new order within the framework of a unified state. They believed, correctly, that it would destroy their feudal privileges and power. Liberals, led by Count Camillo Cavour, prime minister of the kingdom of Sardinia, dreamed of a constitutional state in harmony with industry, science and commerce.

As Kertzer observes, the forces ranged against papal authority – the principal obstacle to national unification – gleefully regarded the Mortara case as manna from heaven. It was the perfect vehicle for demonstrating the anachronistic nature of the Vatican, centred in Rome, capital of the Papal States.

The Vatican's reactionary attitude toward the small, largely unemancipated Jewish community contributed to this perception. Jewish residents of the Papal States and of duchies under the sway of the Vatican labored under harsh restrictions. Among other things, Jews were not permitted to own land or buildings, and they were forbidden to employ Christians or enjoy friendly relations with them.

Pope Pius IX, though considering himself a great friend of Jews, resisted calls to grant them equal rights, and denounced moves by other Italian states to do so. In accordance with the doctrine of the day, he was of the view that Jews could live in Italy as guests, benefiting from the church's protection, until they saw the light and joined the true faith.

Given their fettered condition, the vast majority of Italian Jews remained mute in the face of the Mortara affair. As a result, public protests by Jews took place almost exclusively in Piedmont, which had given Jews constitutional rights in 1848. Thanks to their protests, Edgardo's plight was taken up by Jews in Britain, France and the United States.

Conditioned by centuries of anti-Semitism, Edgardo's father, a merchant, refrained from criticizing the powers-that-be. A high official, a cardinal close to the pope, had assured him that quiet diplomacy and humility would better serve his cause.

Four months after he was kidnapped, Edgardo was permitted to be reunited with his parents under strictly controlled conditions in Rome. They claimed that their son lived in constant fear of his clerical keepers, that he desperately wanted to return home and that he remained faithful to Judaism.

The Vatican, however, hotly disputed their story. Through the medium of staunchly Catholic newspapers, Edgardo was portrayed as being content with his lot. Typical of the propaganda, Kertzer writes, was a piece in *Il Cattolico* which reported that the pope was not only serving the boy's spiritual and educational needs but attending to his future career.

By all accounts, the pope was genuinely fond of Edgardo, whom he regarded like a son. When Cavour's emissary in Rome, Count Dominico della Minerva, conferred with the pope, he was told in no uncertain terms that Edgardo's fate was sealed.

"The Holy Father said that he was sorry about what had happened and was even more pained by the impossibility of ordering Mortara returned to his family, for to return the boy would be repugnant to his conscience," della Minerva later wrote. "He was truly persuaded that the baptism was valid and that, given this fact, he could not permit a Christian to be raised in the Jewish religion."

True to the pope's convictions, Edgardo was reared as a devout Catholic. When he was 13, Edgardo, having decided to devote his life to the church, became a novice in a Catholic order. He took the name of Pio in honor of his patron, Pope Pius IX.

Shortly afterward, the pope sent Edgardo a heart-felt message. "You are very dear to me, my little son, for I acquired you for Jesus Christ at a high price."

He was referring, of course, to the storm of indignation within Italy touched off by the kidnapping.

A bookish young man, Edgardo was inducted into the priesthood at 21. Pleased by the course of events, the pope sent him a flattering personal letter and set up a trust fund for his protege.

Father Mortara, as he came to be known, devoted his life to the church. Travelling widely throughout Europe, he was an inspirational preacher who captivated audiences by weaving his own experiences into his sermons.

In 1878, after his father's death, Edgardo met his mother in France, and it was a poignant reunion. He tried, but failed, to convert her.

Edgardo spent the next 40 years preaching to the converted, and in 1918, he moved into an abbey in Belgium, committing himself to contemplation, study, prayer and devotion to the Virgin Mary.

He died in the abbey in 1940, at a ripe old age, as German troops began rounding up Jews.

One wonders what the Nazis would have done with Edgardo, this defender of the faith, had he lived long enough to witness the long night of the Holocaust.

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At that time Reena's board of directors will dedicate the cornerstone of the Toby and Henry Battle Developmental Centre to Reena's founding members. They will also pay tribute to a number of loyal friends who have been consistent volunteers throughout Reena's 25 years.

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- International Conference

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Secular humanism should be on CJC agenda

By ABRAHAM ARNOLD

The Ontario region council of Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) probably deserves to be applauded for the resolution adopted in late June to form a council of rabbis to work for community unity. I have two reservations, however.

Guest Voices

In the absence of the text of the actual resolution, one must question the reporter's use of the words "to denounce the use of faith to create schisms" (*CJN*, July 2). Surely the approach should rather be to seek to counteract obstacles to Jewish intra-faith cooperation on matters of common concern. Moreover, to work towards this laudable goal, it would be desirable to establish a body that is representative of every possible Jewish denomination.

It is therefore regrettable that Sol Hermolin got little support for his suggestion to include secular representatives in the proposed new council of rabbis.

From its very inception in 1919, CJC has always included representatives of secular groups – Workmen's Circle, socialist Zionists, as well as delegates of the traditional religious denominations.

Among current national and regional secular affiliates of CJC are several who are also affiliated with the North American Federation of Secular Humanistic Jews, which is part of a world movement that has developed over the past quarter-century.

In Ontario, these groups include the UJPO Winchevsky Centre and the Thornhill-based Oraynu Secular Community. Both are members of the Congress of Secular Jewish Organizations (CSJO) which is part of the North American Federation. Similar groups are: Jews for a Humanist Secular Tradition (JHUST) in Montreal; the Sholem Aleichem Community and a senior UJPO group in Winnipeg; and the I.L. Peretz Institute in Vancouver.

In Victoria, one new group is a branch of the Society for Humanistic Judaism (SHJ). The SHJ is a founding affiliate of the North American Federation.

Several people from the Toronto area have completed a secular humanistic training program and are now serving their communities as certified leaders authorized to perform life-cycle events including weddings.

The world movement of Secular Humanistic Jews with affiliates from Russia to Australia, and including Israel, now lays claim to being a fifth Jewish denomination, after Orthodox, Reform, Conservative and Reconstructionist.

So who recognizes this claim? Local communities in Canada and United States are beginning to take note.

I suggest CJC leaders should recognize secular humanism as a branch of Judaism worthy of being represented on an Intra-Faith Council for Jewish Reconciliation, which I offer as possibly a better name than another Council of Rabbis.

Abraham Arnold is a former western regional director of CJC, who lives in Winnipeg.

Books

By Bernard Baskin

***"Who Is a Jew?" Conversations, Not Conclusions*, by Meryl Hyman (Jewish Lights Publishing, $23.95 (US)).**

Under current law in Israel only those deemed "Jewish" by Orthodox standards may be married in the country, buried in a Jewish cemetery or granted a legal divorce. Other life affecting issues include the validity of non-Orthodox conversion, and who may immigrate to Israel as a right under its Law of Return.

At the forefront of this debate are Orthodox leaders who challenge the legitimacy of the Reform, Conservative and Reconstructionist movements whose membership accounts for the overwhelming majority of Jews in North America. This rejection has given rise to deep pain, resentment and controversy. Meanwhile, the non-Jewish world looks on, partly confused, partly amused, at what appears to be a no-holds-barred civil war.

This book casts light on the entire vigorous, heated and many-sided debate. Meryl Hyman, a seasoned journalist, interviewed 25 well-known leaders from the religious, academic, and political communities in the United States, Israel and England. She presents their thoughts – in their own words – on who is "Jewish enough" to be considered a Jew, and by whom.

Debate still unresolved on who is a Jew

Can a resolution to this dilemma be found? Is compromise possible? "No," say some of those interviewed. Rabbi Nachman Bulman, mashgiach ruchni (spiritual leader) and dean of students of Orthodox Ohr Somayach Yeshiva in Jerusalem argues: "Let's first admit that the whole [Reform] program over there [the United States] is a fraud and is bankrupt. The thing is a blatant lie…We're not about to let clowns play with our Torah like little bubble games. They want us to step aside! It's outrageous! It's beyond words! The law is stronger than us. Israel will not cease to be. We can be diluted, we can be watered down, we can lose a lot of blood, we can lose six million physically and six million spiritually in almost the same generation. We will not vanish. A tenth will remain, and from that tenth everything will be rebuilt."

Rabbi Richard Hirsch is executive director of the World Union of Progressive Judaism, based in Jerusalem. He maintains that Halachah is the product of a society where Jews lived a separate and separated existence. Unfortunately, it is now impossible to adjust or change the Halachah. "Therefore, in order to keep the majority of the Jews within the fold, you have to fashion a modernized and progressive form of Judaism. If the state only recognizes one form of Judaism because of coalition politics then it becomes an instrument in the hands of the Orthodox. The result will be that you will have a total separation, a schism, between the Jews in Israel and the Jews of the Diaspora.

He states, "Never will the ultra-Orthodox accept the equality of women. Never will they permit women to serve as witnesses in a court. Never will they permit women to entertain cases of divorce. Never will they permit women to be rabbis or to get called to the Torah. A modern state can't be ruled by halachic principles."

Norman Lamm, president of Yeshiva University insists, "The battle is not over 'Who Is a Jew?' The battle is over 'Who Is a Rabbi?' That we can't yield on. I can't recognize the true rabbinic authentic credentials of a man who says, 'I do not accept the Halachah.'

"With Conservative rabbis we face a problem because some do and some don't, and some say they do and really don't, and some say they don't but really do. It's a mish-mash. So to say that I can accept a Reform rabbi as halachically authentic is to perpetuate an outright falsehood."

Ismar Schorsch, chancellor of the Jewish Theological Seminary of America, laments: "Once upon a time normative Judaism was inspired by the impulse to bring non-Jews 'Under the wings of God's presence.' Today, in the Orthodox guise it has become a sectarian caricature obsessed with purity and power."

Jewish Life

Listen to Sephardi tunes on line

By MARK MIETKIEWICZ

Over the past weeks, we have looked at the origins of Sephardi music and have listened to the many beautiful Sephardi tunes that have been incorporated into prayer. Today, something a bit different: Sephardi love songs.

According to Brigitte Sion's article *The Murmur of Love and Passion: Sephardi Music*, the female voice is predominant in Ladino songs or *romansas*, since the musical tradition was passed on from mother to daughter. The popular repertoire includes cradle songs, wedding songs and of course, love songs **[http://www.jcn18.com/scripts/jen18/paper/Article.asp?ArticleID=948]**.

One of the most famous of those love songs is *Los Bilbilicos* (*The Nightingales*). "The nightingales sing with sighs of love. My soul and my fate are in your power. Come more quickly, dove…More quickly come beloved, Come and save me." When you hear Judy Frankel sing *Los Bilbilicos* **[http://www.tara.com/jfr.htm]**, it may sound familiar since the tune is now a popular melody for Tzur Mishelo, traditionally sung on Friday nights. You can find the lyrics and sheet music to Los Bilbilicos and many other Jewish songs of all kinds at Kugel Sheet Music **[http://members.aol.com/shawnkugel/kugelsheet.html]**. Please note that you will need the free Adobe Acrobat Reader to view them **[http://www.adobe.com/prodindex/acrobat/readstep.html]**.

Brazilian singer Fortuna's first exposure to Ladino was in Israel in 1991. It was love at first sight. "Although I didn't know the language at that time, I had a sensation of a deep familiarity and an immediate association with my dreams. Since that moment, my whole life changed as I recognized my own mission: to produce world music based on this music and language."

Fortuna learned Ladino and interviewed elderly Sephardi Jews in New York, Paris and São Paulo to find out more about her culture. You can sample some of her songs at her Web site **[http://www.rahul.net/hrmusic/discos/fdisc.html]**. Fortuna's work and life story are also included in a Web site of love songs from around the world called Putumayo World Music **[http://putumayo.com/cd/romant/romant.html#fortuna]**.

If you want to talk about Sephardi music or Sephardi culture in general, you can join in the discussion at the Sepharade Page **[http://www.sepharade.com/gstbk.html]**. Also, check out both the Usenet newsgroup **[alt.music.jewish]** and the Jewish-Music mailing list **[http://www.shamash.org/help/listoflists.html]**. You can also browse through a large archive of past correspondence **[http://www.shamash.org/listarchives/jewish-music/]**.

If you want to round out your music collection with more Sephardi melodies and are comfortable buying on-line, then you'll be amazed by the selection offered by Jewishmusic.com **[http://www.jewishmusic.com]**. And more Sephardi sheet music is available through the Zamir Chorale of Boston **[http://www.zamir.org/resources/Sepharad.html]**.

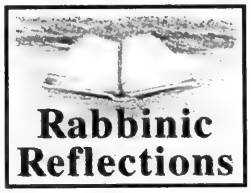
Finally, always remember, you don't have to be Sephardi to love Sephardi music. Judy Frankel, whose music we listened to earlier, is one of the more popular singers of Sephardi music although she herself is Ashkenazi.

"At first Sephardim were curious. Now they consider me as part of their family. Our large Jewish community in the world is like a bouquet and every smaller community is a flower. It is not a competition, it is a cornucopia."

* * *

Mark Mietkiewicz is a television producer in Toronto with an interest in the Internet. He can be reached at [mdm@inforamp.net].

Elul's the time to build strong fences



By RABBI WAYNE ALLEN

A pundit once remarked that the difference between a surgeon, an internist and a pathologist is that the surgeon does everything and knows nothing, the internist knows everything and does nothing, and the pathologist knows everything but by then it's too late.

The month of Elul is soon upon us. It begins our annual post-mortem: our intensive review of our past year's behavior. It is called the Penitential Period. And while such review is necessary for repenting of sins of the past, it is far better to use our time to consider ways of preventing sin in the future.

This thought is cleverly conveyed in a poem by Joseph Malins entitled *A Fence or an Ambulance*. It is a poetic rendition of a story about a city debating what to do about the dangerous cliff within its boundary. While some advocated putting a fence around the cliff, those who advocated putting an ambulance in the valley won the day. "'For the cliff is all right, if you're careful,' they said, 'And, if folks even slip and are dropping. It isn't the slipping that hurts them so much. As the shock down below when they're stopping.' So day after day, as these mishaps occurred, Quick forth would these rescuers sally/To pick up the victims who fell off the cliff. With their ambulance down in the valley."

This is how the situation remained until wisdom intervened. "Then an old sage remarked: 'It is a marvel to me/That people give far more attention/To repairing results than to stopping the cause, When they'd much better aim at prevention. Let us stop at its source all this mischief,' cried he, 'Come neighbors and friends, let us rally; If the cliffs we will fence we might almost dispense/with the ambulance down in the valley.'"

At first, this good advice went unheeded, but eventually, logic swayed those who were locked in to the error of the past. "To rescue the fallen is good, but 'tis best to prevent other people from falling."

It is easier by far to annually ask forgiveness for wrongs committed than to put into operation the appropriate mechanism to prevent them from being done. Yet, like the sensible few described by Mallins who agreed with the sage, it is far wiser to put a strong fence round the top of the cliff than an ambulance down in the valley. The month of Elul ought to be the starting point for each of us building those strong fences.

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Jewish Life

Jacobovici turns dreams into documentaries

What inspires creativity in the artist? Is creativity in the artist the inevitable expression of an accumulation of experiences? Or does creativity flow from a single, watershed experience? Ibn Ezra, the great medieval philosopher believed that the poet and the artist create by nature, not because of what they acquired through learning. This is the fourth and last article in a series of sketches on Artists & Creativity that will explore such questions.

* * *

By BILL GLADSTONE

Establishing shot: a 10th-floor boardroom over a busy intersection in downtown Toronto, with a sweeping view of many tiny cars and pedestrians moving busily along Spadina Avenue. The camera pulls back to reveal more of the boardroom, whose walls boast an assortment of prestigious trophies: several Emmy, Genie and Cable Ace awards, a Monte Carlo Silver Nymph, and a certificate of special merit from the Hollywood-based Academy of Motion Picture Arts & Sciences.

This is the home of Associated Producers, the distinguished film company whose documentary productions have included *The Plague Monkeys*, *Deadly Currents*, *Hollywoodism: Jews, Movies & the American Dream* and *Expulsion and Memory: Descendants of Hidden Jews*.

Interestingly, Simcha Jacobovici, one of the film company's founders and driving forces (his partner is Elliott Halpern) says that despite the artistic awards and acclaim, he does not regard himself as an artist. Rather, he is propelled by a flair for the pragmatic nuts-and-bolts aspects of building a company and by an innate curiosity about certain subjects. "You could say I get obsessed with an idea and I follow it up," he offers, "and I guess you could say I'm quite rigorous in my follow-up."

Born to Holocaust survivors in Israel, Jacobovici grew up in Canada under the influence of "a combination of Zionism, Judaism and the Holocaust" that has led him to become involved in Jewish causes both local and international. For instance, he headed a Jewish student organization at university, became active in efforts to assist Ethiopian and Russian Jews, and helped establish a synagogue in Toronto's Riverdale neighborhood.

"There's a sense within me that I can't sit on my hands and do nothing," says the 45-year-old filmmaker, who became an Orthodox Jew as an adult. "I have a sense of responsibility. I can't be one of the people who sit back and do nothing when other people are suffering."

Jacobovici's camera has often focused on Jewish-related subjects such as the Jews of Ethiopia, the Jews of Russia, and the Palestinian uprising (in *Deadly Currents*). His current project is *Quest For the Lost Tribes*, a two-hour documentary about the missing tribes of ancient Israel; it is being co-funded by Alliance Films, CBC and A&E television networks as a made-for-TV movie that will also have a limited theatrical release. He is simultaneously producing a book on the lost tribes for the Toronto publishing house Key-Porter.

"I see myself as a storyteller; I have a story to tell and I have to find the best way of telling it. Often it involves a combination of writing and making films. Primarily, my vehicle has been feature-length documentaries. To me, these are the most exciting form of movie-making because they're long enough that you can tell a full story and you have an opportunity to stretch the medium to use dramatic techniques."

According to Jacobovici, some documentaries have no educational content but are as much fun to watch "as a ride at an amusement park" while others "make you feel like a better person for having watched them, even though you didn't actually enjoy the experience." Associated Producers, he says, takes the middle road: "We don't see a contradiction between something that is worthy and something that is entertaining."

A proponent of "investigative cinema" of the sort that adds a newsy edge to a documentary, Jacobovici says he sometimes attains strong footage (such as a scene showing Palestinians making Molotov cocktails) of the sort that television news photographers often miss. ("The news guys were looking at us as if we were artsy-fartsy, but we got things they didn't get.")

For less risky shots, he frequently uses cranes, dollies and sophisticated lighting techniques "to give the production the kind of esthetic that one expects from a dramatic film."

That esthetic extends into the screening and editing rooms, where he tries to bring out the material's innate shape and structure. "The film is not going to be an illustrated lecture," he says. "I'm not going to write the whole thing and then slap pictures into it."

In some way, each film he makes replicates the journey he took in making it. If he feels a sense of mystery or foreboding about a place, he tries to inject that particular feeling into the finished product. A film's rough footage, he says, is "a sculptor's rock" that must be examined and carefully shaped to allow its dramatic content to emerge.

"One of the big debates on documentaries is point-of-view versus objectivity. I think it's a bogus argument. There is no objectivity. What there is, is honesty versus dishonesty, and if you're dishonest, you're a propagandist. I don't mind using anything as long as it's in the service of an honest reporting of the issue."

Besides *Quest For the Lost Tribes*, he is working on a film about the devastating Spanish flu epidemic of 1918 and two series, one on the roots of magic and the other on current and historical scandals, including the controversy surrounding Henry Ford after he distributed some anti-Semitic tracts. While much of Jacobovici's creative energy goes towards directing and producing films, he reserves another part for more prosaic corporate concerns.

"I'm working on building the company so we can continue making films that we're proud of," he says. "This is not a factory for making widgets. It's a vehicle for turning dreams into documentaries."

HISTORY UNFOLDS AT THE CNE

David Mevorah (centre), mosaic floor curator from the Israel Museum, guides Joey Tanenbaum and Wendy Eisen as the two Torontonians get their first viewing of the fifth century Tzippori synagogue floor at the Israel at 50 Pavilion at the CNE. Tanenbaum, Israel at 50 patron, and Eisen, chair of the Israel at 50 floor committee, received the behind the scenes tour of the artifact as it was being uncrated and installed. The exhibit will be part of the Israel at 50 Pavilion at the CNE from Aug 21. through Sept. 7.

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MINYANIM IN THE GTA
WEEK OF AUG. 21-AUG. 27/'98

Synagogue	Address & Tel.	Fri. Night	Shabbat	Sun. A.M.	Daily A.M.	Daily P.M.
Adath Sholom (C)	864 Sheppard Ave. W. (416) 635-0131	----------	9:00 AM	9:00 AM	8:00 AM	----------
Agudath Israel (O)	129 McGillivray Ave. (416) 789-5514	6:20, 7:15 & 7:55 PM	7:30 & 8:45 AM	7:00, 7:30 8:00, 8:30 AM	6:20, 6:50 & 7:15 AM	6:00 & 8:00 PM
Anshe Minsk (O)	10-12 St. Andrews St. (416) 595-5723	8:00 PM	9:30 AM	9:30 AM	7:30 AM	----------
Beth Jacob (O)	147 Overbrook Pl. (416) 638-5955	7:15 PM	9:00 AM	8:00 AM	6:40 & 7:30 AM	7:55 PM
Beth Sholom (C)	1445 Eglinton Ave. W. (416) 783-6103	6:00 PM	8:45 AM	8:30 AM	7:30& 9:00 AM	6:00 PM
B'nai Torah (O)	465 Patricia Ave. (416) 226-3700	6:30 & 8:05 PM	7:30 & 8:45 AM	7:00 & 8:00 AM	Mon. Thurs. 6:20, 6:45, 7:10 Tues. Wed. Fri. 6:30, 7:00, 7:20	7:55 PM
Lodzer Centre (C)	12 Heaton St. (416) 636-6665	5:30 PM	9:00 AM	----------	9:00 AM	----------
Temple Har Zion (R)	7360 Bayview Ave. (905) 889-2252	6:15 PM	10:30 AM	----------	7:15 AM	----------
Temple Sinai (R)	210 Wilson Ave. (416) 487-4161	8:15 PM	10:00 AM	9:30 AM	7:30 AM	----------

This is not a comprehensive listing of the synagogues in the Greater Toronto area. The information is provided by the Vaad Harabonim of Toronto and the Toronto Board of Rabbis. The Vaad and the Board will periodically revise the listings.

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a 5th century mosaic floor

wander
through an art gallery

enjoy
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What's New

By Miriam Herman

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DEADLINE REMINDER

Column deadlines: Monday, Aug. 24, for Sept. 3 issue and Monday, Aug. 31, for Sept. 10 issue. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 391-1836, fax 391-0829.

Sunday, Aug. 23

SUNDAY SERENADES

Mel Lastman Square Sunday Serenades features the Hot Latkes Klezmer Band, Jewish and eastern European folk music and dance, 7:30-9 p.m.

JEWISH SINGLES

Games Jewish Singles Play, a fun social evening for men and women, Group A (ages 21-39), and Group B (ages 40-69), Bridge, Trivial Pursuit, Chutzpah, Scrabble, Rummicube, 7:30 p.m., Beth Torah Synagogue, 47 Glenbrook Ave. $5. Early bird bingo 7:30-8 p.m. **Mollie** 733-3634.

Monday, Aug. 24

BLOOD DONOR CLINIC

At Bathurst Jewish Centre, 4588 Bathurst St., 4:30-8:30 p.m.

CYSTITIS SUPPORT GROUP

Interstitial Cystitis sufferers meeting, 7:30 p.m., Central Park Lodge, 1145 Albion Rd. (near Islington), main floor. **Lisa** 447-2246.

LA LECHE LEAGUE

La Leche League-North Bathurst meeting, Nutrition and Weaning, 7:30 p.m., 199 Glenmanor Way, Thornhill. Babies welcome. **Joyce** 905-881-8779 or **Nancy** 905-889-7446.

Wednesday, Aug. 26

LITERARY LUNCHEON

The Arts & Entertainment Chapter of ORT Canada literary luncheon with **Nomi Berger** reviewing her new book *My Brother Peter* at the Island Yacht Club. Reserve **Gilda Tyber** 733-9924.

Thursday, Aug. 27

CASINO NIAGARA

Adath Sholom Synagogue Sisterhood fun-junket to Casino Niagara. Luxury bus leaves Adath Sholom, 864 Sheppard Ave. W., at 9 a.m. $15 per person, $10 rebate on arrival. Reserve. 635-0131.

And What Else Is New

ICRF WATERFRONT BASH

Israel Cancer Research Fund Young Associates Waterfront Bash at HMCS York, 659 Lakeshore Blvd. W., Sunday, Aug. 30, 7:30 p.m. Free barbecue, DJ, dancing, prizes. Indoor/outdoor facilities. $18 in advance, $25 at door. 487-5246.

SWIMMING PROGRAMS

Separate male and female swimming programs at the Sephardic Kehila Centre, 7026 Bathurst St. – Aquafit, Lane Swimming, Fun Swims, Party Rentals and lessons for all levels from Red Cross and the Lifesaving Society. **Stacey** 905-669-7654, ext. 255.

Swim staff volunteers are needed to assist instructors with aquatic programs (in the water). **Stacy**.

KOFFLER GALLERY

In the Koffler Gallery, **Brent Roe,** new things will happen, and in the Loggia Gallery, The Edge of Everything, wall drawings from 21 artists. Both exhibits run Aug. 20-Oct. 4. Opening reception, Thursday, Aug. 20, 7-9 p.m.

MYSTIC TALES

Author/storyteller **Yitzhak Buxbaum** focuses on Mystic Tales, Saturday, Aug. 21, 8-9 p.m. and on Mystic Tales, Mystic Teachings Monday, Aug. 24, two sessions – Source of Joy 7-8:15 p.m. and Tales That Touch the Soul 8:15-9:30 p.m. (individual session $8, both sessions $15). Sponsored by Jewish Storytelling Arts. 905-763-1786.

BRIDGING COURSE

York University School of Women's Studies Bridging course for women, $85 plus books. 650-8144, press 1.

At North York Women's Centre, 197 Caribou Rd., Thursdays, 6:30-9:30 p.m., Sept. 17-Dec. 17, inauguration/registration, Sept. 10, 6:30 p.m.

At Neighbourhood Link, 2625 Danforth Ave., Mondays, 6:30-9:30 p.m., Sept. 28 to Dec. 21, information/registration, Sept. 14, 6:30 p.m.

[Cont'd. on page 17]

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Fresh! Skin On
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319 lb.

Sweet Corn
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What's New

[Cont'd. from page 16]

ARTISANS, CRAFTSPEOPLE

Quality Judaica items, crafts, ceramics, paintings, High Holy Day theme preferred but not necessary – for Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue showcase windows. **Rhonda** 905-731-9441.

ART CLASSES

Adult classes at the Koffler Centre of the Arts in Ceramics, Drawing and Painting, Sculpture, Creative Writing and Film Studies. Classes for children and young adults in Ceramics, Drawing and Painting, and Sculpture. Register. 636-1880, ext. 269.

HEBREW COURSES

Canadian Zionist Federation Hebrew language courses, 10 easy lessons beginning Sept. 23. Day and evening classes, beginner, intermediate, advanced (Chug Ivrit) levels. $192 (includes GST). Instructor **Chana Sargon**. Classes held at 3995 Bathurst St. Suite 300. Information/registration 633-3988.

SINGLES SCENE

Events for singles 25-35 and 36-55. Check with **Rhonda** 905-731-9441. Under the auspices of Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue.

Pre-High Holy Day speaker; Rattlesnake Point hike and apple picking; Shabbat service and luncheon with speaker, Saturday, Oct. 24; *Les Miz* coming soon; a fall beginners Sunday morning 8-week course, Everything You Need to Know About Preparing for a Run.

Next meeting for 36-55 group, Monday, Aug. 24, 8 p.m.

JF&CS GROUPS

Jewish Family & Child Service groups. Call **Pat Lieberman** 638-7800, ext. 215.

Parenting When Your Child Has an Eating Disorder, begins in the fall; Bereavement For Younger Persons Who Have Lost a Spouse, begins Sept. 3; Separation/Divorce and Looking Ahead, begins Sept. 9; Parenting Made Easy: Recipes for Success, begins in the fall.

PASSING THE TORCH

The Federation of Jewish Child Survivors/Hidden Children of the Holocaust 11th annual conference Oct. 16-19 in the Washington area. In addition to survivors, the second generation and kindertransport will be involved. Reservations accepted until Sept. 1. 635-2883, ext. 153.

FOR SENIORS

Association of Jewish Seniors special yom tov dinner Sunday, Sept. 27, at the Bernard Betel Centre, 1003 Steeles Ave. W., 5:30 p.m. Tickets $18 at the Centre Monday-Friday, 10 a.m. to noon, or Senior Care, 530 Wilson Ave. Everyone welcome. For reservations, **Goldie** 635-2860.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). Aug. 20 is a general meeting. Aug. 27 is a lecture by **Lisa Armoni**, director, Institute of International Affairs, B'nai Brith. **Jerry Bengal** 905-707-7334 or **Dalia Dahary** 661-4689.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club: Oct. 27, *Man of La Mancha* at Stratford. In the planning, a trip to Israel in November, orientation and information meeting Aug. 31, 1 p.m. **Lena** 785-5773. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel. **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

Earl Bales Seniors' Club Aug. 24-27, Leelanau Sands Casino, Michigan, $399 (Cdn); Aug. 30, annual barbecue party and entertainment; Sept. 9, Casino Niagara; Sept. 14, Town Hall Square; Oct. 15 and 28, Casino Rama; Nov. 22-25, Atlantic City Trump Plaza Hotel, $449 Canadian (pick up $85 U. S. in casino bonuses). 395-7881.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. 225-2112.

Osteoporosis Support Group meeting Tuesday, Aug. 25, 1:15-2:30 p.m. **Sejal Parikh** , doctor of naturopathic medicine, discusses A Naturopathic Approach to Osteoporosis. Resource person **Joan Turner**.

Israeli Club Etrog meets 7 p.m. Tuesdays for movies, sing-alongs, lectures, bingo, dances. Aug. 25 is a sing-along. **Anna**.

Movie, *My Best Friend's Wedding* Sunday, Aug. 23, 2:30 p.m.

Wednesday afternoon social features songs from around the world with **Jenny Eisenstein**, 1:30 p.m.

BLOOR JCC

Bloor Jewish Community Centre, 750 Spadina Ave. 924-6211.

Rooftop Comedy Jam, Thursday, Aug. 20. Show starts 7:30 p.m. with Graeme Kirkland "Pee Wee" Jazz Band. Celebrate Max's and Israel's 50th birthday. Enjoy Max's harmonica, a Gershwin medley (*Summertime* in Yiddish), comedy, sing along with guest vocalists, dancing. Door prizes – tickets to Toronto comedy clubs. Members $6, nonmembers $8.

BATHURST JC

Bathurst Jewish Centre, 4588 Bathurst St. 636-1880.

Limited nursery half-day and nursery daycare spaces available in September. Ext. 248.

ABOUT PEOPLE

BEIT HALOCHEM NEWS

Toby Feldberg was elected president of Aid to Disabled Veterans of Israel, Beit Halochem Canada, at its recent general meeting held at Beth Tzedec Synagogue. A long-standing member of Beit Halochem, Feldberg has also served in many leadership roles in the general community.

The newly elected executive includes **Henry Fischler, Hope Maissner** and **Peter Sevitt**, vice-presidents; **Diane Shifman**, treasurer; **Julia Sax**, secretary; and **Irit Nayot** and **Roberta Pludwinski**, members at large.

JIAS CANADA PRESIDENT

JIAS Canada announces the appointment of **Sharon Hochberg** as president of its organization. Born and raised in Windsor she brings a wealth of Jewish communal experience and knowledge to her new position, having served in leadership roles with Pioneer Women Na'amat, Windsor; Jewish National Fund; Women's Division, United Jewish Appeal, Ontario region. As well she has served on the board of directors of Windsor Jewish Federation for over 30 years.

Sharon Hochberg

JNF OF TORONTO NEW PRESIDENT

At the recent annual meeting of the Jewish National Fund of Toronto, Sandra (Sandy) Posluns (centre) was acclaimed as the new president of the organization, succeeding Tom Ungar (right), who becomes chairman of the board. With them is Alan Posluns, 1998 Bloomfield Award winner.

DENTAL SYMPOSIUM

Pictured at the Focus on the Future Dental Implant Symposium sponsored by Alpha Omega Fraternity and Canadian Friends of Tel Aviv University are (from left) Dr. George Zarb, University of Toronto; Dr. P.I. Branemark, Goteberg, Sweden; Dr. Ira Shecter, Canadian chair of Alpha Omega's International Focus on the Future campaign and executive member of Canadian Friends of Tel Aviv University; Dr. David Garber, Atlanta, Ga.; Dr. Herb Judes, head of the Dental School at Tel Aviv University. [Beverley Abramson photo]

SINGLES EVENTS CAN BE FOUND ON PAGE 18

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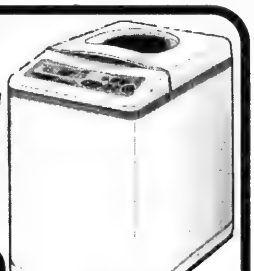

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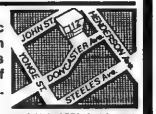

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Dr. Uri Korin and his family

on the loss of his father in Israel,

JACOB KORIN ז"ל

Bodyguard keeps abreast of latest security threats

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Don't refer to Shawn Korman as a mere bodyguard.

He's an executive protection specialist, a trained defensive driver, a martial arts practitioner, a weapons and security expert, and to boot, a nice Jewish boy – all wrapped in a non-menacing five feet ten inches and 195 pounds.

Korman is reflective of the new breed of bodyguard. In the past they may have been hulking gorillas in sunglasses, but today's executive protection specialist has to be up on the latest security threats including biological and chemical weapons, as well as stalking, and be fully conversant in every aspect of personal protection.

Shawn Korman

"People think it's glamorous but it's not," said Korman, the 31-year-old son of well-known Toronto clothier Saul Korman. "We also have to keep track of a client's medication, his appointments, his entire itinerary. We have to know first aid, etiquette, be well-groomed and be up on the latest news to make small talk."

And of course, stay alert for hours on end, watch out for suspicious types and, if necessary, act quickly.

"It's a booming industry," he says. "Billions are being spent on security and protection every year." And more and more executives are demanding personal guards. For Korman, the recent incident in which Microsoft boss Bill Gates was met with a pie in the face was no laughing matter. "If I was his close protection specialist, the guy who did it would be down [on the floor]. What if he'd been carrying a gun or a knife?"

Other CEOs have been less fortunate than Gates. They get regular threats. Some have been kidnapped. And in the entertainment industry, stalking has become a huge threat.

For Korman, the job is not the stuff of newsreels about assassinations. He takes it very seriously.

For starters, he's a black belt in the Korean martial art of Hap Ki Do and an accomplished boxer, as well as a practitioner of Krav Maga, an especially brutal form of self-defence developed in Israel for elite commandoes and high-level government protection specialists.

Korman has been in the business since 1993. Today, he runs S.A.K. Executive Protection. He has six steady clients in Canada and the United States (obviously, he can't say who) but they are high-profile entertainers and business executives. For the last three years, he has accompanied a top American CEO to the Academy Awards.

Where does one learn the volumes Korman knows about security and protection? And how does a nice Jewish boy get into this line?

Korman says he was always interested in the martial arts and studied them at the Jewish Community Centre. After graduating from Tel Aviv University with a language certificate, and from York where he studied philosophy, he dove into the security field. He graduated from Executive Security International Academy, located in the mountains of Colorado.

There, he took courses in high-tech surveillance, team protection, defensive driving, hand-to-hand combat and weaponry (featuring live fire).

Last year, he became the first Canadian to achieve certification as a VIP protection team leader from Israel's prestigious International Security School in Herzliyah. He also recently graduated from a course in chemical and biological terrorism. Korman is licensed to carry a concealed weapon in some U.S. states but not in Canada.

It's not for the faint of heart. But Korman says it's also not for the macho.

"Nine times out of 10, you're not dealing with aggression. You're advising the client or dealing with his needs," he explains. "It's not cops and robbers. The police are reactive. I'm proactive. I can read a person's intent by their eyes."

Has he ever had to get tough?

"No. I once stared down two big guys who were walking toward my client. They turned around. The whole point is to avoid getting physical. If anything happens to your client, you haven't done your job. Dead clients don't pay."

Korman charges between $35 and $95 an hour, depending on the risk. He's turned down work that was either too risky or involved unsavory types.

Sometimes even the best protection specialists fail, as in the assassination of Yitzhak Rabin and the 1981 attempt on Ronald Reagan. "It's always the little things that can mess you up," Korman says. "I watch for the little things."

SINGLES EVENTS

Singles Events is an advertising feature of *The Canadian Jewish News*

Deadline is Wednesday, 4pm, 8 days preceding issue date.

For rates or to place an ad, call:
Tanya at (416) 391-1836

***The CJN* encourages readers to direct any queries they may have on an upcoming event to the event's organizers.**

***GAMES JEWISH SINGLES PLAY! Sun, Aug. 23, at 7:30 pm,** Beth Torah, 47 Glenbrook, Ages 21-39, 40-69. **New:** Separate rooms for each group! ***BRIDGE, Trivial Pursuit, Rummicube, Scrabble, etc. Early Bird Bingo,** 7:30-8pm. Prizes, refreshments, $5.00. **85 couples have already met! Free introductions.** Mollie 416-733-3634.

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Community Matters

UJA FEDERATION CAMPAIGN LAUNCH

HERE WE GO FOR FIFTY

The launch of UJA Federation's most ambitious annual fundraising drive is just around the corner. The goal – to reach a campaign total of $50 million a year by 2001.

"This is not just the start of a new campaign," says long time UJA Federation supporter Barbara Bank. "It's the beginning of a new standard in communal giving." Bank, together with David Koschitzky, are chairing the upcoming Campaign for Fifty kick-off, Monday, August 31, 8:00 p.m. at the downtown Metro Toronto Convention Centre, John Bassett Theatre, 255 Front Street West.

David Koschitzky

Barbara Bank

World renowned Israeli performers Yovel and famous Israeli comedian Tuvia Tsafir will headline the evening's entertainment which will also include an elaborate musical production and special UJA Federation video presentations.

Tickets to the event, followed by a dessert reception, which cost $18 per person in advance and $20 at the door, can be purchased by calling the UJA Federation Hotline at (416) 631-5700. Nearly 1500 community members are expected to attend.

The Campaign for Fifty, chaired by Brent Belzberg and Larry Tanenbaum, will be asking donors for increased contributions over a three year period in order to raise the annual campaign total to $50 million - $13.5 million more than last year. The additional funds will go toward new, innovative projects that strengthen Jewish identity, provide more assistance to the vulnerable and rescue Jews from danger and uncertainty throughout the world. The allocation priorities were determined after extensive consultation with UJA Federation contributors, beneficiary organizations, volunteer and professional leadership.

"There are few among us who haven't benefitted, either directly or indirectly, from the services and programs funded by UJA Federation and there's only one organization capable of providing these services," notes Koschitzky. "It's time for all of us to step up to the plate and reaffirm our commitment to our community and the future."

"The future is not a given," adds Bank. "It's up to each and every one of us to take responsibility for each other and our community."

Leventhal's Launch Mosaic

Toronto artist Ian Leventhal makes his living designing, creating and selling his works of art all over the world. You may have even caught a glimpse of one of his latest pieces hanging on the wall of your favourite Second Cup– in Toronto or even Jerusalem.

But as his donation of an original mosaic used to adorn the cover of UJA Federation's Campaign for Fifty Launch invitation and other promotional material demonstrates, Leventhal also uses his talent to help others and express his commitment to community.

"Art is the best way for me to give something back," says Leventhal who is also a husband and father of three. "I'm also very grateful for the support UJA Federation has given for Jewish art and culture to thrive in this city."

The internationally acclaimed Toronto-born sculptor and mural artist says inspiration for the piece depicting a glowing sun and vibrant stars set against the midnight sky, came from the many ancient mosaics he saw while on archeological digs in Israel.

"I wanted to illuminate hope for the future but, at the same time, anchor it in the rich Jewish traditions of the past," explains Leventhal.

Fans of Leventhal's work can view his latest mural design at the new Associated Hebrew Day School on Neptune Drive.

Ian Leventhal

Music Moves Campaign Ahead

UJA Federation is importing some powerful Israeli talent to raise the curtain on the historic Campaign for Fifty on August 31 at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre, John Bassett Theatre.

The Yovel singers, who have spent the last year performing *A Time to Rejoice* throughout South America, Europe, Australia and South Africa, will use song and videos to lead the audience through the dramatic events leading to the establishment of the State of Israel. All six members of Yovel - Hebrew for Jubilee - served in the Israeli military in army entertainment troupes before becoming professional.

"In this show we wanted to communicate the vitality of this country and its many achievements in a very personal way," explains Canadian born creative director Allan Pakes. "So we went looking for young talented people who could express what Israel is all about."

Yovel

But singing and dancing is not all that's in store for Launch participants. Leading Israeli-born comedian and television personality Tuvia Tsafir, known for his impersonations of well-known Israeli personalities, will also take the stage. Tsafir, acclaimed for his musical portrayal of Nathan Detroit in a 1992 version of *Guys and Dolls*, also completed his military service as an entertainer and musician.

"There will be something for everyone," forecasts Launch co-chair Barbara Bank.

***Community Matters**, a supplement of the Canadian Jewish News, is sponsored and produced by UJA Federation. Website: www.feduja.org*

Community Matters

Israelis Catch The Campaign Spirit

By Adi Neuberger

After less than a year, the Jewish Agency's first national campaign to raise funds from Israelis is proving to be a huge success, according to Chairman Nicky Capelouto and Director Joe Dushansky. They recently visited Toronto to share the good news with UJA Federation and members of Toronto's Jewish community. The Jewish Agency is funded by the world-wide UJA Federation movement.

The Spirit of Israel campaign, which was officially launched last March with a mass media blitz, has, according to Capelouto, raised 15 million shekel or approximately $6 million (CDN) so far. "We generated an enthusiasm that was beyond our wildest expectations," he says.

Donations to date range from 100 shekels to $1 million U.S. and, says Capelouto, are coming from Israeli farmers, businessmen and blue collar workers. "It's a real eye opener to see who's pledging their support."

The motivation for Israelis to open their wallets is helping the Jewish Agency provide housing, food and care for an increasingly aging Israeli population. A survey conducted among 35,000 Israelis showed that a majority of the public would be willing to fund the campaign if the money went toward care for the elderly, programs for victims of abuse and increased support for supplemental education.

"Our main goal was to educate the public about the work of the Jewish Agency and why they should contribute to the campaign," explains Capelouto. "It just so happens that the Jewish Agency maintains the largest network of old age and nursing homes in the country. What better organization to give the money to?"

Dushansky and Capelouto also told UJA Federation volunteers and professionals that the campaign's early success sends a powerful message to UJA Federation campaigns around the world. "Now that Israelis are willingly taking more financial responsibility for their own welfare, the partnership between the Diaspora and Israel will be strengthened," Dushansky predicts.

(left) Joe Dushansky and Nicky Capelouto

Volunteer Views

For many Jewish seniors living in hospitals and nursing homes, loneliness and isolation can often be as crippling and debilitating as any medical illness. But three volunteers with the Chaplaincy Volunteer Program of Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care are doing their best to make sure the residents of Baycrest Centre and Baycrest Terrace are not forgotten.

Debbie Vigoda and Ernest and Lori Gershon have worked in different fields of health care for most of their lives. But it's their shared passionate concern for the well-being of the elderly in our community and strong commitment to Jewish tradition that brought the threesome together in a harmony of healing.

For more than two years the Gershons, who own their own medical consulting and insurance business, and Vigoda, Director of the Ontario Gerentology Association, have been visiting Baycrest residents weekly, delivering their own brand of spiritual and emotional healing either one-on-one or in small groups.

"Sometimes we read to them, sometimes we pray with them from the Bible," explains Ernest. "And sometimes we just hold their hands and listen," Lori adds. "Each one of us has the need for healing at some point in our lives."

Ernest and Lori themselves were on the receiving end of chaplaincy care when they were both seriously injured in a car accident eight years ago while living in New York City. "We'll never forget the numerous phone calls we received from Rabbi Marmur and Rabbi Moscowitz from Holy Blossom Temple," recalls Ernest. "Their caring voices made a big difference to us during our recuperation," notes Lori.

Vigoda says volunteer work has become an integral part of her life, providing an opportunity to link the Jewish tradition of helping others with her specialized skills.

"Listening and just being close to the person is the most important thing I do during my visits," she says. "I think they find my voice soothing."

(from left) Debbie Vigoda, Lori Gershon and Ernest Gershon

If you would like to find out about Chaplaincy Program volunteers at Baycrest, call Sandy Frankel at (416) 785-2500 ext. 2576. For other volunteer opportunities in the community, call Shelly Rotman at UJA Federation, (416) 635-2883 ext 137.

ATID Reunites

More than 50 members of UJA Federation's ATID second generation leadership division recently gathered at the home of Campaign for Fifty Co-Chair Lawrence Tanenbaum and his wife Judy for the first ATID event of the campaign. ATID participants were updated on the Campaign for Fifty, which will be officially launched on August 31 at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre and heard from Jewish educator Dr. Elliot Malamet who spoke about the importance of developing new young leaders. ATID is co-chaired by Ken Tanenbaum and Alison Himel.

Pictured left to right: Lynn Kirshin, Chair of UJA Federation's Young Leadership Cabinet, Lisa Aaron and Barbara Oelbaum.

Photo: Stephen Epstein.

Greater Toronto Area

Bram Kaplan tops OAC list with 99.8 percent avererage

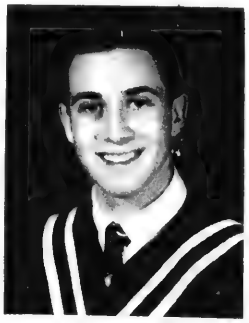
By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Go figure how Bram Kaplan can do homework in front of the television and still pull off a 99.8 percent average in his OAC year.

The top graduating student in the Greater Toronto Area and possibly in Ontario, Kaplan completed Richmond Hill High School with marks of 100 percent in Accounting, Algebra/Geometry, Calculus, Chemistry and Computers. Only his Physics mark – 99 percent – nudged his average a fraction below perfect.

Kaplan, 19, says he prefers school more for the social atmosphere than the academic aspect. He estimates he spends two to three hours a night on homework, leaving himself time to go out with friends, listen to music, ski, bike and play tennis. Earlier this summer he travelled in Europe.

But when it comes to schoolwork, he's a perfectionist. "One thing that really helps is learning from your mistakes."



Bram Kaplan

A native of Montreal who moved here at age 3 with his family, Kaplan was identified as gifted in Grade 3, and was in a gifted program from grades 7 to 12, after leaving a French immersion program.

He credits Pat Zrihen, his teacher in grades 3, 4 and 6 at Beverley Acres Public School, for teaching him discipline. "She would always challenge me. She wouldn't accept laziness or failure. I probably didn't appreciate it at the time, but looking back I'm really glad I had her as a teacher."

His parents, he says, always encouraged but never pushed him.

He pushed himself to boost his average bit by bit from 87 percent, his Grade 9 average.

It was evident in elementary school that math was Kaplan's forte. He worked from higher-level textbooks than his classmates, and in Grade 6 scored higher than any of the Grade 7 students at his school when he wrote (on an unofficial basis) the Gauss contest, the Grade 7 math competition sponsored by the University of Waterloo.

Among his numerous academic awards, he recently ranked in the top three percent out of over 7,400 students who wrote the University of Waterloo's Descartes Mathematics Competition.

This fall Kaplan, who plans a career as an actuary, will begin the Honors Mathematics program at the University of Waterloo on a $9,000 scholarship. Although he'd considered a $13,000 scholarship offered by the University of Toronto, once he decided to opt for the math co-op program (which U of T doesn't offer), his choice became "obvious."

So what would he tell other students who aspire to marks like his? "You've got to work hard at it. Be persistent. Seek help when you're not sure how to do something – don't let it go by."

Kaplan also finds it helps him to help others students with their work. "When they ask me questions and I give them the answers, it means I understand it myself."

And about doing homework in front of the television – he only did that sometimes.

Family Quest mission set

TORONTO — Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario region (CJC), is initiating a 12-day small communities' family educational institute in Israel called Family Quest.

The inaugural program is scheduled from Dec. 21, 1998 to Jan. 4, 1999 and is open to any Canadian Jewish family living in a small community.

Family Quest is operated in partnership with the Canada Israel Experience Centre. CJC staff and Jewish Agency personnel will try to expose families to different programs and concepts than can be implemented in their own communities, said Michael Soberman, director of community services and youth activities.

Some of the program highlights will be attendance at the Israel Experience opening ceremonies at Ceasarea; group ceremonies at Yad Vashem and Har Herzl; Shabbat at the Kotel in Jerusalem; and visits to Tel Aviv, Safed, Canada Centre in Metulla and northern Israel, Massada and the Dead Sea.

Cost of the trip is $2,499 for adults, $2,350 for the first child (under 12) and $2,250 for each additional child. Costs include round-trip airfare, 10-night accommodation, all meals (except on free weekend), entrance fees and guides. Special programs will be offered to children at many sites. (Children must be at least six years old to participate in the mission.)

For more information, call Soberman at the CJC offices in Toronto, 635-2883, ext. 152 or e-mail [soberm1@ibm.net].

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On Campus

Shabbat in Nairobi was anything but normal

By BARRY PAKES
Special to The CJN

We barely had a minyan Friday night. This was not normal for the small but committed Nairobi Jewish community, but this was not a normal Friday night.

SPECIAL REPORT

Many shul-goers were still helping out at the hospitals, while others were too afraid to leave their homes. The sanctuary was buzzing with the gory descriptions given by those of us who had witnessed the explosion or its aftermath. Just looking at the flattened buildings and shattered windows up to one kilometre away, you could understand why there were 4,000 injured and some 250 dead.

The man with the British accent who was going to lead services commented that he was the architect of three of the four buildings severely damaged in Dar-es-Salaam and Nairobi.

Many of the shul members, whose ancestors were British settlers in the last century, described the devastation wreaked on their businesses and how they each escaped death.

I in turn explained that I am a Canadian medical student doing research in East Africa, and I accidentally took the wrong bus from Chagoria Hospital on Mount Kenya and was, luckily, hours late when I finally arrived at the smoldering remains of the Nairobi business district.

We got a minyan and decided to begin, although the leader of the community, who is the chief of medicine at the Nairobi hospital, was still absent.

At dinner, we joined all Kenyans in trying to understand what had happened, but before night's end many ordinary Kenyans had already come to their own conclusions. "If I see an Arab now, I will slaughter him like a goat," I overheard a man telling his friend in Swahili on my walk home.

On Shabbat morning, we received word that 200 Israelis were coming to stay with us at the Nairobi Synagogue complex. After quickly davening and eating, we spent the hours before the Israelis arrived walking between the Kenyatta and Nairobi hospitals to do all we could to help and to donate blood.

My white skin and my kippah made it easy for me to approach the now heavily guarded explosion site. I stared for about two hours at the huge co-op building whose glass face had come crashing down on a line of people waiting for visas. Hundreds of Kenyan soldiers lazed about, throwing garbage all over the crime scene. There was no organization and with each passing moment, evidence was being destroyed and the hope of finding survivors was dwindling.

Finally the Israelis arrived, donned their yellow hats and began to direct the operation. The Kenyans were overjoyed. "The Israelis are perfect" they exclaimed. "You remember we refueled them from Entebbe," another mentioned. "The Americans are only wanting to help their people, but the Israelis are trying to help Kenyans."

Meanwhile, at the synagogue, the medical team had already made themselves at home, shedding their uniforms for T-shirts and jelly slippers. The synagogue was turned into a reserve army base in about an hour. Hundreds of green dufflebags, cases of bottled water and 40 cases of field rations were piled in the hallway. The Israelis worked in shifts through the night.

I would never have thought at Friday night services that we would end up having 200 additional guests on Saturday for seudah shlishit. One normally thinks of Israel absorbing Diaspora communities. This time it was a Diaspora community temporarily absorbing Israelis.

It will not be talked about in the news, but Jews the world over must remember how Diaspora communities, even small ones, can help change the political reality for Israel. The presence of the Nairobi Synagogue and a Jewish community with good relations with the local government, enabled the Israeli operation to proceed with ease.

The Israelis are gone now, but they will be remembered fondly in Kenya, improving the relationship between Israel and non-aligned Africa.

Throughout East Africa my kippah was greeted with warm shaloms from Ethiopians and Kenyans who knew of the courageous and strong State of Israel, as well as caring committed Jewish aid-workers from the Diaspora.

Barry Pakes is a third year medical student at UofT who spent three months doing medical research in Ethiopia and Kenya, and is currently studying in a yeshiva in Jerusalem.

Controversial thesis approved

By DAVID LAZARUS
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — Laval University (LU) recently approved a controversial Master's thesis that was seen by some – including one of the paper's own examiners – as an apologia for the Nazi regime, raising questions about the university's evaluation process.

The 245-page paper, by political science graduate student Pierre Asselin, presents the main thesis that Quebec nationalist icon Lionel Groux based his ardent defence of the Quebec "race" in a "corporatist" philosophy – an alternative to liberalism and socialism emerging out of a conservative nationalism running through Europe – including Nazi Germany – during the 20th century.

Asselin, however, while praised even by critics for his thoroughness and research skills, aroused concern over other aspects to his thesis, which seemed to validate behavior by the Nazi regime.

Needless to say, Asselin's thesis sparked a debate both within the academic community and from outside critics over issues of academic freedom and how graduate papers are assessed.

Last week, Canadian Jewish Congress, Quebec region (CJC-Q), sent a letter to LU rector François Tavenas complaining about the thesis.

Mazel Tov

מזל טוב

We cannot guarantee the date a picture will appear. Please limit all greetings to 25 typewritten words. We reserve the right to edit all items and condense any that are longer than that.

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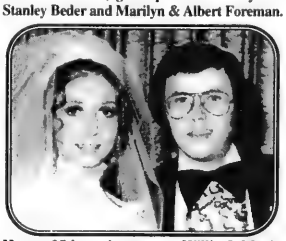
Irving & Henna Pomeranz announce the marriage of their son Cary Robert to Cindy Allison, daughter of Gordon & Sandra Smith. Mazel tov.

Happy first birthday Hailey Madison Foreman. Love, parents Melanie & Mitchell, brother Joshua, grandparents Marilyn & Stanley Beder and Marilyn & Albert Foreman.

Sherrill & John Berrys and Arlene & Allan Fishman announce the engagement of Andrea & Richard. Grandmothers are Betty Dectar and Anne Riff.

Lin Goodman and Harry & Fran Goodman announce the engagement of their daughter Dana to Ronen, son of Avraham & Semona Ianco of Israel.

Mazel tov to Molly & Harry Weinstein on your 50th wedding anniversary. Love from your children, grandchildren, family and friends.



Happy 25th anniversary to Willie & Marla Rozen, with lots of love and happiness from your parents, Sam & Ella Rozencwajg and family.

Max & Eva Smugler celebrated 50 years of marriage on June 20. Mazel tov, we love you, Jack & Josh and Sherry & Morrey.

Mazel tov to Hye & Honey Wiseman on your 50th wedding anniversary. We wish you happiness always. With love from your children and grandchildren.

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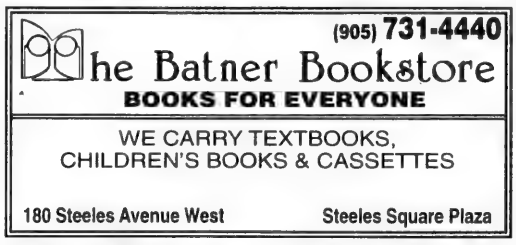

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MC keeps tax exempt status

By DAVID LAZARUS
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — Maccabi Canada (MC) officials heaved a huge sigh of relief recently when the Federal Court of Appeal in Ottawa rejected a bid by Revenue Canada to revoke MC's tax-exempt status as a registered Canadian amateur athletic association (RCAAA).

"This nightmare is now behind them," said Montreal lawyer Barbara Novek, a partner in the firm of Sweibel, Novek, who with lawyer Arthur Drache of Ottawa led MC's four-year fight to keep its status.

If the court had upheld Revenue Canada's decision, it would have almost certainly spelled an end to the 23-year-old organization.

Why did Canada's tax department go after MC in the first place?

Because, the revenue ministry argued that according to its revised interpretation of subsection 248(1) of the Income Tax Act, MC did not carry on its activities on a "nation-wide basis" – not in the geographic sense, but in a demographic one – in order to qualify as a tax-exempt RCAAA.

According to the revenue ministry's reading of "nation-wide," MC not only had to be active across Canada – which it is – but provide, "a public benefit to Canadians in general."

In other words, not just cater to members of the Jewish community.

Justice Gilles Létourneau, however, representing the unanimous view of the Court of Appeal's three justices, rejected this argument out-of-hand in a June 30 "judgment from the bench," a ruling that came down after only a few hours of deliberation the same day arguments were put forward.

"In our view, these words [nation-wide] describe a geographic requirement only," the Court said.

"It is sufficient that a Canadian amateur athletic association applying for registration under the Act carries on activities across Canada and not be provincially, regionally or locally limited.

"This interpretation is consistent with the legislative intent to ensure that the issuing of receipts to donators (sic) would come from a single organization at the national level and Revenue Canada would not have to interface with a myriad of provincial, regional and local organizations."

Ironically, MC's troubles, Novek said, date back at least five years, when due to sheer oversight, the organization failed to file an "information" tax return.

Although that situation was remedied quickly, the revenue department began to review MC's original application for RCAAA status and to re-assess its definition of "nation-wide." It then began the process of revoking Maccabi Canada's RCAAA status.

Revenue Canada argued in court that no national amateur sports group that excludes based on race, religion or ethnicity should enjoy tax benefits.

Novek and Drache responded that while only Jewish athletes tend to affiliate with Maccabi Canada, no where in its charter does it specifically restrict affiliation to Jews.

The Court said, essentially, that Revenue Canada's point about exclusion based on race, religion or ethnicity was besides the point.

"Counsel may be right," the Court said, "in his contention that a Canadian amateur athletic association who advocates and applies exclusionary or discriminatory practices should not be granted a registration so as to enjoy tax benefits."

The Court ruled that, "The Respondent [the Minister of National Revenue] has not been able to point to any reference in the [Income Tax] Act which would justify giving [the words 'nation-wide'] a different and more encompassing meaning like the one sought."

Within Maccabi Canada, she said, "people were certainly very, very happy" by the Court of Appeal's ruling.

How will Swiss funds be disbursed?

[Cont'd. from page 1]

"We don't want a repeat of the claims conference," he said, referring to the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany, an unwieldy agency headquartered in New York.

In June, Jewish groups rejected as inadequate an offer by Swiss banks to pay $600 million to settle all claims.

Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) says there are about 100 Holocaust survivors in Canada who have claims against Swiss banks, most of them living in the Toronto area.

CJC and B'nai Brith Canada (BBC) both welcomed the settlement. Congress called it "just," while BBC said it was "pleased" with the deal.

Jack Silverstone, CJC's national executive director, said the settlement is separate from the $170-million (US) humanitarian fund set up last year by Swiss banks for the benefit of Holocaust survivors, specifically the needy.

Roughly $2 million was allocated to Canada, where an estimated one-third of all Jewish poor are over age 65.

A committee of Congress members, Holocaust survivors and lawyers will be struck to handle claims and disburse funds. Silverstone said the money should be distributed in the coming months, either directly to needy survivors or to communal social welfare programs.

As for last week's settlement, "we don't know how it will affect Canada yet. We hope to settle direct claims first" and distribute the remainder for humanitarian reasons, Silverstone said.

"We know people have been waiting for five decades, but they have to be a bit more patient," Silverstone added. "At this stage of the game, the best thing for people to do is to wait a little longer and see how the terms and conditions of the deal are going to play out in the coming weeks and months."

But according to CJC president Moshe Ronen, a committee made up of lawyers and community leaders "may very well be implemented" to distribute funds arising from the settlement "quickly and locally."

That has Karas seeing red: "CJC has no business attempting to determine who is entitled to compensation and who isn't. That's wrong and un-Jewish."

In the meantime, the settlement has to be approved by the federal judge in New York who considered whether to hear the $20-billion class-action lawsuit against the Swiss banks brought by 35,000 plaintiffs worldwide.

However, that's expected to be a formality, and the first payment of $250 million (US) will be made 90 days after the judge grants his approval.

Subsequent payments will be made on the second, third and fourth anniversaries of his approval.

The judge and the plaintiffs' lawyers will develop a plan to determine how the money will reach claimants. Karas said he and an American colleague will be there "to make sure [Canadian] clients are not short-changed."

However, "it remains to be seen who is entitled to what. We're very concerned. We would like to know who is entitled to recovery from the settlement."

A large portion of the settlement will be used to satisfy claims filed with the Swiss ombudsman by survivors or their heirs seeking the return of dormant bank accounts.

Roughly 6,000 claims from around the world are still being probed by a panel led by former U.S. Federal Reserve chair Paul Volcker.

Among the claimants to a dormant account is Toronto contractor Edward Leibi, 70. His uncle, who had been a currency trader before the war, was on his death bed at a concentration camp when he tried to tell Leibi something before dying.

Leibi suspects it was about the existence of money stashed in a Swiss bank.

Leibi, himself a survivor of nine different camps, calls the settlement "nothing...a drop in the bucket compared to what the Swiss did. They prolonged the war by collaborating with the Nazis."

– With files from JTA

From coast to coast

CJC, ARJSH meet with Romanian ambassador

OTTAWA — Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) and members of the Association of Romanian Jewish Survivors of the Holocaust (ARJSH) recently met with Romania's ambassador to Canada to discuss Holocaust-related activities in that country.

"Following our successful meeting with representatives of the Department of Foreign Affairs in June, we believed it essential to communicate our concerns to the new Romanian ambassador. We were delighted with the warm and cordial reception given us by Ambassador [Gabriel] Gafita and his willingness to support our advocacy," said ARJSH president Issie Veisfeld.

The delegation discussed several priorities presented in a brief to Romanian President Emil Constantinescu in Montreal earlier this year.

Foremost among these is the need for increased education, particularly among Romanian youth. "Educational reform is primarily aimed at teaching young Romanians the truth, but it may also help diminish attempts at Holocaust denial by certain members of the wartime generation living in Canada," said CJC Ottawa office director Eric Vernon."

Also discussed was the possibility of having memorials listing names of the dead placed at the sites of mass graves in Romania where Jews were buried during the war.

At the same time, the delegation once again protested the campaign to memorialize wartime leader, general Ion Antonescu as a hero and patriot.

"It is a bizarre contradiction to educate young Romanians about what happened to the Jews in Romania during the World War II, while others are working to rehabilitate the reputation of Antonescu," said ARJSH honorary vice-president Lou Zablow.

Another issue related to the restitution of property seized before and during the war, both communal and private. "The Romanian government of the day evicted us from our homes and businesses and expropriated our land and property," Veisfeld said. "We look to the Romanian government of today, which seeks to maintain its standing among the civilized nations of the world, to make right what its predecessors did to us over 50 years ago."

Gafita said he would discuss the issues with the appropriate officials in Bucharest. In particular, he indicated a willingness to assist in several property restitution cases, based on a list of names and documents to be provided by Veisfeld. He noted that several Jewish communal properties have already been returned to the community and that Romania's prime minister recently announced that others are being processed for return.

Romanian survivors who had property confiscated between 1940 and 1945 are asked to contact ARJSH if they wish to be included on the list. Phone 514-676-0687 or fax 514-656-5572.

PICNIC AND CONCERT IN THE PARK

Over 600 people attended a recent Beit Rayim Synagogue and Hebrew School barbecue and concert in Richmond Hill's Mill Pond. They enjoyed the Russ Myers Band performing klezmer and Israeli music.

CFRB's Adler returns to Winnipeg

By MYRON LOVE
Prairie Correspondent

WINNIPEG — Charles Adler, popular CFRB morning man in Toronto, is coming home.

He will be replacing Peter Warren, the longtime host of CJOB's daily morning show, who is retiring after 28 years. CJOB is Winnipeg's most listened to station and Warren's show has the most listeners.

"I was flattered to be offered the job," Adler says. "Peter Warren was my inspiration."

Adler first came to Winnipeg in 1983 as news director of a rival radio station. He left in 1990 to host an open-line show in Calgary. He also spent a few years in the United States hosting open-line shows before signing on with CFRB two years ago.

Although he arrives in Winnipeg on Sept. 1, he will not be taking up his new position until November. "I need time to get reacquainted with the city and find out what is going on," he says. "It wouldn't be a smart thing to go on the air cold."

He promises that his show will not be a clone of the Peter Warren show. He is considering making it a little more entertainment-oriented and perhaps introducing some background music.

When Adler last lived in Winnipeg, he was involved in the Winnipeg Jewish Theatre and used the YMHA. He looks forward to joining the Rady Jewish Community Centre at the new Asper Jewish Community Campus.

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From coast to coast

Vancouver Sephardic congregation to get new shul

By PETER CAULFIELD
Pacific Correspondent

VANCOUVER — Vancouver's Congregation Beth Hamidrash, the only Sephardic congregation in Canada west of Toronto, will soon be getting a new home.

Construction of a new synagogue on the site of the present shul is slated to begin at the end of the year.

Rabbi Yosef Benarroch, spiritual leader of Congregation Beth Hamidrash, called the new synagogue "a dream come true.

"Our community really deserves the new facility," Rabbi Benarroch said. "It will be a comfortable building from every aspect, and it will make everything we do here more comfortable."

Beth Hamidrash has a membership of approximately 150 families. The present synagogue is 2,600 square feet in area. The new structure will be 7,400 sq. ft.

Synagogue president Tony DuMoulin told *The CJN* that the congregation decided to build a new synagogue because the present building is old and in need of serious repairs. "The building was constructed some time in the 1950s, if not earlier, and the last time it was renovated was 1977," DuMoulin said.

The new building is expected to take 11 months to complete said architect Michael Katz who is in charge of the project.

Total cost of construction is approximately $1 million, DuMoulin said.

Thanks to a large donation from two Vancouver businesspeople, the congregation is part way towards raising the necessary funds. "Beth Hamidrash received a very generous gift of $100,000 from Morris Wosk, and Victor Setton, who is a member of the congregation, has agreed to match contributions to the building fund," DuMoulin noted.

Katz said the new two-storey synagogue will be extended 20 feet back. On the main floor will be the synagogue entrance, offices and the sanctuary. Upstairs will house the women's gallery and classrooms. The kitchen, dining room and teens room will be in the basement.

Katz said the synagogue's sanctuary will increase in size only marginally. "Most of increased space will accommodate facilities that we don't have in the present building," he said.

"[The synagogue] is going to be in the same place it's been in for years, so people aren't going to have to move," said Katz. "That's extremely important."

He said the new building will retain the feeling of the present synagogue. "It's going to be modest and cozy and extremely beautiful inside," Katz explained. "There will be maple trim, large skylights and Sephardic arches. The bimah will be centralized.

The entrance will be from the west – the back of the building – rather than from the front, as it is now, so that people will not be disturbed during the service."

The back lane behind the synagogue will be paved in brick. The Heather Street facade – the front of the building – will be redone in Jerusalem stone to improve the streetscape.

There will be stained glass windows on the Heather Street facade, and Mogen David-shaped windows on the doors.

שישאר בינינו

גידי קורן וחברים

נורמן ספקטור חוזר הביתה:
נורמן ספקטור, שגריר לשעבר של קנדה בישראל,ואחר-כך העורך של גרוזלם פוסט לתקופה קצרה. לאחרונה הצטרף ספקטור כעיתונאי לי Globe&mail. ומאוד מעניין לי כישראלי, לקרוא את זוית הראיה שלו על המזרח התיכון. אני מביא כאן, בתרגום חופשי, קטעים נבחרים מן הטור של ספקטור בעיתון הקנדי שפורסם בסוף יולי: "ביליתי את מרבית שש השנים האחרונות תחת השמש הישראלית החמה בין ישראלים ופלסטינים. להיות מחוץ לבית לתקופה אורכה- מחדד את החושים ומראה את העולם במשקפיים חדשים. אם אתה לא אוהב הפתעות תישאר בבית.

... בשלוש השנים בראשונות גרתי בוולה שנשקפת לים עם משרת טבח ונהג ושירתתי במה שמשרד החוץ קורה "שירות קשה". בחמישה עשר החודשים האחרונים חייתי כאזרח מן השורה וראיתי צד אחר של ישראל: מלחמה על הכביש כמו כל אזרח רגיל, ועשיית עסקים בכלכלה שנשארה עדיין ממושכנת לשורשים סוציאליסטים....לפני מספר חודשים, בשהתפוצצה פרשת המוסד בירדן, כשאנשי מוסד השתמשו בדכונים קנדים מזויפים, עשה ספקטור מעשה בלתי יאומן לגבי מי שהוא שגריר לשעבר: הוא אישר שהיו בין שרותי הביטחון של ישראל לקנדה חילופי מידע והסכמים. אין ספק שעמדתו הבלתי מקובלת במקרה זה עזרה להעביר לקנדים את הידיעה שנושא הדרכונים אינו כ"כ חמור וצריך לראות אותו בקונטקסט של קהילת הביטחון והריגול. לדעת רבים הוכיח ספקטור (שהיה כבר עורך עיתון ישראלי) נאמנות בלתי רגילה לשורשיו...

יד ימינו של נתניהו:
שמעון פרס הפסיד בכל מערכות הבחירות שבהן הנהיג את מפלגת העבודה. עכשיו, למרות שכבר בחרו מנהיג חדש תחתיו, ולמרות שזכה בפרס נובל ובכל כיבוד אחר שקיים תחת השמש, הוא משקיע מאמצים אדירים להבטיח שנתניהו ימשיך להיות ראש ממשלה לפחות שתים עשרה שנה, אם לא שש עשרה. לפני מספר שבועות רצה אהוד ברק להראות לעיתונות העולמית איך עובדת הדמוקרטיה של מפלגת העבודה ופתח ישיבת מזכירות לעיתונאי העולם. מה עשה פרס? נעמד ובנאום כועס סיפר לכל העולם איזה דיקטטור ברק ואיזה גועל נפש לעבוד איתו. וואלה, זה מה שהוא עשה לרבין לפני עשרים שנה! ועל זה כינה אותו רבין: "חתרן בלתי נלאה".

בביתו במדבר - מאיר שלו:
ספר ישראלי עם טעם סברס... שכדאי לקרוא... "גדלתי יתום מאב, מדודים ומסב, בביתן של חמש נשים- אמא, סבתי, שתי דודותי ואת, אחותי הקטנה, הכלבתה-שחינכו אותי, ליטפו אותי, האכילו אותי, ספרו לי זכרונות והעמידו אותי לפני קיר המסדרון." האשה הגדולה שהיתה חמש נשים, מגדלת בן יחד (כיצד אתה הקורא היית מרגישה בסיטואציה שכזו?) קורות חייו של ילד צבר הולכת ונפרשת במרקם שזור ומיוחד. מנקודת מבטו של גבר בשנות החמישים. קשה להמנע מאסוציאציות לספר "מאה שנים של בדידות" והמורכבות שבו. מי שגדל בארץ ומחובר לאבניה וסלעיה, לאנשיה ולחיות השכונה וכמובן לחוויות הצבא, ימצא את ריחם בין הדפים. והרי אלה כתובות כמסע איטי מילדות עד שעת המות. " לא לכל תחליך בחיים יש רגע ומקום ברורים של התחלה אבל אהבתי הנזדלה לשיחי הרותם התחילה אז ושם, בניווטים ההם במדבר, בצינת השחר ובקיפאון הערב הדלקנו לנו מדורות קטנות ולוהטות מאוד מענפיהם המתים, ששטפונות אשתקד שברו וסחפו וצברו במכשולי הזרימה של האפיקים. ובימים עלה ריח פרחיהם הטוב, המנחם... מרים ויגעים היינו וכל-כך כואבים, עד שלא אחת היה אחד מאתנו קם וטומן את ראשו בסבך הענפים הריחניים, נאחז ונושם, שב לחיים ומרתתי".

מת שבע קורן

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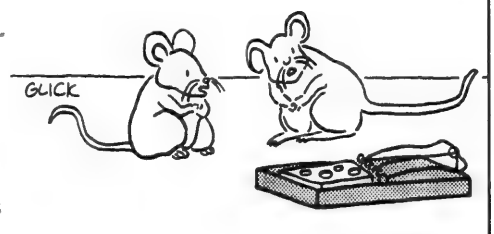

"Now is that real cheese or is it the pareve kind made out of tofu?"

Israel Bonds to honor five Hamilton women

By MOURA WOLPERT
CJN Correspondent

HAMILTON — Five women, all with distinguished volunteer service, will be honored at the annual Hamilton State of Israel Bonds Women's Division luncheon on Sept. 16, at Adas Israel Synagogue.

The guest speaker will be Bel Kaufman, English professor and author of the best-selling *Up the Down Staircase*, and granddaughter of Shalom Aleichem.

Toronto-born Tishelle Adelman is a past president of Hamilton Hadassah-WIZO Council; a former chair of the southern region and past member-at-large of the national executive, Canadian Hadassah-WIZO; current president of Chai chapter and a member of the honorary advisory council of the national executive, Canadian Hadassah-WIZO.

She is a board member of the Jewish National Fund (JNF); past president of Temple Anshe Sholom Deborah sisterhood and a canvasser for the United Jewish Appeal (UJA) and other organizations.

Stephanie McLean, born in New York and raised in Oshawa, is also a past council president of Hamilton Hadassah-WIZO; a past president of Adas Israel sisterhood; a past chair of UJA Women's Division and Bonds Women's Division; a former JNF committee member and a former Jewish federation board member.

Hamiltonian Flora Rams began her volunteer activities as a youngster, helping her father, the late Frank Vigodny, with JNF Blue Box collections. She was president of B'nai Brith Girls and later president of her B'nai Brith Women's chapter, and is a past national board member of B'nai Brith Canada.

She is also a past president of the Hamilton Section of the National Council of Jewish Women; a life member of Hadassah-WIZO; a past vice-president of the Beth Jacob sisterhood and the immediate past chair of the Hamilton Bonds women's division. As well, Rams is active in UJA.

Sarah Rochwerg, also a Hamiltonian, is a longtime volunteer who has held numerous positions in Hadassah-WIZO and is currently serving as treasurer. She is a past president of the now defunct Hamilton Talmud Torah Home and School Association and of the George R. Allan Home and School Association.

Dr. Nadia Rosa, a microbiologist, was born in Czechoslovakia. As a child during World War II, she lived in the Bratislava ghetto with her mother and grandparents, then went into hiding with a gentile family. Finally, along with her mother, she survived the Theresienstadt concentration camp.

In Canada since 1968, Rosa is a past president of Hamilton Women's ORT and has served on the executive of the board of directors of Canadian Women's ORT. Actively involved in the Hamilton Holocaust Remembrance Committee, Rosa is a founding member and chair of the Holocaust Education Committee, which organizes an annual high school Holocaust Education Seminar. As well, she is secretary/treasurer of Beth Tikvah Foundation, a residence for older developmentally handicapped adults, and a member of the federation board.

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Arafat rejects further 'useless' talks with Israel

Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Palestinian Authority (PA) Chairman Yasser Arafat said last Sunday he cancelled a meeting with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's envoy, Yitzhak Molcho, to stress he is no longer interested in what he called useless talks with Israel.

Arafat told MK Dedi Zucker and other Meretz MKs in Ramallah Sunday that he cancelled the meeting Israel had requested with Molcho on Saturday night to demonstrate his lack of trust in the Netanyahu government.

"Arafat doesn't see virtually any chance for progress," Zucker said. "He doesn't know how long he can control the Palestinian street."

Labor MK Ofer Pines said Arafat also warned that unless the peace process advances significantly, Arafat will proceed with plans to declare an independent state next May.

"His message was very clear," Pines said. "He said the peace process is in a deep freeze. He is very concerned over his loss of control over his own people. I asked 'Do we have to wait for a new intifadah?' He didn't respond directly, but he made it understood that anything could happen."

According to Pines, Arafat said if there is no progress on the interim arrangements and diplomatic process, he would have no option but to declare a state next year. Arafat also said a Palestinian state would be established at the end of the negotiations on the final-status arrangements.

Ahmed Tibi, Arafat's adviser on Israeli affairs, said the opposition MKs had asked for the meeting for an update on recent negotiations.

Netanyahu told reporters Sunday he is interested in continuing the peace process and said contacts would probably resume this week, although he was scheduled to start a week's vacation in the north last Monday.

"Certainly there is goodwill on our side to try to move the process forward...If the Palestinians show equal goodwill, I'm confident we can move the process forward and indeed bring it to rapid conclusion," Netanyahu said after Sunday's cabinet meeting.

General Security Service chief Ami Ayalon reportedly told the cabinet the Palestinians are not interested in a terror attack at present, but that Arafat erred in not condemning the murders of two settlers at Yitzhar two weeks ago. While noting Arafat had condemned past attacks, Ayalon said Arafat is not concerned about possible fallout from the attack at Yitzhar.

Arafat, who met with Norwegian envoy Terje Larsen in Ramallah last week, again called on Albright to release the U.S. bridging proposals that call for a 13 percent Israeli handover of the West Bank to the Palestinians.

Palestinian police put curfew on Jericho

By STEVE RODAN
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — The Palestinian police clamped a curfew on Jericho, and searched house-to-house Sunday for escaped prisoner Imad Awadallah, a senior Hamas militant accused of killing bombmaker Muhi Sharif.

Roadblocks were set up in Jericho and in Ramallah, where Awadallah's family lives, and police searched cars and orchards in Jericho. Police vans drove through the town Sunday afternoon, with officers ordering merchants and residents to return home.

It was the first time the Palestinian Authority (PA) imposed a curfew on its own people, although it was in effect only in the centre of town and not strictly enforced. Still, locals accustomed to such curfews during years of Israeli control, rushed to stock up at bakeries before going home.

Israeli soldiers joined in the hunt, setting up roadblocks on Israeli-controlled roads leading out of Jericho and elsewhere in the West Bank.

Israel Radio reported that Palestinian police had arrested 15 Hamas activists in connection with Awadallah's escape.

PA security sources said Awadallah escaped from his Jericho prison cell at about 7 p.m. on Saturday. However, Hamas sources said they fear the 29-year-old Awadallah was killed by the PA in jail and the authorities fabricated the escape story to explain his disappearance. This concern was also voiced by Hamas spiritual leader Sheikh Ahmed Yassin.

Awadallah is the brother of Adel Awadallah, who is suspected of planning the Jerusalem bus bombings in early 1996 and is still at large.

PA Chairman Yasser Arafat has ordered an inquiry into the escape, to be headed by PA West Bank police chief Brig.-Gen. Haj Ismail Jabber.

"From the minute that Awadallah was reported missing, an inquiry was launched," Jabber told reporters. "We don't have any knowledge [of how he escaped]."

PA security sources asserted that Awadallah was not being mistreated. They also said they suspect he escaped in a car with Israeli licence plates.

PA security officials Sunday searched Awadallah's home in El Bireh. At the same time, IDF troops searched in Area B, which is under Israeli security control.

Awadallah is accused of killing Sharif in March in a feud within the Islamic movement over money and power. PA officials said Awadallah shot Sharif to death and then arranged for his bomb workshop to be blown up – as if he had died in an accidental explosion.

Hamas leaders say Sharif was killed by either Palestinian or Israeli agents.

"The Palestinians themselves say it was an inside job," Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu told reporters concerning Awadallah's escape. "But we have no information as to who helped and in what capacity or at what level, so we are still investigating this as well."

Palestinian security chief Jibril Rajoub said recently that Awadallah had confessed to Sharif's killing and would be tried.

Israel joins nuclear arms talks

By GIL SEDAN
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM – Israel has agreed to join global negotiations aimed at banning the production of materials used to make nuclear weapons.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu had been urged by President Bill Clinton not to oppose the efforts of a UN panel in Geneva to launch the negotiations.

The prime minister said in a statement that while he would not oppose the talks, Israel still had "problems of principle" with any accord that would halt the production of plutonium and enriched uranium.

Israel was the last of the 61-member United Nations Conference on Disarmament to agree to the negotiations.

"We have made clear that our support for establishing the [negotiating] committee does not mean we are taking a position toward finalizing the treaty or its contents," Netanyahu said in the statement.

Israel is concerned the treaty will call for verification procedures requiring it to open its Dimona nuclear facility in the Negev to international inspectors.

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IDF rescue team gets hero's welcome back home

By DAVID RUDGE
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — The IDF's Home Front Command rescue team received a warm welcome on its return to Israel from Nairobi last Thursday night.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, Chief of General Staff Lt.-Gen. Shaul Mofaz, U.S. Ambassador Edward Walker and a senior official of the Kenyan Embassy were at Lod Air Force Base to receive them.

Netanyahu praised the members of the rescue team for their sterling efforts in saving lives and for the "great honor" they had brought to Israel and the IDF.

He said their mission in Nairobi was " in my eyes, one of the basic foundations of the IDF – to help the victims and the weak in times of distress."

Netanyahu said the rescuers had also helped in the "difficult and determined" war against world terrorism.

"It was not just our war, or that of the U.S., Kenya or Tanzania, but that of the whole democratic world," said Netanyahu

The 170 members of the rescue team, including reservists, regular soldiers, doctors and paramedics from the medical corps, as well as seven dogs specially trained to locate people under debris, arrived in Nairobi and started their work just 23 hours after being given the order to go.

The team, using specialized equipment and knowledge acquired over the years, rescued three survivors and recovered 96 bodies from the debris of the buildings destroyed in the car bomb blast in the Kenyan capital.

Kenyan President Daniel Arap Moi met with the rescue team for a courtesy call before they returned to Israel.

Moi expressed deep appreciation for their work and asked that this be conveyed to Netanyahu and the country.

"The Kenyan people and I are full of appreciation to the IDF and Israel," he said.

He said the mutual relations between the two countries, which have always been special, will be even better now and will be expressed in broadening cooperation with Israel in new fields.

When they stepped from the IAF 707 that brought them back to Israel, the members of the rescue unit held their heads high, despite their tiredness.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu greets the members of the IDF's rescue team on their return from Nairobi. [Israel photo]

The feeling of pride at their achievements was tinged with sadness, especially because they did not manage to save the life of the Kenyan woman they knew as Rose.

"We saw some terrible things, but we also had the satisfaction of knowing that we had done our job and done it well," said dog handler Shlomo Rosen, 43, of Ramat Hasharon.

"I was in Buenos Aires in 1994 with another dog who later died. Since then, I trained this one," said Rosen, stroking the head of his dog Max, a 4-year-old Rotweiler.

"Max found three people under the rubble and signaled the rescuers by barking over the spots. One of them was rescued alive, but unfortunately the two others were dead when they were brought out."

'We saw some terrible things'

The dog had also helped in the search for Rose. "When we found Rose and discovered that she was dead, it was a great disappointment," Rosen said.

His comments were echoed by Lt. Meital Hallawi, 19, from the Home Front Command's National Rescue Unit.

"What really disappointed us was that she had died about 20 hours before we reached her. If we had been able to locate her precisely beforehand we would have been able to save her. Even so, we managed to remove her body intact," she said.

Hallawi, who was specially trained as a rescue officer, was confronted for the first time with a real situation and dead bodies, instead of the dolls used in exercises.

"I wasn't really shocked. I just went in there and started working and doing my job as I had been trained to do," Hallawi said.

"Of course, when I saw the first body, it was kind of a shock, but I did not allow myself to have any feelings. I pulled out the body, covered it up and then helped my team to carry the woman out," Hallawi said.

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The Week in Israel

Aug. 10

• Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu called on the head of Russia's national security council to help stop the transfer of arms technology to Iran. The premier met with Andrei Kokoshin in Jerusalem after Iran successfully tested a long-range missile.

Aug. 11

• Meteorologists promised that Israel's worst heat wave in 34 years would soon weaken. Temperatures peaked at about 117 F in the Jordan Valley.

Aug. 12

• A paratrooper outpost was caught by surprise when a member of Hezbollah managed to enter the outpost. The gunman scuffled with a soldier before escaping. A senior officer called for an inquiry to determine how the infiltration occurred.

• Opposition leader Ehud Barak was criticized by members of his Labor party for holding discussions with Netanyahu about the possible creation of a national unity government. *Later in the week, Barak announced that a national unity government was no longer on the agenda and that Labor would give top priority to advancing the elections.*

Aug. 13

• The High Court of Justice authorized a compromise under which the Religious Ministry would provide a subsidy of some $77,000 (US) to the Conservative movement's rabbinical seminary, the Schechter Institute for Jewish Studies. The amount was calculated at 85 percent of the subsidy given to Orthodox institutions.

• The IDF's Home Front Command rescue team returned to Israel from Nairobi to a hero's welcome. The rescuers were received by Netanyahu, Chief of Staff Shaul Mofaz and U.S. Ambassador Edward Walker.

Aug. 14

• President Ezer Weizman once again called for an earlier date to hold general elections, saying he did not see the likelihood that a unity government would be formed.

With files from the JTA and JPFS

An Israeli soldier (left) instructs a staff sergeant on the use of a new Gil anti-tank missile on display at a recent military exhibition in Tel Aviv marking Israel's 50th anniversary. [RNS/Reuters photo]

Mofaz tries to instil fighting spirit into Israeli troops

By ARIEH O'SULLIVAN
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Chief of General Staff Lt.-Gen. Shaul Mofaz wants to sweep out what he sees as years of accumulated mediocrity on the part of the IDF in southern Lebanon.

"We need to stress the value of victory. The combat units in the IDF need to know that victory is a necessary virtue and that no compromises will be tolerated when it comes to contact with the enemy," Mofaz said last week.

He was speaking in the aftermath of the daylight infiltration last week of the Soujud outpost in the security zone by a Hezbollah gunman who then escaped alive. He called the incident a "serious operational failure."

Mofaz, following his own summary inquiry into what has become known as the "Soujud fiasco," ordered that disciplinary action be taken against the paratroopers involved – an officer and two soldiers .

He ordered the platoon commander dismissed, and ordered that the two soldiers should no longer serve as combat troops in the paratroop company.

He also instructed that reprimands be noted in the records of the head of the IDF's Lebanese Liaison Unit, the regional brigade commander and the battalion commander.

Mofaz determined that there had been flaws in preparing the paratroop unit for its mission in the area and the senior officers had not been sufficiently involved.

Mofaz conducted his own inquiry after receiving the report of Northern Command's investigation into the incident.

The IDF spokesperson said that all details of the incident were examined in depth. These included how the Hezbollah gunman infiltrated the outpost and stayed for several seconds in one of the perimeter positions.

During that period, the gunman fired at one of the soldiers, grappled with another, then managed to flee, leaving behind his rifle and other equipment.

Mofaz was clearly disgusted with two facts about last week's fiasco: that a Hezbollah guerrilla was able to penetrate an IDF position, and that he was able to escape.

It was not the first such dismal encounter between Israeli and Hezbollah gunmen since Mofaz took over July 9. On July 30, Hezbollah guerrillas ambushed an IDF patrol, killing one soldier and cutting down five others who barely returned fire. The Shi'ite gunmen escaped without casualties.

Mediocrity is no virtue, Mofaz believes. Furthermore, in his eyes, intellect, learning, and skill are not enough.

By dismissing several young officers and banishing some paratroopers from the brigade, Mofaz was sending a message to the troops in Lebanon and elsewhere. By censuring the senior commanders, he was sending them a message too.

Still, cynics say, the behavior of the paratroopers and other troops in Lebanon is to be expected, given the mixed messages soldiers hear back home and the way they are trained on base.

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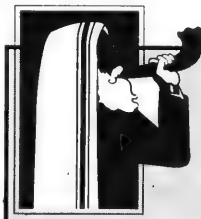

The CJN announces its fourth annual Rosh Hashanah photo contest.

We are asking readers to submit their own original photographs either of Israel or on any Jewish theme in their community.

Anyone can enter except *CJN* employees or members of their families.

A maximum of three photos per entrant may be submitted. Please write your name, address and phone number on the back of each photo. We can only return the photos if you provide a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

You may mail or deliver your photos to: *The CJN* Rosh Hashanah Contest, The Canadian Jewish News, 1500 Don Mills Road, Suite 205, Toronto, Ont., M3B 3K4.

The contest closes at 3 p.m. on Friday, Aug. 28, 1998.

The judges will choose three photographs which, in their opinion, are the most expressive and evocative. These three photos will be published in *The CJN* Rosh Hashanah issue, Sept. 17, 1998. Each of the "winning" photographers will receive a cheque for $100.

We will undoubtedly receive many worthy submissions. But only three will be selected as the "winners." The decisions of the judges will be final. The odds of winning depend upon the number and the quality of submissions received.

Winning entrants will be notified by telephone before Shabbat on Sept. 4, 1998.

Along with these three photos, *The CJN* will also publish 10 photos from the Israel Experience Photo Contest sponsored by UIA Federations Canada, the Canada Israel Experience Centre and El Al Israel Airlines. Israel Experience participants aged 15 to 24 should contact the UIA office for details.

Any litigation respecting the conduct and awarding of a prize in this contest may be submitted to the Régie des Loteries et courses du Québec.

Silence is golden in intelligence operations

By MOSHE ZAK
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

The military mission that flew the IDF's rescue team to Nairobi was not the first to travel this route.

They were preceded by the aircraft that had stopped in Nairobi en route home from the heroic Entebbe hostage rescue in Uganda in July 1976.

At that time, Gen. Brent Scowcroft, the president's national security adviser, came to the Israeli Embassy in Washington and asked the meaning of the Israeli air traffic in east Africa spotted by American monitoring stations. Only when the rescuers were on their way home, however, was the secret of that mission divulged to the Americans.

This time, over 20 years later, the rescue operation in Nairobi was fully coordinated with the American defence secretary. This is not just because the terror blast was at the American Embassy, but also because today there is cooperation and strategic planning between Israel and the United States.

The IDF and U.S. medical corps, in their joint manoeuvres, had already established procedures for cooperation in the event of major terror attacks. It should therefore be no surprise that the hundreds of Israeli rescue workers who left for Nairobi after the attack knew immediately what to do.

This kind of cooperation was initiated following the October 1983 explosion at the U.S. Marines base in Lebanon. Israel offered to hospitalize the wounded at Rambam Hospital in Haifa, close to the location of the attack. But the American defence secretary rejected the offer, preferring to hospitalize the soldiers in Germany.

Opinion

He was severely criticized for this move in the U.S. Senate. The result was joint manoeuvres, which determined that Rambam would be used by U.S. forces in case of an emergency in the region.

Since then, the United States has not avoided or denied cooperating with Israel in the fight against terror.

Recently, however, a change was instituted that may be a cause for concern in the future. Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu publicly approached the United States with a proposal to cooperate in the investigation to find the Muslim terrorists who attacked the U.S. embassies in Nairobi and Dar es Salaam.

Cooperation with the Americans is possible and may even be necessary to track down the monstrous car bombers. But intelligence operations are, by their very nature, most successful when they remain discreet. They do not respond favorably to publicity.

On the eve of the Gulf War, when the United States concentrated immense forces in the region to force Saddam Hussein to withdraw from Kuwait, the Iraqi government suggested that it would be willing to withdraw from Kuwait if, in return, the United States gave assurances that it would settle the Israel-Palestinian conflict. The Russian foreign minister offered to mediate to help achieve this.

The United States, however, turned the deal down outright, as it would have enhanced Iraq's status in the Arab world.

It is quite possible that the sense of panic in the face of possible terrorist attacks of the same kind as those in Kenya and Tanzania will lead to similar ideas about concessions at Israel's expense.

It is therefore preferable, at this stage, to let sleeping dogs lie. Overemphasizing the cooperation between Israeli and U.S. intelligence may trigger a counterreaction from Americans who have not been reconciled to cooperating with Israel, and might push the administration to act against Israel to appease Muslim terrorists, in the hope that they will end their attacks against the United States.

There are, in fact, governments in Europe who have bought "quiet" in their countries from Palestinian terrorists by turning their backs on Israel. Last week's terrorist bombers may well be hoping that, in the end, the American public will become fed up with the violence and will consider doing the same thing.

Judging by the current state of affairs, the Bill Clinton administration is not likely to give in to the blackmail of Muslim terror organizations. At the moment, the administration is determined to fight terror, to find the perpetrators and even to retaliate.

But if Israel insists on publicly demanding that its intelligence people participate in investigating the crimes at Nairobi and Dar es Salaam, it may well divert attention away from the key objective and towards a debate on how the United States can best free itself of terrorist pressure.

At that point, "moderate" Arab states may attempt to lobby the administration to limit and restrict American support for Israel, to curry favor with Muslim terrorists.

Success in the war against terror depends first and foremost on a clear message being sent to the Islamic terror organizations: There will be no submission to car bombs, not even at Israel's expense.

Moshe Zak is a veteran journalist.

July 2, 1998

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Israel, Jordan take steps to boost trade

By NINA GILBERT
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Israel agreed last week to a number of concessions sought by Jordan aimed at boosting bilateral trade and relations.

In talks in Jerusalem between Industry and Trade Minister Natan Sharansky and his Jordanian counterpart, Hani Mulki, the sides agreed to reduce the Israeli input requirement for joint ventures in Qualified Industrial Zones in Jordan from 11.7 percent to 7 percent for high-tech products and 8 percent for other products in order to qualify for free trade status for export to the United States. The change, meant to jump-start joint industry in the zone, would be in effect for one year.

The sides also agreed to ask the United States to recognize more zones for free-trade status, the first two being Mafrak, in northern Jordan, and the Jordan Gateway Project, on the border with Israel in the Jordan Valley.

Sharansky invited Mulki to travel with him to Brussels in order to advance European Union recognition of jointly produced products for free trade status.

The two also held talks with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu on the peace process and economic relations.

Mulki was quoted as saying Jordan is suffering a loss of business with certain Arab countries such as Syria, due to its ties with Israel, and this should therefore be compensated via an increase in business with Israel.

"The best way to advance trade is through joint ventures," Sharansky said. "Jordanians are asking what are the fruits of peace in practical and economic terms. It is extremely important to make special efforts to advance relations in the region."

Mulki said that Jordan and Israel should aim not only to boost exports, but also imports from each other, "because whatever you get from somewhere else will be more expensive to your economy."

At Jordan's request, Netanyahu promised to advance efforts for cooperation in the use of Akaba Airport, where only a few Israeli flights land at unprofitable hours, and to move the venture beyond the experimental stage.

Netanyahu also agreed in principle to Israel's approval of 75 percent of a list of 2,000 products Jordan wants to include on the A-1 list for export on easier terms to the Palestinian Authority, which will now have to negotiate terms on the products with Jordan.

Mulki also informed Sharansky that the possibility of a joint Israeli venture with Jordan Bromide is no longer an option. An American company will likely become the partner instead.

Sharansky hosted Mulki for a dinner with the country's top businesspeople and trade officials, who toasted King Hussein's speedy recovery.

Among those who attended were former Koor CEO Benny Gaon, who will next week assume the position of the head of the Israel-Jordan Chamber of Commerce.

The general manager of Motorola Israel, Elisha Yanai, said the company's factory in Irbid would start operating in September. A group of Jordanians just finished training at the company's Arad facility, which will be relocated to Jordan, he said.

He said Israeli high-tech companies should produce in Irbid instead of in places such as the Far East, because it makes good business sense.

Shuls in Germany rebuilt on Internet

By DOUGLAS DAVIS
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

LONDON – Synagogues that were destroyed by the Nazis are being rebuilt by German architecture students – on the Internet.

The recreation of up to 15 synagogues is the brainchild of Marc Grellert, a lecturer at Darmstadt Technical University, who launched the project after an arson attack on one of Germany's remaining synagogues in Lubeck in 1994.

"I wanted to do something to remind people that Jews were very much a part of German society before the Nazis," he said.

A pilot project has led to the "virtual construction" of three synagogues in Frankfurt using computer-aided design.

The virtual synagogues are highly detailed, three-dimensional renderings put together from blueprints, photos and descriptions by people who worshiped at them.

The German Education Ministry has provided a grant of more than $50,000 (US) for these three "synagogues" to be recreated by students as part of their course work in the upcoming academic year.

The city of Nuremberg has agreed to pay for one of its old synagogues to be revived on computer, while Dortmund and other German cities are considering following suit.

Grellert hopes that enough money will be pledged to finance the 15 "virtual synagogues."

He said he does not want Jewish groups to contribute. Non-Jewish Germans should pay for the "virtual reconstruction" of synagogues destroyed by the Nazis, he said.

"Hopefully the project will remind people that synagogues were once part of the skyline in nearly every major German city," he said.

Synagogues slated for "reconstruction" have been chosen for their distinctive architectural styles – for example, a moorish shul in Cologne, a Bauhaus synagogue in Plauen and the Germanic, neo-Romanesque style of a synagogue in Hanover.

Jordan aiming to pacify Syria

By DOUGLAS DAVIS
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

LONDON — Jordan's diplomatic overtures to Iran have been aimed at easing tensions with Syria, analysts in London said.

They believe this was the motive for last week's hastily arranged visit to Tehran by Jordanian Deputy Prime Minister Jawad Anani.

The visit's stated purpose was to deliver a letter to President Mohammed Khatami on "means of strengthening relations and cooperation" between the two countries.

Iranian-Jordanian relations have been tense since the start of the 1980-1988 Iran-Iraq war, when Jordan supported Iraq. The two states also differ over the peace process and Iran's territorial dispute with the United Arab Emirates.

London-based Arabic-language daily, *Al-Quds al-Arabi*, said in a news analysis that Jordanian foreign policy-makers believe an improved rapport with Iran will serve to contain "serious tensions" between Jordan and Syria.

Britain examines Israel's claims

By DOUGLAS DAVIS
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

LONDON — The British government is urgently examining Israeli claims that up to $600 million US (at today's prices) was confiscated from banks in Mandatory Palestine by Britain during World War II.

The claim was made by Knesset banking subcommittee chair MK Yona Yahav.

He says the funds, much of which belonged to European Jews who were citizens of countries under Nazi occupation, were seized by the British Custodian of Enemy Property as "enemy assets".

In 1950, says Yahav, then-finance minister Eliezer Kaplan and then-governor of the Bank of Israel David Horovitz signed an agreement with the British government agreeing to forgo at least some of the confiscated funds if Britain lifted the ban on supplying gas, oil and arms to Israel.

However, the fate of the funds remains unclear.

According to one theory, the assets were transferred to British banks between 1940 and 1942, but in 1946 they were returned to the Anglo-Palestine Bank, later Bank Leumi.

Yahav has raised the issue with Lord Sandwell, who was appointed by the British government to investigate the issue of enemy property that was confiscated in Britain during the war.

Howard Ewing, an aide to Lord Sandwell, said that while the issue of assets confiscated in Palestine fell outside the inquiry's terms of reference, the matter had been raised with the government, which is "looking into the issue as a matter of urgency."

Ewing noted that the 1950 agreement included the payment by Britain of over $1 million in settlement of assets held by the Custodian of Enemy Property.

But Yahav said he could see no reason why Britain should not repay the assets in full and has applied for grants that will enable Bar-Ilan University students to research the issue in Israeli government and bank archives.

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Travel, Arts & Business

A show of (four) hands for funny piano musical

Ted Dykstra (left) and Richard Greenblatt star in 2 Pianos, 4 Hands, the award-winning play they co-wrote in 1995.

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to the CJN

TORONTO — The return to the Toronto stage of the Canadian hit *2 Pianos, 4 Hands* has been heralded by many as a triumphant homecoming for Richard Greenblatt and Ted Dykstra, the play's creators and co-stars.

The piano-playing duo completed a successful six-month run in New York City followed by a four-week engagement at the Kennedy Centre in Washington in the spring, garnering rave reviews from U.S. critics.

But for Greenblatt, 45, the critical acclaim south of the border was not as important to him as the accolades he received from his wife, friends and Canadian colleagues, he said in a recent interview at the Royal Alexandre Theatre where *2 Pianos 4 Hands* runs until Sept. 5. "I don't need New York to validate my [self] worth."

Winning a Dora Mavor Moore Award in 1996 for outstanding production was validation from his peers, he said. "That's validation that's useful, as opposed to a critic."

Hailed by critics as one of the most successful Canadian plays of all times, *2 Pianos 4 Hands* is a compendium of virtuoso piano performances and comical sketches chronicling the failed musical careers of two piano enthusiasts through the recreation of piano lessons, conservatory exams and competitions.

Greenblatt said the play is basically autobiographical. Both performers were classically trained, and had parallel experiences studying the piano – he in Montreal, Dykstra in Edmonton – playing festivals and winning competitions. They both seriously considered careers as classical pianists, but ultimately had to acknowledge their limitations, he said.

The company will soon be launching a British production, a U.S. tour and there will be a Canadian tour, possibly featuring two female performers, Greenblatt said.

But he conceded that finding actors who can fill his and Dykstra's shoes is difficult because it is hard to find actors that play piano well, or conversely, musicians that can act.

While *2 Pianos* has been his most acclaimed work, Greenblatt, a graduate of the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art in London, England, has had a versatile theatrical career and is equally comfortable performing, directing and writing, he said.

He has directed more than 65 productions, winning two Dora awards for directing, and co-created several shows, among them, *The Theory of Relatives* (a Passover Feast), and the solo show *Soft Pedalling*, which toured Canada for two years.

Greenblatt said performing his work is the most satisfying of all his theatrical endeavors. He's currently collaborating on a play about siblings for the Tarragon Theatre with Toronto writer/performer Diane Flacks. "Creating with other people; that's the way I like to do it. It's an exercise in democracy. It's very satisfying."

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Movie is a skewed portrait of Ayn Rand

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

Alice Rosenbaum, otherwise known as Ayn Rand, was no shrinking violet, as Michael Paxton's Oscar-nominated documentary, *Ayn Rand: A Sense of Life*, indicates.

A novelist and a philosopher, Rand was a strong, intellectual woman who never shrank from expressing her controversial "objectivist" views, whether in books (*The Fountainhead* and *Atlas Shrugged*, among others), speeches or guest appearances on television talk shows hosted by Mike Wallace, Phil Donahue and others.

The apostle of rational self-interest and individualism, she abhorred collectivism, Communism and altruism. Not surprisingly, her opinions were fodder for ideologues who railed against the liberal welfare state in the United States and elsewhere.

At first glance, it may seem odd that this diminutive, iconoclastic and outspoken immigrant from Russia should have become the doyenne of the American conservative movement.

On further reflection, her status as an icon of the right is not as strange as it may initially appear.

Born in St. Petersburg in 1905, Rand was the daughter of a fairly prosperous and assimilated Jewish pharmacist whose livelihood was irretrievably damaged by the 1917 Bolshevik revolution.

Bitter over his fate, Rand was formed by this traumatic experience, as *Ayn Rand*, now playing at the Carlton, suggests.

Before she left Russia in 1926, never again to see her parents, Rand studied history and acting. Brainy and attractive, she seemed destined for more than an ordinary, run-of-the-mill life.

Brimming with a desire to be an actress, she went to Hollywood. Catching the eye of fabled director Cecil B. DeMille, Rand, an atheist, appeared as an extra in a biblical epic, *King of Kings*. On the set of this film, she met Frank O'Connor, a bit player whom she married and lived with for some 50 years.

After *King Of Kings*, Rand made ends meet by reading scripts and producing movie treatments. She continued her association with Hollywood for years after that. Indeed, she wrote the script for *The Fountainhead*, starring Gary Cooper, one of her idols.

Paxton, whose film is fluidly narrated by Sharon Gless, glosses over Rand's adulterous relationship with Nathaniel Branden, her younger acolyte. It's a curious gap in an otherwise comprehensive film.

Ayn Rand's real problem is that it is hagiographic in nature. It's rarely critical of Rand's philosophy and, therefore, presents a skewed portrait of this remarkable woman.

In and of itself, *Ayn Rand* is quite absorbing. But I suspect it would have been far more enlightening had her legion of critics been given the opportunity to voice their opinions.

Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

ROOFTOP COMEDY JAM AUG. 20 AT BLOOR JCC

The **Graeme Kirkland "Pee Wee" Jazz Band** is featured at an upcoming evening of entertainment in celebration of "Max's and Israel's 50th birthday." The show starts at 7:30 p.m. and also features "Max" on harmonica, guest vocalists and door prizes.

Bring along your 50-year-old friends to the Rooftop Comedy Jam, Aug. 20, Bloor JCC, 750 Spadina Ave. Members $6, non-members $8. Cash bar. 924-6211.

* * *

Hollywoodism Voted Best Doc: Although he was in Jerusalem at the time, Toronto documentary filmmaker **Simcha Jacobovici** did not show up to see his latest production *Hollywoodism: Jews, Movies and the American Dream* take the top prize several weeks ago at the Jerusalem Film Festival.

Because the awards ceremony started on a Saturday some 2½ hours before the conclusion of Shabbat, Jacobovici, who is shomer

Simcha Jacobovici

Shabbat, was unable to attend. A representative from Jacobovici's company, Associated Producers of Toronto, accepted the award for Best Documentary Film award on his behalf.

But the 45-year-old filmmaker-producer was nonetheless delighted at the prize. "I was born in Israel," he said. "It's very special to come here and be recognized in this way."

Jacobovici seems to be going from strength to strength. Last week *Hollywoodism* received two Gemini Award nominations. The awards ceremony is slated for Oct. 2.

For more on Jacobovici see the profile located on page 14 in this week's issue.

* * *

The Livent Circus: The show must go on at Livent, despite the recent suspensions of Livent founder **Garth Drabinsky** and former vice-president **Myron Gottlieb** for what Eye On Arts hopes will be only a short while.

The day after the dramatic news broke amidst allegations of serious financial improprieties, the Canadian Actors Equity Association (CAEA) announced that it had been assured that Livent Inc. would continue to meet its contractual commitments to its artists.

The Toronto-based company currently employs about 154 actors in such international productions as *Phantom of the Opera*, *Show Boat*, *Sweet Smell of Success* (now in workshop), *Ragtime* and *Fosse*, which recently opened in Toronto.

Total weekly payroll for these artists is about $360,000.

Having followed Drabinsky's high-flying career for years, Eye On Arts takes no pleasure from the sight of this self-styled Icarus plummeting from such a great height, his wings having melted from flying too close to the sun. (*Closer To The Sun*, incidentally, was the name of his 1995 ghost-written autobiography, a title which in retrospect seems both ironic and prophetic.)

Can a phoenix rise a second time from the ashes? Only time will tell.

* * *

In The Spotlight: Hindy Nosek-Abelson, a Toronto public relations consultant, translator and writer, has become a specialist in the marketing of Yiddish culture, and describes herself as "a bridge between the Jewish community and the outside world."

Next week Nosek-Abelson is presenting a seminar on the marketing of Yiddish culture at the International Conference of Yiddish Clubs in Los Angeles (Aug. 27 to 30). She is also delivering the Barry Shockett Memorial Lecture on the topic of Yiddish in Toronto.

"I'm going to talk about Toronto and how it has become one of the biggest Yiddish centres in North America," says Nosek-Abelson, who runs the public relations firm HNA Creative. "On a per capita basis there's a tremendous amount of activity here and I think that Toronto could be a role model for a lot of other communities."

Yiddish culture could and should be more strongly marketed, says the Yiddish maven, whose specialty is attracting a wide public, both Jewish and non-Jewish, to Yiddish cultural events. "I'm applying marketing techniques to the marketing of Yiddish culture," she says. "We can sell every product in the world by packaging and marketing, and it's done every day by corporations. There's no reason why we as a community can't sell something as important as our culture using similar techniques."

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							DEPARTURE
MORNING							
1	Spadina Chinatown Centre (Furama Bakery)					9:45AM	5:00PM
2	Broadview & Gerrard (Kentucky Fried Chicken)					10:15AM	6:00PM
3	Dragon Centre (Hong Kong Bank)	9:45AM	Yorkdale Subway (Bus Lane 13)	10:15AM	Jane/Wilson (Coffee Time)	10:30AM	5:00PM
4	Commerce Gate (505 Hwy 7 Second Cup)	10:15AM	Kennedy & Steeles N.E. Corner (Tripmate Tours)			10:45AM	6:00PM
5	Bathurst & Steeles (Mac's Milk)	9:45AM	Miss. Golden Sq.Ctr. (Rear Entrance of Fuji Optical)	10:15AM	Miss. Chinese Ctr. (Rear Entrance of HK Bank)	10:45AM	6:00PM
AFTERNOON							
6	Spadina Chinatown Centre (Furama Bakery)					2:15PM	9:00PM
7	Kennedy & Steeles N.E. Corner (Tripmate Tours)					2:15PM	10:00PM
8	Jane/Wilson (Coffee Time)	2:15PM	Mississauga Chinese Centre (Rear Entrance of HK Bank)			2:45PM	11:00PM
9	Kennedy & Steeles	4:15PM	Broadview & Gerrard	4:45PM	Chinatown Centre	5:15PM	1:00AM
MIDNIGHT							
10	Spadina Chinatown Centre (Furama Bakery)					7:45PM	3:00AM
11	Kennedy & Steeles	8:45PM	Yorkdale Subway (Bus Lane 13)	9:15PM	Jane/Wilson (Coffee Time)	9:30PM	4:00AM
12	Spadina Chinatown Centre (Furama Bakery)					10:30PM	5:00AM

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Governess leaves audience hungry

By LORI FIREMAN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Take two cups *Jane Eyre*, one cup of *Yentl*, sprinkle liberally with *The Piano* and let simmer. A recipe for success? Well, let's just say that the ingredients were there but the chef botched up the order.

In *The Governess*, Minnie Driver plays Rosina, a spirited adventurous young woman growing up in the early 1840s as a Sephardi Jew in London, England. Forced to find work to support her family after her father is killed, Rosina accepts a job as a governess in Scotland, but the anti-Semitism of the times necessitates her disguise as Mary Blackchurch, a Protestant woman of simple means.

Once in Skye, a remote island far from society, Rosina is overwhelmed by her employers: the affected matron of the house (Harriet Walter), her quietly brilliant husband (Tom Wilkinson) and her charge, bratty and spoiled Clementina (Florence Hoath).

But it is not only the people who are strange to her; it is their way of life. Her room becomes her solace, a haven where she can cloak herself in her father's tallit and secretly practise the Jewish rituals of her childhood.

Curious by nature and desperate for a hint of excitement, Rosina finds herself drawn to her employer, Charles Cavendish, and becomes his assistant in his pioneering studies of photography. It is not long before the two are involved in an intense and passionate relationship. Caught up in the throes of first love, Rosina struggles to maintain the memories of her other life, even as she dreams of her promising future.

As Rosina, Minnie Driver is luminous; a dazzling combination of wide-eyed innocence and fiery sensuality. Driver seems to disappear into her role, effectively capturing the spirit of her character and showing depth only hinted at in films like *Good Will Hunting*.

Though the script seeks to glorify Rosina at every turn, Driver is able to humanize the role, allowing us to see her complexity and to feel her pain. I was originally skeptical that Driver could be believable in the role, but while you shouldn't expect to see her at your son's bar mitzvah, she is surprisingly convincing, using her considerable talent and "ethnic" features to make the novelty casting work.

The rest of the cast is equally impressive, with Tom Wilkinson a standout in the role of Rosina's tortured lover. Impatient yet tender, meek yet violent, Wilkinson portrays Charles Cavendish as a man repressed, his first kiss with Rosina a vividly grateful and clumsy acknowledgment of his need.

Casting aside, the film wavers in its believability. In trying to convey the foreignness of Rosina's new life, writer/director Sandra Goldbacher serves up a souffle of stereotype.

The Cavendish family is exaggeratedly WASP, with matriarch Harriet Walter speaking " as though she has a lemon up her posterior," and decorating her home with moose heads. As a result, the scenes with Jewish content seem equally cartoonish and false. Rosina's Judaism is sometimes used to advance the plot, like when celebrating a Passover seder happily allows her insight into salt-fixing print photography.

As well, the nature of her deception appears to be nothing more than pulling her hair back.

With the lush Scottish landscape as scenery, the film is a visual masterpiece, where cinematographer Ashley Rowe effectively uses mirrors and light to capture mood and tone. Filmed in an almost surreal haziness, it suggests the ebb and flow of Rosina's life as she journeys into adulthood.

However, for all its good intentions, *The Governess* fails to be as compelling as it would like, leaving the audience hungry and wishing they had ordered the film de jour.

Alternative theatre picks on Israel

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

Opinion

Israel is getting bad press in the alternative theatre scene in Toronto because of the negative image of Israeli politics in the media – print and broadcast.

This is not surprising considering the fact that theatre folk generally take their cue on politics from left-wing sources, which do not favor Israel's current line on the Mideast peace process.

Those familiar with Israel's position and the Jewish position generally can make a strong case that the media are wrong. Nevertheless, the reality is that a biased outlook is being seen on the smaller theatre stages.

Theatre artists favor the underdog and they see the Palestinians in this role. To convince them otherwise is akin to an old Yiddish expression – *toyta bankes* (dead leeches for a seriously ill person). Few Jews see their salvation in becoming the underdog again.

The left-wing antipathy to Israel is a reversal of the alliance that progressive groups once had with Jewish groups, in both United States and Canada, in their fight against segregation of blacks and other causes.

For example, in Toronto, Theatre Workshop, had a series of excellent plays in the 1960s and 1970s about the Chicago Seven, the McCarthy era, and the uphill fight of unions.

Perhaps one should add that theatre artists are a clannish lot – grants from funding bodies are their lifeblood – and any one who does not play ball runs the risk of being frozen out.

What is worrisome is that Jews are a favorite target of some playwrights. For example, Jason Sherman's *Patience*, which ran until April 5 at Tarragon Theatre, has an anti-hero Jewish main character, Reuben Field, and it won four-star reviews in the daily press while attracting sell-out crowds. It's easy to say, as some do, that the character would be just as obnoxious if he wasn't Jewish. The point is that he *was* Jewish. Did the playwright decree this deliberately, looking for a popular route to success?

In another Sherman play, *Retreat*, which ran earlier at the Tarragon, the main characters are Jewish and the plot is heavy with Jewish content. None of the characters is particularly loveable and the writer gets off some hard shots at Israel, one of his favorite targets.

When I reviewed *Fires in the Mirror*, staged by the black theatre company WUM in 1996, I wrote that the company had good intentions, but their play by a black activist was biased against the Orthodox Jews of Crown Heights, Brooklyn, where riots had occurred.

Shortly after that, a columnist in the *Toronto Star* wrote that my

[Cont'd. on page 35]

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Travel Talk

BY BILL GLADSTONE

ONLY IN LOS ANGELES: THE WILSHIRE BOULEVARD TEMPLE

When your address is Hollywood and you'd like some murals in your synagogue, who are you going to call?

L.A.'s Wilshire Boulevard Temple is a magnificent structure, both inside and out. Modeled roughly after the Great Synagogue of Florence, its features seem by turns pure Byzantium and pure Hollywood. Large as a cathedral, it boasts a large rose window and a 100-foot-high mosaic inlaid dome.

Beneath the dome, the sanctuary walls and arches are decorated with a series of smart Florentine-murals depicting a variety of Biblical scenes.

These vivid paintings present highlights of biblical history with much of the pomp and pageantry of a Cecil B. De Mille motion picture. Rendered in a sort of acrylic Technicolor are dramatic scenes of the Creation, the Exodus from Egypt, the Receiving of the Ten Commandments at Sinai and many others. Painted arches and panels depict the friendship of David and Saul, the court of King Solomon, the destruction of the First Temple, the Babylonian exile, the restoration of the Second Temple and its destruction, and the Roman soldiers forcing Jews to carry the large Jewish menorah from Jerusalem as war booty.

This venerable shul was built in 1928 – the year after Al Jolson sang in *The Jazz Singer*, the first talkie. The studio heads, who commanded armies of talent, were emerging as Pharaonic moguls. The Warner Brothers, as members of the Wilshire congregation, sent a studio painter to the temple with instructions, apparently, to do for the building approximately what Michaelangelo had done for the Sistine Chapel.

There are still many Jews in Los Angeles who prefer to pray in unadorned surroundings, but the Wilshire congregants have evidently never been among them. They seemed eager to celebrate their heritage, to shout it out in that special mix of gratitude and pride that comes to a community that has put down solid roots and thrived.

"One of the most important things to know about the Jews of Los Angeles is that the community has always done well here," says Jerry Freedman-Habash, vice-president of the Jewish Historical Society of Southern California and an adept guide to the city's Jewish sites. "There's been very little anti-Semitism here as compared to most of the country. Part of the reason is that this city has always been a diverse city. There are many minority groups."

We spend a morning and early afternoon visiting synagogues. One building, which Freedman-Habash describes as "the temple of the stars," is decorated with a theatrical marquis bearing the words: TEMPLE SHOLOM. But none impresses me more than the Wilshire Boulevard Temple, which is properly considered a landmark of American Jewry.

The largest Reform temple in the United States is decorated with an American flag: its congregants proudly described themselves as "Americans of the Jewish faith." They were also traditionally cool to the Zionist cause: only in the last decade has the congregation permitted an Israeli flag to be displayed.

Shabbat morning services usually attract about 150 to 200 people, according to Freedman-Habash, although some 2,400 families belong to the shul. "Many of them live far from the Wilshire district but they're never going to give up their memberships, and this shul is never going to move," he says, emphasizing the special attachment the city's 600,000-strong Jewish community feels for this particular institution.

Open to visitors most weekdays, the Wilshire Boulevard Temple is located at 3663 Wilshire Blvd.

* * *

Hotel Del Capri: In a city where hotel prices seem prohibitively high for travellers of moderate means, it's nice to find a centrally-located inn that supplies basic comforts and numerous amenities at a price low enough that some might mistake it for a typo.

Situated at 10587 Wilshire Blvd. in fashionable Westwood near Beverly Hills, the Hotel Del Capri offers double-occupancy guest rooms for $100, including parking and continental breakfast. Suites with kitchenettes start at $125. A favorite of many international performing artists, the 81-room establishment is clean, quiet and well-kept, and features a flowery courtyard with a kidney-shaped pool.

A good recommendation in a Frommer's guidebook was what initially drew me to Hotel Del Capri, but its exceedingly good value will be what draws me back. 310-474-3511.

* * *

Bill Gladstone flew to Los Angeles courtesy of Canadian Airlines.

The Wilshire Blvd. Temple in L.A. [Bill Gladstone photo]

Theatre picking on Israel

[Cont'd. from page 34]

review had frightened Jewish seniors who wanted to attend the play. The charge was unfair, because I had no intention of discouraging people from attending. In fact, the seniors from the Bathurst Jewish Centre did attend. But the incident illustrates that elements in the theatre world are looking assiduously for opportunities to jump on the anti-Jewish bandwagon.

I'm not knocking Jewish actors, writers and directors who ply their trade in this setting. They have to make a living and in many cases the alternative theatres are the only game in town, leading to roles in larger theatres or lucrative TV and radio commercials.

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Rabbis, patients urge Jews to become organ donors

By LEON COHEN
The Wisconsin Jewish Chronicle

MILWAUKEE — A former president of Congregation Beth Israel, Harry Lensky, has a sweatshirt on which is printed these words: "Don't take your organs to heaven, heaven knows we need them here."

This is neither a joke nor an intellectual abstraction for him. On Nov. 1, 1995, Lensky, 70, received a new liver from a 43-year-old man who had suddenly suffered a fatal cerebral hemorrhage.

For more than seven years before that, according to Lensky and his wife Phyllis, he had been suffering from the effects of sclerosing cholangitis, a disease that narrows the ducts in the marrow of the liver.

The disease ultimately progressed to the point that their physician recommended a liver transplant.

Harry was put on the waiting list in July 1995. "He was very lucky" to get a liver within four months from someone who matched his blood type, said Phyllis, who is now active in the Wisconsin Liver Foundation. "There is a terrible shortage of organs."

"I think most people have the misconception that organ donation is prohibited" under authoritative interpretations of Jewish principles and law, said Rabbi Lee Buckman, spiritual leader of the Conservative Congregation Beth Israel.

"While that was true when it was only experimental, now that it has been proven to prolong and preserve people's lives, it is permitted," he said.

Rabbi Ronald Shapiro, spiritual leader of the Reform Congregation Shalom, said some members have asked him "whether they were committing some kind of transgression" by donating their organs.

"They felt there was a Jewish tradition about body and soul needing to be able to reunite, yet they really felt they wanted to [become donors] to preserve individual life," Rabbi Shapiro said.

Rabbi Tsvi G. Schur, director of the Jewish Chaplaincy Service in Milwaukee, said that in Orthodox communities, some people were reluctant to donate because they wanted their organs to go to other Jews.

They say this, Rabbi Schur emphasized, not out of disdain or hatred for non-Jews but on grounds that "all Jews are one family" and one has an "obligation to save a member of one's family first."

But he added that halachic authority Rabbi Moshe Feinstein issued a ruling saying, "Today in a mixed society, everybody needs everybody else and there is no question" that Jews can donate organs to non-Jews.

Some Orthodox and Conservative Jews have expressed concerns about Jewish eschatology – ideas about what will happen at "the end of days." These teachings include the idea that one must be buried with all of one's body parts so that when the Messiah comes and the dead are resurrected, one will resurrect completely.

But Rabbi Schur said that commentaries on these ideas have indicated that organs that have been donated for the halachically valid purpose of saving a life "will be regenerated or you will be able to live without them."

Halachic issues debated

Other halachic issues around transplants are being debated within Orthodox and Conservative Judaism. In the Orthodox community, Rabbi Schur said, the big issue is determining when death occurs so that organs may be removed.

One camp is willing to go with the modern medical definition of death as cessation of brain activity. Others adhere to the more traditional definition that death occurs when breathing and heartbeat stop.

The medical problem is that organs are more likely to be successfully transplanted if taken from someone brain dead than from someone whose heart has stopped. The halachic problem, according to Rabbi Schur, is that "you can't kill someone to save someone else," and therefore some Orthodox authorities consider removing a beating heart from a brain dead person as murder.

In the Conservative movement, said Rabbi Buckman, the primary debate is over whether donating an organ is a meritorious but optional act of kindness or is an obligation under the Halachah: "Do not stand by the blood of your neighbor" (Leviticus 19:16) can be interpreted as, if you have the means and opportunity to help someone in mortal peril, it is a sin to refrain.

Rabbi Buckman said he personally views organ donation as an obligation, and so has signed the organ donation permission form on the back of his driver's licence.

But such debates may seem academic when compared with what transplantation has done for someone like Harry Lensky.

To be sure, a transplant is not easy to live with, medically or psychologically.

Then there is the "bittersweet thing," as Phyllis put it, of knowing that one's life has been saved through someone else's death.

The Lenskys have been carrying on a "blind correspondence" with the family of the liver's donor – neither family knows the other's name and letters are sent through a third party. Some day, they may feel comfortable with the idea of meeting.

"For a family to decide to donate organs is the kindest, biggest mitzvah they can do," said Phyllis.

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CONVENIENT NORTH YORK LOCATION

NEWLY DECORATED SPACIOUS 2 BDRMS.
- Large balconies
- Central air conditioning and heating
- Hardwood Floors
- Sunken living rooms
- Surveillance cameras and card access system
- Outdoor swimming pool
- Close to conveniences and TTC
- Underground parking available

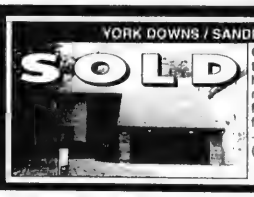
125 Neptune Dr.
(416) 787-7171

5 HOUSES FOR SALE

"WE OPEN DOORS FOR YOU"

DAVID EICHORN REALTY LIMITED 787-1712

YORK DOWNS / SANDRINGHAM



Country in the city! Custom executive 5 bdrm. home, main floor family room, gorgeous 60 x 188 ft. lot (irreg.), hardwood floors, w/o to yard, sauna ++. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

SOLD

HILLMOUNT — INDOOR POOL!

Magnificent custom-built exec. home, 5 + 1 bdrms., 6 baths, fam. room, oak library, spectacular 32 x 16 ft. indoor pool, 50 x 140 ft. lot, loaded with upgrades, only $749,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / YORK DOWNS — REDUCED TO SELL!
4 + 2 bdrms., 5 baths, parquet floors, 55 x 122 ft. lot, sep. entry to in-law suite, only $329,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

* * *

NEAR CASA LOMA — SUPER LOCATION!
Detached 3 storey facing park. Original charm: leaded glass, gumwood +++, 5 bdrms., 4 baths, large principal rooms, fireplaces, hardwood floors, only $449,000. Call Richard Cash (416) 787-1712.

AVENUE ROAD / LAWRENCE / BATHURST — VENDOR SAYS SELL!
Updated 3 + 2 bedroom, 2 storey home, 4 baths, new kitchen, breakfast room walk-out to deck and garden, hot location, asking only $339,000! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

* * *

BATHURST / LAWRENCE
Spacious 3 + 1 bdrm. bungalow on generous 54 x 117 ft. lot, fabulous location, excellent value. Live in now — build later! Only $329,000. **ACT NOW!** Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

FOREST WOOD — PRESTIGE PLUS!

Spacious ranch bungalow on wide 59 ft. frontage, gleaming hardwood floors, eat-in kitchen, walk-out to deck from dining room, finished basement, demand location! Only $399,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / GLENCAIRN — BRAND NEW CUSTOM HOME!
Close to luxury new homes, approx. 3400 sq. ft. of luxury, 5 bdrms., fam. room, library, loaded w/ upgrades, dream maple kit., granite & hrdwd. floors++, $679,000. Call Richard Cash (416) 787-1712.

* * *

CLANTON PARK — LOVELY QUIET STREET!
3 bedroom home, 50 ft. frontage, separate entry to in-law suite, only $259,000. Call Esther Rubenstein (416) 787-1712.

* * *

BATHURST / GLENCAIRN — DESIRABLE CENTRAL LOCATION!
40 x 133 ft. lot, close to TTC, shops, schools ++, det. brick 2 bdrm. bung. now on property, $249,900. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

* * *

HOME FOR RENT — AVENUE ROAD / LAWRENCE
Rare opportunity in this prestigious location! Spacious 4 bdrm. 2 storey overlooking ravine — country in the city! Oversized lot. Asking $3,500 / month. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

* * *

BATHURST / BAYCREST — SPACIOUS 3 + 1 BDRM. RANCH!
55 x 132 ft. lot, shows well! Large eat-in kitchen, custom built-ins, only $289,000. **ACT NOW!** Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

80 SHORT TERM RENTAL

Bath./Steeles - furn. condo, 2 bdr., 2 bth., pkg. Aavail. Nov. 1 - April 1. Call 416-665-8303.

Bathurst area, clean small apt., not basement, short lease. Call 416-493-1868.

105 COTTAGE FOR SALE

Muskoka/Bracebridge, modern 3 bdrm, lkfrnt, encl. porch, safe, sandy bch., Jewish community, low carrying cost, 905-731-4466

125 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE

FT. LAUDERDALE
On The Intercoastal
"BAY COLONY CLUB"
Beautifully upgraded 2 bd/2 bath apt
Move-in cond. Well-run complex with excellent amenities. Approx. 1200 s.f. $129,000. For details
ROSLYN AVERY
Royal LePage R.E.S. Ltd.
Johnston & Daniel Div.
416-489-2121

Century Village, Deerfield, 2 bdrm., 1 1/2 bth., garden apt., beautifully furnished, CAC. $37K US. 905-770-9030.

Inverrary, lux. condo on golf course, 2 bdrm., 2 bths., fully furn., move in condition. 514-486-4925 or 954-748-0521.

130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT

Miami Beach - Beautiful condo, one convertible. Video avail. 1 1/2 baths. 17 flr. facing ocean. 24HR. security. 450-672-4251

Surfside "The Waves" 2 bdrm., 2 1/2 bth., ocean front, kosher kit., from Jan. 5t. $3000 US/mo. Min. 3 months. 514-484-1890.

HOLLYWOOD, Hallmark 2 bdr, 2 full bath, corner, pkg., valet etc. 3 mos min. Avail. 1998/99 season. 905-731-0609.

The Fountains of Lake Worth, 2 bdrm., 2 full bth., compl. furn. w/all amen. Available Jan - Mar. 416-665-2413.

West Palm Beach, Century Village, 1 bdrm condo, 1 1/2 bth., balc., liv./din. area, kit. $3,500 US/season. 972-964-1144.

130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT

Boca West, Boca Raton, 2 bdrm., garden apt., beautiful view. Avail. Jan. 7. 3 month min. 482-9163 or fax 482-9525.

Century Village, Deerfield, 2 bdrm. condo, 1 1/2 baths, available for 4 months from December. Call 416-244-4845.

Century Village, Pembroke Pines (Hollywood), furn., 2 bdrm., 1 1/2 bth., 3rd flr., elev., excellent cond., fully equipped, clubhouse facil., $1450 US/mo. Jan. 15 - Apr. 15. 905-731-1043

135 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT

ANBER MOVERS
(LOCAL MOVING)
SPECIALIST IN:
TORONTO ↔ VANCOUVER
NEW YORK ↔ FLORIDA
(514) 735-8148
1-800-561-MOVE

138 FURN. FLOR. PROP. FOR SALE/RENT

Hollywood - 2 lge. bdrm., 2 1/2 bth., across ocean & boardwalk, on the intercostal, 7th. flr, balc, highrise, beautiful view, fully furn. Avail. Sept-Oct., low rental or Feb.- April. 416-663-8773.

140 FLORIDA ACCOMMODATION WANTED

2 bdrm., 2 bth., conv. furn. condo, preferably in low rise bldg., golf complex at fountains at Lake Worth, Boca Point, Palm Aire, etc. or on beach anywhere from North Fort Lauderdale, to West Palm Beach. Dec. 15 - Mar. 15 or possibly longer. References. 905-628-8410.

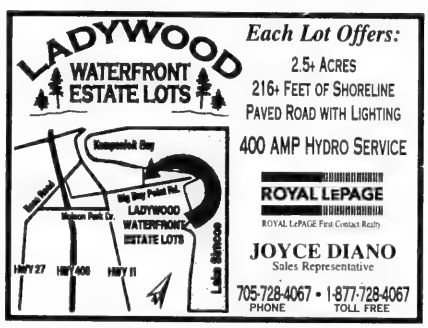
143 FLORIDA SHARED ACCOMM. AVAIL.

North Miami Beach, lux. 1,400 sq. ft., 2 bdrm., 2 bth., to share for winter. 416-650-6008.

143 FLORIDA SHARED ACCOMM. AVAIL.

Hallandale Beach, nice sr. lady wishes to share with same, lux. 2 bdrm, 2 bth apt. Doorman bldg, choice loc., Nov.-April (or partial), $500./mo. 498-7221.

180 OUT-OF-TOWN PROPERTIES



230 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

This is a small ad with a **BIG OPPORTUNITY**. Call Susan 416-410-1715/905-826-9949

240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Business To Business Lead Generation. Telesales business requires assertive, well spoken individual to generate & qualify business to business sales lead by telephone. Excellent command of the English language & computer skills req'd. No selling involved. Hourly wage. 2 dys/wk. 9am-5pm. Please call & leave message at (416) 635-6325.

Enthusiastic creative, Hebrew teacher req'd. Sun. mornings & Wed. afternoons for downtown school, beginning Sept. 1998. Successful classroom experience & teacher training req'd. Phone Joan Schoenfeld 924-6211 or fax Joan at 924-0442, please include references.

Hebrew & Judaic Studies teachers req'd. for Conservative Sunday Hebrew School. Call 416-226-0111 for information.

240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Part-time teaching positions available in Jewish supplementary schools. Knowledge of the Hebrew language would be an asset. Call The Board of Jewish Education, 633-7770, ext. 400.

240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

MUSICAL JOB. Looking for upbeat, presentable person. Must play portable instrument, have great singing voice, car, good communication skills, want to interact with moms and tots. Unique teaching experience. Reply to CJN Box # 7078.

WANTED - Friendly, energetic office help for growing co. Part-time $8/hr. to start, will train. Ask for Lisa, 905-731-2141.

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

A complete cleaning service for homes, offices. Refs., ins. & bonded. Sylvia, 416-740-3034.

Avail. to work as a nanny, elderly caregiver, 3 yrs. exp., live-out, references avail. 656-9017

Cleaning lady with exp. Good references. Call 416-658-7161.

EC Access Employ. Agency
Filipino owned.
Nannies/ Hskprs/Companions.
905-475-2518 416-759-4333

Jewish HCA avail. to care for your family member. Exp., reliable, caring. P/T. 416-944-3314

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

GOLDEN CARE LTD.
There's *no place* **like HOME!**
Live-in & live-out Caregivers & Nannies. Staff training in safety, appropriate behaviour and even Jewish cooking!
On-going contact with you after placement.
LOW RATES WITH THE BEST PERSONAL SERVICE
Honey Hecker
665-1435, 665-4229

DIAMOND PERSONNEL
Professionally Screened
Nannies
Housekeepers and Health Care Companions
Since 1988
416 730-8866

CAREGIVER PLACEMENTS
Do you need a reliable caregiver to work in your home? WHR has candidates with good educ bkgrd & experience & English speaking. No fee if you sponsor the entry of a foreign worker. For more information on foreign recruitment call **(800) 742-2446** or visit our **website at www.whrgroup.com.**

Frustrated by trying to find a suitable nanny? Let us help you. We have dependable, caring nannies who are thoroughly qualified, personally interviewed & pre-screened. All refs. are checked. Some are CPR trained. Low finders fee.
Wee Care Placement Agency
416-789-3070

High quality house cleaning. Call Dora, 736-1179.

Home cleaning. Introductory special offer including all cleaning products. 2 people will clean for $15/hour, minimum 4 hours. Fully insured. 7 days a week. *Call Sharon* 416-783-8068.

I will clean your house or apt. any day of the week. Call after 8pm. Eva. 416-498-7822.

Lady avail. for cleaning & ironing. Call 416-241-0755, Yona.

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

Nannies, live-in/out, full/part-time, in-home elderly care, FT, PT, RN's, nurses aides, cleaning. Bonded, refs. **416-224-9907**
NUMBER 1 DOMESTICS.

Polish exper. cleaning lady, refs. Call 247-4157.

Reliable, exp. cleaning lady avail. any day of the wk/wkend. Call after 8pm. 614-7334, Barb.

259 SENIORS

Ahavath Achim Retirement Home. The home with a Neshama. Planned activities, 24 hr. supervision. For information contact Joseph or Louise Sahar, office (416) 398-5486 or (905) 660-4831.

260 BUSINESS PERSONALS

BPT INC, a clear out sale on engagements, please call Ruth Friedman at 905-731-5204.

Jewish Singles Registry, over 1630 members. Website, www.total.net/~jsreg. 483-4151

Jewish singles, 40-60 who like to play friendly home games (cards, chess etc.) like to watch movies, listen to good music, food incl. $15. 794-5898, pager.

264 SOCIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Johnston/Goldberg - Judy & Dean Johnston are thrilled to announce the engagement of their daughter **Maria to Neil,** son of Sam & Mina Goldberg. The wedding is planned for December 12, 1998. Mazel Tov!

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

Gentleman, European, senior, tall, committed environmentalist, vegetarian, (published articles), traditionaly observant, widely traveled, warmly welcomes a lady (pre. m.) with similar interests. CJN Box # 7087.

Attractive, slim female, 5'3", enjoys theatre, movies, music, ethnic restaurants, seeks youthful male 49-57, easygoing, witty, secure. CJN Box # 7083.

Jewish male, 85, would like to meet a Jewish woman, 80+ for marriage/company. **781-1611.**

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

To **Listen** & **Respond** To Ads call **1-900-451-4552** ***Ext.# 65***

The cost of the 900# is only $2.29 per minute

The Meeting Place

To Place Your **FREE** Ad call **905-276-6167** ***Ext.# 65***

Brought to you by the Canadian Jewish News

Women seeking Men

THEATRE & DINING OUT
Single female, late 40's, 5'4", blondish brown hair, hazel eyes, voluptuous, pretty, enjoy theatre, dining out, romantic walks, seeking a well established male, 48-50, handsome, caring, for sincere relationship Ad# 1394

COME ENJOY LIFE WITH ME
Slim, attractive widow, 5'4", very refined, curious, adventurous, warm, caring, real love for life & laughter, seeking gentleman with a real zest for life to share all the wonders of life with Ad# 1408

LONG TERM RELATIONSHIP
Jewish lady, blonde hair, blue eyes, seeking Jewish gentleman, 36-46, height & weight not important Ad# 1412

KIND HEARTED
Single female, 30, Jewish, petite, attractive, fit, down to earth, great sense of humour, seeking a Jewish male, 32-39, sincere, attractive, kind hearted, for friendship,possible relationship Ad# 1415

TRUSTWORTHY
Single female, middle age, enjoy dancing, dining, travelling, sports, seeking a male who is trustworthy, for serious relationship Ad# 1417

LASTING RELATIONSHIP
Divorced Jewish female, 49, loving, caring, loyal, great sense of humour, enjoy dining out, dancing, long walks, travelling, seeking a male, 49-57 for lasting relationship Ad# 1420

CAPABLE
Single Jewish female, 40 something, intelligent, sexy, humourous, enjoy dancing, fishing, walks, music, seeking a Jewish male who is available, capable & sensual. Ad# 1421

GOOD VALUES
Single Jewish female, 38, petite, easy going, down to earth, nonsmoker, laid back, good values, seeking a Jewish male, 35-42 to be best friends & lifetime partner Ad# 1424

ZEST FOR LIFE
Single Jewish female, single parent, seeking tall, fit, sincere, kind, witty, sun loving male, kids OK, honest & caring, 40-55 Ad# 1425

BEST IS YET TO COME
Single female, Jewish, 5'7", blue eyes, sincere, intelligent, attractive, enjoy theatre, travelling, quiet evenings at home, seeking tall gentleman, 50+, warm & sincere who has a passion for cooking Ad# 1432

ROMANTIC AT HEART
Single Jewish lady, 55, 5'6", red hair, nonsmoker, independent with a great zest for life, seeking gentleman, 55-65, stylish, handsome for long term relationship. Ad# 1520

DINING & DANCING
Single Jewish mom, 37, 5'3", blonde hair, blue eyes, 2 teenage children, enjoy movies, dining & dancing, theatre, outdoor activities, romantic evenings, honest, outgoing, fun loving, seeking male with similar interests & qualities Ad# 1436

SHARE SAME INTERESTS
Single Jewish female, 35, 5'5", nonsmoker, brunette, blue eyes, enjoy movies, dining in & out, quiet evenings cooking, baking, long walks on the board walk, seeking a Jewish male, 30-43, nonsmoker Ad# 1378

ROMANTIC MOMENTS
Single female, 50, passionate, caring, sincere, enjoy working out, travelling, dining out, dancing, seeking male to share romantic moments Ad# 1468

To renew your ad call 416-236-6644

ONE OF A KIND
Single Jewish lady, 5'5", attractive, kind, sincere, seeking Jewish gentleman, 40-55, tall, with a great sense of humour & traditional sense of values & professional attitude Single dads OK. Ad# 1380

DESIRES OF THE HEART
Young lady, Jewish, 25, vegetarian, nonsmoker, good sense of humour, kind, sincere, enjoy outdoor activities, seeking gentleman, Jewish, 28-35, nonsmoker, loves pets & has similar interests Ad# 1381

LOVE CONNECTION
Single female, Jewish, great smile, love pets, kids & life, looking for Jewish gentleman 38-45, honest, sincere, caring to share the sunshine with Ad# 1384

DINING & DANCING
Divorced female, 40, 5'2", teacher, enjoy exercising, plays, concerts, dining & dancing, nonsmoker, looking for male with similar interests Ad# 1382

FOR YOUR EYES ONLY
Attractive, adventurous, upbeat lady, 53, mother of 2, seeking gentleman, down to earth, sincere, nonsmoker, good listener, solid values, very understanding Ad# 1367

DESIRES OF THE HEART
Attractive, petite, modern Orthodox lady, early 30's, enjoy hiking, camping, movies, long walks, good conversation, looking for gentleman, handsome, intelligent, strong sense of humour, with similar interests Ad# 1371

AVAILABLE
Female widow, 40 something, with 3 grown up boys, sexy, humourous, enjoy music, walking, dancing & fishing, seeking an available Jewish male who sensual & enjoys movies Ad# 1369

ROMANTIC GOALS
Single female, tall, long legged, not slim, open minded, real woman, seeking unattached male 35-55 slim, single dad's & smoker's are welcome for long term relationship Ad# 1373

FRIENDSHIP
Single petite Jewish female, healthy, financially secure, attractive, enjoy dining out, dancing, arts & theatre, seeking male 63-73 with similar interests for friendship & companionship Ad# 1331

FRIEND FOR THE SUMMER
Single female, 45, like dancing, dining out, music, long walks, nature, travelling, seeking a male with similar interests Ad# 1333

DREAMS CAN COME TRUE
Single Jewish female, 35, cute, slim, petite, enjoy long walks, good conversation, dining out, dancing, seeking a Jewish male 32-39 with similar interests Ad# 1343

Men seeking Women

INCURABLE ROMANTIC
Single Jewish male, 39, 5'7", enjoy music, movies, dining, dancing, seeking cuddly lady to enjoy the finer things in lifeAd# 1433

WELL BUILT
Single male, 59, 5'10", 182 lbs., well built, handsome, good sense of humour, nonsmoker, nondrinker, enjoy dancing, travelling, cooking, music, seeking a female, 45-52 with similar interests Ad# 1398

FRIENDSHIP FIRST
Single Jewish male, 30, brown hair, brown eyes, variety of interests, sports, movies, concerts, always willing to try something new, seeking a lady with similar interests. Ad# 1414

OUTGOING & CARING
Single male, outgoing, caring, enjoy live theatre, seeking a female for a relationship, someone who is honest, trustworthy, loyal, good listener & communicator Ad# 1379

ROMANTIC AT HEART
Gentleman, sincere, sentimental, affectionate, love to cuddle, enjoy movies, music, romantic times & winters in Florida, seeking a slim, attractive lady, 55+ with similar interests Ad# 1383

WHAT A CATCH
Single jewish male, 33, 6', brown hair, blue green eyes, slim, handsome, spontaneous, enjoy dining, dancing, movies, outdoor activities, travelling, seeking a single Jewish female 28-34, attractive, slim, easy going, brunette Ad# 1387

ENJOY LIFE
Single male, 54, tall, romantic, easy to look at, athletic, nonsmoker, enjoy sports, quiet evenings, seeking a single Jewish female who enjoys life Ad# 1391

KIND & HONEST
Jewish gentleman, sincere, kind, honest, not into bar scene, seeking companionship of nice Jewish girl with strong sense of humour, kind & sincere. Ad# 1364

AN ORIGINAL
Gentleman, kind, sincere, intelligent, easy going, professional, enjoy dining, dancing, quiet evenings, seeking lady with similar interests for long term old fashioned relationship. Ad# 1409

STAND BY ME
Gentleman, 26, Jewish, police officer in Toronto area, educated, hoping to return to college, seeking good natured lady with good sense of humour, no more broken hearts Ad# 1368

AMBITIOUS
Single male, 30, ambitious, outgoing, enjoy travelling, sports, long walks, dining out, seeking a warm, compassionate female who is sensitive & outgoing Ad# 1370

DRIVES IN THE COUNTRY
Very conservative gentleman, 5'8", stock analyst, enjoy art auctions, drives in the country, looking for a lady or single moms, you don't have to be slim Ad# 1348

SEEKING GOOD COMPANY
Gentleman, Jewish, 51, very good natured, witty, creative, professional, seeking lady, pleasant, kind, sincere, very good sense of humour, for future relationship. Ad# 1351

GREAT TIMES TOGETHER
Single Jewish male, 63, 5'9", 160 lbs , like to give a lot of tender loving care, enjoy arts, sports, seeking a slim Jewish lady who is elegant & proud of her Jewish heritage & religion. Ad# 1357

GOOD CONVERSATION
Single Jewish male, 56, enjoy travelling, movies, walks, have a good sense of humour, goo conversation & romantic, seeking a female who is attractive with similar interests Ad# 1372

MARRIAGE MINDED
Gentleman, 70, widower, sincere, trustworthy, kind, seeking lady up to 65 years for possible future relationship Ad# 1318

LASTING RELATIONSHIP
Divorced male from Eastern Europe, handsome, sincere, fit, professional, enjoy movies, dancing, biking, seeking a kind & affectionate female in 30's, slim & attractive Ad# 1388

PLAYFUL
Single white Jewish male, no dependents, 175 lbs.., blonde hair, blue eyes, fit, secure, well educated, seeking lady, slim, attractive, under 40 years. Ad# 1319

BRIGHT BLUE EYES
Gentleman, 50's, caring, romantic, handsome, slim, blue eyes, brown hair, good sense of humour, seeking lady, age & religion not important, attractive, should look good in jeans Ad# 1322

DINING & DANCING
Gentleman, 33, 6', brown hair, green eyes, well established, financially secure, enjoy travelling, dining, dancing, movies, seeking a Jewish female, 28-34, 5'5" or taller, slim, attractive, well read with strong sense of humour Ad# 1307

TRADITIONAL & KIND
Traditional, down to earth Jewish man, good sense of humour, fun to be with, healthy, good looking, kind & easy to get along with. I seek someone for a relationship, maybe marriage Ad# 1265

Questions ??? 416-236-6644

Active, devoted, well educated, Russian female, 53, who enjoys nice conversation, art, meeting friends, seeks Russian speaking, well educated, gentle, optimistic male with sense of humour, under 60 for serious relationship. CJN Box # 7082.

Charming, healthy widower, mid 70's seeks a petite woman, 65-70 who would enjoy some company for movies, dinners, the occasional baseball game and theatre. What would you enjoy? Looking forward to hearing from you. CJN Box # 7085.

JFW, 61 is seeking a widower only to start a new life 663-9992

When I asked a few friends & family to describe me, they said I was honest, funny, empathetic, intelligent, sometimes opinionated. I would add, 33, Jewish, a progressive prof., never married, love kids & am an all around foliage lover. I'm looking for a single open minded, smart man, 30-45 who is generally content with his life but is ready for a partner to share it with. I bring a love of theatre, good conversation and a quick wit. How about you? CJN Box 7086.

Young prof. 52 SJM, handsome, loves dancing & music seeks bright, energetic, SJF 42-50, slim & fit, well groomed, natural beauty, 5'3"-5'6" for lasting relationship. CJN Box # 7080.

SJM: Retired academic, Ph.D. Tall, handsome. Honest, kind, empathetic and unpretentious. Seeks attractive, kind, mature female. CJN Box # 7084.

*** CJN Boxes for Personal Companions Wanted ads are valid for 30 (thirty) days only (from 1st publication date). Replies must be received within this time frame in order to be forwarded to the correct CJN Box #.**

CLASSIFIED ADS/ SERVICE DIRECTORY ADS
· CUSTOMER SERVICE ·

The CJN requires that advertisers check their advertisement upon publication, as *The CJN* will not be responsible for more than one incorrect insertion, and there shall be no liability for non-insertion of any advertisement. Liability for errors in advertisements is limited to the amount paid for the space occupying the error. All copy is subject to the approval of the management of *The CJN*. *The CJN* reserves the right to classify all advertisements.

Service Directory & Classified Ad Deadlines are Wednesday, 8 days previous to the issue, by 4 pm.

300 ARTICLES FOR SALE

Sofa grey/white almost new, glass top dining room set (7 pce.), Indian white/blue carpet, St.Clair/Yonge. 416-515-2045.

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

330 OBITUARIES

MENDLOWITZ, Rose - on July 10, 1998, late of 10 Heatherton Way.
OPHEK, Eli - on July 10, 1998, late of 16 Newbury Lane.
BITTNER, Esther - on July 12, 1998, late of 6 Blue Forest Dr.
SCHACTER, Sylvia - on July 12, 1998, late of 1925 Steeles Ave. E.
SELIGMAN, Anne - on July 12, 1998, late of 125 Shelbourne Ave., #3.
MANLY, Fanny - on July 13, 1998, late of 4266 Bathurst St., #703.
RUDERFER, Laura - on July 13, 1998, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
SCHACTER, Irving - on July 13, 1998, late of 378 Banbury Rd.
SHANKMAN, Anne - on July 13, 1998, late of 31 Kennard Ave.
REINBLATT, Sidney - on July 14, 1998, late of 25 Canyon Ave., #703.
IZEN, Irwin - on July 15, 1998, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
SCHWARTZ, Margaret - on July 30, 1998, late of 4150 Westminister Pl.
WISE, Michael - on July 31, 1998, late of 37 Rockland Dr.
GARBE, William - on Aug. 1, 1998, late of 65 Spring Garden Ave., #702.
JAEGER, Norman - on Aug. 1, 1998, late of 555 Cummer Ave.
PARNES, Anne - on Aug. 1, 1998, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
MAKIEVSKY, Ita - on Aug. 2, 1998, late of 25 Broadoaks Dr.

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

SCHWARTZ, Sylvia - on Aug. 2, 1998, late of 458 Palmerston Blvd.
GOLDMAN, Sophie - on Aug. 4, 1998, late of 370 Ridelle, #804.
GULKO, Nancy - on Aug. 4, 1998, late of 5935 Bathurst St.
MANSON, Rose - on Aug. 4, 1998, late of 55 Ameer Ave., #908.
STRAUSS, Harry - on Aug. 5, 1998, late of 3560 Bathurst St.

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

BAYLIS, Gloria - on July 31, 1998, late of 32 Ashland Cres.

A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
HEBREW BASIC BURIAL
TRADITIONAL GRAVESIDE SERVICE

THE CANADIAN JEWISH NEWS CANNOT ACT AS AN INTERMEDIARY BETWEEN THE ADVERTISER AND ITS CUSTOMERS AND PUBLICATION BY US SHOULD NOT BE TAKEN AS AN ENDORSEMENT OF THE PRODUCT OR SERVICE OFFERED.

IZENBERG GOLDBERG Monuments
Serving the Jewish community for over 80 years
•Finest quality memorials crafted in our own factory - under our supervision
•Very reasonable prices
MONUMENTS CAN BE PREPARED WITHIN SHLOSHIM

EXPERIENCE QUALITY - SERVICE
3173 BATHURST ST.
(just north of Lawrence)
(416) **787-0319**

335 UNVEILINGS

UNVEILING
RUTH ACKER ז"ל
(BRODSKY, GOLDSTEIN)
will take place
Sunday, Aug. 30th, 2:00 p.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Yavne Zion Plot

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
ISAAC GLIKSMAN ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Aug. 23rd, 10:00 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Chenstochover Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

335 UNVEILINGS

Yad Vashem Monuments

UNVEILING for SUNDAY, AUG. 23

MAX COLLIS ז"ל

Beth Tzedec
Section (6)
11:30 a.m.

Personalizing Memorials For Over 20 Years 416.782.8995

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
JUDITH GOLDGRAB ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Aug. 23rd, 10:30 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Stashover Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
DR. ZOLTAN KUBES ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Aug. 30th, 11:00 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
(Bathurst, South of Steeles)
Stashiver Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
SUSAN GREENING (OSTRZEGA) ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Aug. 23rd, 12:00 noon
Pardes Shalom Cemetery
Temple Sinai Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
SADIE GORDON ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Aug. 23rd, 12:00 noon
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Yuvner Zionist Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
BEN JONSSON ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Aug. 23rd, 10:30 a.m.
Pardes Shalom Cemetery
Judean Benevolent & Friendly Society Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
ELIAHU POLIWODA ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Aug. 23rd, 10:15 a.m.
Mount Sinai Memorial Park
Labour Zionist Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
SAM KOCH ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Aug. 23rd, 11:00 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Warsaw Lodzer Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
SAM WEINAPPLE ז"ל
beloved husband, father & grandfather
will take place
Sunday, August 23rd, 12:00 noon
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Anshei Minsk Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
ABRAM (Al) SAX ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, August 30th, at 11:00 a.m.
Adas Israel Cemetery
York Road, Hamilton, Ontario
(#403 to #6 Hwy. turn North to York Rd. & right to cemetery)
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

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MARY SPIEGELMAN ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Aug. 30th, 10:15 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Linitzer Society Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

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Features

England's Cornwall has a mystique all its own

By MIRIAM CHINSKY
Special to The CJN

CORNWALL, England — "When our train crosses that bridge ahead, we'll be in Cornwall," pointed out the man sitting opposite us. He was bringing his new wife from Vancouver to meet his parents, and the catch in his voice was as much about going home as introducing his bride.

Cornwall, England's most southwesterly county has a mystique all its own. A profound attachment to land, legend and history imbues the Cornish with an uncommon perspective. Though they co-exist with the rest of the country, they often refer to other English as "foreigners."

This was the territory – rolling hills ablaze with yellow gorse, awesome seascapes, wild moors – that my friend Maryleah and I were entering. Admittedly a romanticist, I was enticed by such fantasies as Daphne Du Maurier's *Jamaica Inn* and *Frenchman's Creek* as well as by current writers' lyrical descriptions of the countryside. My enthusiasm was contagious and we set out to explore Cornwall together.

We had taken a risk, relying on an ad in a travel magazine to book a "deluxe" package through Cornish Connections, a husband-and-wife team, John and Pat Saunders. The package included the Westcott Hotel with breakfast and dinner plus five days touring, just the two of us. Based in one location, we could see whatever we wanted and come back to the same place at night.

It cost more than the conventional tour but wasn't exorbitant and we could ride along hedgerow- lined byways inaccessible to the buses, roads so narrow that passing an occasional oncoming car involved one driver backing up to let the other proceed. Cows meandered at random.

We had stayed overnight with friends in London before boarding the train to Truro where the Saunders met us in a spotless van for the brief drive to the family-operated Westcott in coastal Falmouth.

Almost as soon as we pulled up at the gabled building we knew that we had lucked in. Mike Craig, the hotelier, welcomed us with a cup of tea and showed us to our en suite room overlooking the sea. The century old hotel had been beautifully refurbished, and the Craigs provided caring personal attention.

Each evening, guests were invited to take tea or coffee in the lounge. We met a couple from Colorado – he had been stationed in Falmouth with the U.S. Navy during World War II; two women intent on inspecting every public garden around; a mother and daughter from Wales; and a quiet young man attached to the Royal Navy, who on our last night, unexpectedly brought out several drawing books filled with sensitive sketches and watercolors of ships, ports and the sea.

Cornwall is dotted with small cities, fishing villages and mining towns. In five days we experienced leaps in time from prehistoric standing stones (grave markers) in farmers' fields to a contemporary branch of the Tate Gallery in the artists' colony of St. Ives.

Our first stop was St. Michael's Mount, "the jewel in Cornwall's crown," a granite crag rising offshore from Mount's Bay. It is dominated by a castle which was originally a 12th century priory, later a fortress, and now the home of the titled St. Aubyn family who live in one wing while tourists gawk at hoary treasures in the public sector.

We reveled in the Lost Gardens of Heligan, neglected for over 40 years but presently undergoing restoration, with apple trees again trained to form an archway and hidden rhododendrons appearing phoenix-like in massive glory.

Reminiscent of Caesarea's Roman amphitheatre but dating back only to the 1930s, is the Minack Theatre, also facing the sea, the dream of Rowena Cade, who physically, with local assistance, lugged rocks to provide seating. In season, plays, dance and opera are staged.

We saw the real Jamaica Inn and Windswept Bodmin Moor, the country church where Rosamund Pilcher, author of *The Shell Seekers*, married, and the former home of D.H. Lawrence. The obligatory cathedral in Truro combined superb architecture with intricate adornment.

Wandering in several towns we were especially taken with Polperro, a fishing village with brightly painted doors and flowers everywhere. On the wall of a very old home we discovered an intriguing sign, The Jew's House. Beside the door, another sign read, Shalom. The occupant knew nothing about the signs, only that he was "required" to leave them up.

We saw no other hint of a Jewish community in Cornwall but our friends in London said that many years ago there were Jewish merchants in the busy ports and the signs could indicate that the property once belonged to a moneylender. A British Tourist authority representative had no explanation.

The view from the Westocit. [Miriam Chinsky photo]

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Trainer keeps on track with one-horse stable

By HARLAN C. ABBEY
Special to The CJN

FORT ERIE — Nearly every Jewish mother has the same dream for her daughter: a good eduction, an interesting career, marriage to a nice Jewish boy, a home in the suburbs, children, and maybe some time for the temple sisterhood or another women's organization.

Never would a mother imagine her daughter getting up at 5 a.m. each day, going to work wearing muddy boots and dirty blue jeans. Nor would that mother imagine spending her time worrying about a huge animal that might accidentally step on, kick, or (deliberately or playfully) bite her precious darling.

But such is the lifestyle of Montreal native Rosalie Raphael, who trains a one-horse stable at the Fort Erie Race Track and owns a nearby farm.

While big-name trainers like Jim Day dress in fancy casual clothes during training hours and have dozens of grooms who actually work with their horses, Raphael does it all herself.

That means cleaning out her horse's stall, brushing her, getting her ready for their morning exercise under jockeys or exercise boys, walking her "cool" after exercise, bathing her, feeding her, working on her legs, then maybe taking her out for a relaxing few mouthfuls of grass.

Raphael supports her year-old mare, Weave, by sewing race track silks (at $125 and up per set) which aren't made of silk but nylon, which is sturdier, and other race horse equipment.

"Sewing is work, so is training for other people," she said. "Training your own horse is fun.

Raphael remembered "sneaking to a barn to ride before going to school in Montreal. Then I got married, had my own show horse...

"One day I wandered into the Blue Bonnets track. It seemed like heaven – if you loved horses.

"But racing breaks up most marriages, unless both are horse lovers. My former husband would have something social on the calendar, but I'd be off to Suffolk Downs in Boston because one of my horses would be ready to win.

"You're on the road, your husband feels deserted all the time if he's not involved except on weekends. The horses are first in your mind and no one wants to play second fiddle."

Rosalie Raphael and her horse Weave.

At first, admitted Raphael, "my family thought I was worse than silly – no children, not eating kosher food when travelling... Now I guess I'm the black sheep of the family."

About the only time her race-tracking gained family approval came many years ago: "I had a horse named Buster's Mark entered in a grass race with Sandy Hawley, then an apprentice, riding.

"I gave him quite detailed instructions and he probably thought I didn't know what I was doing. He knew that the horse had only had one workout on the turf, in very, very slow time. And he opened on the odds board at 99-to-1.

"What he didn't know was that the exercise rider in that workout weighed 170 pounds!

"Everything worked out; he won, and paid $92.40.

"I had called my uncle Morris beforehand and he won a big bet; he owned the Berke's pharmacy chain in Montreal."

Raphael grew up in Westmount and attended McGill for two years before marrying. "I should have stayed in college," she said. "I was studying to be a pathologist and remembered walking into a laboratory at Montreal General Hospital. The men there thought I'd pass out, but I didn't!"

With only one horse to train, Raphael admitted "You have to cash a good bet to keep solvent." But she added, "everything has to break just right for Weave to win. The most she's ever earned in purse money is $6,000. But she's much sounder this year."

Raphael bought Weave three years ago for $2,000 – as much for her good looks and affectionate nature as for her speed.

"She has soft eyes and a gorgeous face, and she really likes me. I think she would come into my house, lie on the couch and watch TV with me."

The big mistake most trainers or owners make, she asserted, "is not turning their stock over, running them cheap and letting someone else claim them and live with their problems.

"I run Weave for a $4,000 or $5,000 claiming price. I know she would win at $3,200, but I don't want to lose her.

"She's so pretty and so sweet."

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The Inside Back

Those wandering Jews

By JORDAN MAX

Last Laugh

It seems more than coincidental that the Torah parshiot read over the summer deal with B'nai Yisrael travelling through the Sinai desert, camping and packing, kvetching, mutinying, more packing and unpacking. Not to mention putting on all that sunscreen on a million plus kids every single day.

And true to form, their descendants follow this time-honored tradition with great zeal and dedication, if not parental exhaustion.

I can't help but draw my inspiration from the Torah's first reference to this, namely Jacob travelling to Eretz Yisrael, with four wives, 12 kids and countless thousands of livestock in tow. When his brother Esau asks him to join him ahead, he points out that the kinder and sheep can't be pushed that fast.

Of course, we all know (or rationalize) that the trip is as important as the destination itself. So in our family, we like to pretend we're modern-day explorers while we drive, and drive, and drive – that is, explorers who have to listen to non-stop children's tapes.

When you think about it, it's no surprise that the great explorers throughout history got where they did; they didn't have their children travelling with them.

The Vikings wouldn't even have made it out of Scandinavia with their kids and wives along for the ride. Their wives would have been continually chakking them to do maybe a little less pillaging and plundering, since the kinder were watching.

For that matter, Vasco da Gama never would have made it off the continent if he had taken along the kids, who accidentally mistook his navigational map of the stars for their connect-the-dots puzzle.

How far do you think Columbus would have got if he had had to land ashore every half hour for bathroom breaks? (Couldn't you have gone before we left home? Why didn't you go at the last port we left 10 minutes ago?) You can almost imagine him at the helm of his ship, trying to spot land while his children keep asking him, "Are we there yet?" or fighting over who got to steer the ship. Not to mention all the seasickness.

Marco Polo wouldn't have made it out of Italy with the kids. Instead, they'd be looking for a nice hotel with maybe a pool along the way, maybe some attractions for the kids. And if he ever did get to the Far East, would he really agree that all this was worth it just for some spices, lockshen and fireworks as souvenirs?

Much of the eastern half of Canada would still be undiscovered if Jacques Cartier had taken his kids along with him. He'd have to keep telling the kids to sit down in the canoe; explain once again why no, they can't carry the canoe, it's too heavy; and deal with their always wanting to switch seats for a better view and splashing each other through sloppy paddling.

And what about his American counterparts, Lewis and Clark? They never would have got past New Jersey if they had to stop all the time to make sure the two families' kids got along and shared toys, not to mention having to double back because Fluffy was left behind at the last campsite. And dealing with the black flies and mosquitoes? Remember, this predates bug repellent.

So, it's quite easy to understand why it took Moses and B'nai Yisrael 40 years to get to Eretz Yisrael, where it could have easily taken the adults alone 10 days. In fact, it's a miracle they made it there after all, even after 40 years, without leaving any Fluffys behind.

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4 cups Fusilli pasta (uncooked)
1 small bunch (about 8 oz.) asparagus, trimmed & cut into 1 1/2" pieces
1 cup cheddar cheese,cut into cubes
1 bunch radishes, sliced or halved (approx. 1 1/2 cups)
1/4 cup chopped fresh dill
1 bottle (8 oz.) fat-free Ranch Dressing

Cook Fusilli according to package directions. Add asparagus to pasta water for the last 3 minutes of cooking. Drain Fusilli and asparagus; cool under cold running water.

Transfer to a large bowl; stir in cheese, radishes and dill. Add dressing, stirring to coat thoroughly.

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About Teens

Dear Karilani,

I am going to a different high school than all of my friends this year and I am very, very nervous. I am really frightened that I will have no friends at my new school and that I will be a loser all through high school. I am usually outgoing among my friends, but around new people I am shy. I know that I will still be able to see all of my old friends after school and on the weekends, but what if they don't want to see me and they make new friends? Please help me because I really don't want to sit alone in the cafeteria.

High School Blues

Dear High School Blues,

Don't worry. Many high school students enter their school not knowing anyone. You are not alone. There are many opportunities to meet new people and make friends, even during the first few days of school. For example, the people whose lockers are located next to yours will definitely be friendly and they may not know anyone either.

In addition, classes also provide a great opportunity to meet new people. You can find shared interests in almost any class.

Schools also have many clubs and teams. Try out for the teams and join a few clubs. During these meetings, practices and events everyone will be friendly and hoping to make new friends. You will make friends and your outgoing nature will shine through!

During the first few days of high school, everyone is anxious and hoping to make new friends, even those who already have friends at the school.

In regards to the friends that you are leaving behind, you have to remember that you are all moving on. Just like you are making new friends, they too are going to be making friends. Calling your old friends on a regular basis will help maintain your friendship.

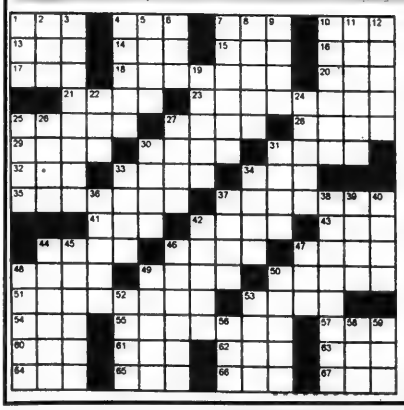
Good luck and have a great year at school!

Karilani is a composite name for three girls, who are close friends and in Grade 11 in Toronto.

The Canadian Jewish news

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

The Canadian Jewish news



Across

1. Brother to Japheth
4. Top for Gottex
7. Org. for Bugsy Siegel
10. Supply with Uzis
13. Likely
14. Got away
15. __ Carte
16. Writer Rosten
17. Affirmative
18. Ellis and Long
20. Days of Rosh Hashanah?
21. Mauri Rose event
23. Slave in Jubilee Year
25. Jonah's prison?
27. Haman?
28. Hamantaschen?
29. Paddles
30. Shandling or Lewis
31. Einstein's gift
32. Campaign org.
33. Called to biblically
34. Miriam to Aaron
35. Holiday robes
37. Newswoman Barbara
41. Wiggling tref fish
42. Polaroid's Edward
43. Cobb or Grant
44. Boxer Max
46. Vacuum
47. "Gilligan's Island", actress
48. Lot's wife
49. Songwriter Simon
50. Jobs afflictions
51. Bilhah's boy
53. Mikveh
54. Shikker's choice?
55. Blood Libel defendant
57. Evil __
60. Syrian ancient homeland?
61. Solomon's find
62. "Lands of the Covenant"
63. __ relief, sculptor's style
64. Hester Street time zone
65. United Synagogue Youth
66. Last degree
67. Exist

Down

1. Dreidel letter
2. Imitate
3. Ark landing site (2 wds.)
4. Actress Fanny
5. Make aliyah
6. B'nai B'rith Org.
7. Photographer
8. Simeon to Gad
9. Hub for Tsahal
10. Retail great
11. Dreidel gelt
12. Calendar cycles
19. Moses' bush
22. Arkin and Jolson
24. Abraham was the first
25. Writer Herman
26. Arabian prince
27. Yeladim (Eng.)
30. Chutzpa (Eng.)
31. Meek
33. Israeli city __ Sheba
34. Negev plenty
36. Comb parts
37. Heard at the Wall?
38. Aaron's wife
39. Shiva clothes
40. Dead and Red
42. Kahn or Nizer
44. Ammonite king
45. Tijuana Brass leader
46. Jezreel
47. Hebrew letter
48. Eden denizen
49. Like Noah's animals
50. Desert station
52. "I and __", Martin Buber
53. Number One
56. Dreidel letter
58. Babi __ , Ukraine
59. Haifa to Jerusalem (dir.)

These puzzles are the work of Kathi Handlerof Waterbury, Connecticut.

(Last week's answers are on page 32.)

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This Week

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Former OISE director prepares for new challenge. *Page 18*

Catholic magazine unleashes vicious attack on Israel. *Page 22*

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Orthodox students lose bid for housing exemption. *Page 28*

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Hockey bug hits home for Israeli teens. *Page 54*

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Court rules on secession

Reaction mixed in Jewish community

By RON CSILLAG and DAVID LAZARUS
Staff Reporters

Minorities across the country, including Canadian Jewry, are still digesting last week's historic Supreme Court of Canada ruling on Quebec's secession – a ruling in which both sides are finding comfort.

The decision, described in some circles as Solomonic, states that while unilateral secession of Quebec would be illegal, the provinces and the federal government would be obliged to negotiate in good faith if a "clear majority" of Quebecers voted for independence in response to an unambiguous question.

Legal scholars described the ruling as a lesson in even-handedness and common sense, and both sides had reason to hail it: Federalists say it upholds their view that Quebec cannot leave on its own, while sovereigntists say it vindicates their long-held claim that Ottawa would have to negotiate if Quebec decides to quit Confederation.

Overall, Jewish reaction to the ruling was positive, with national organizations saying it is reassuring.

But Canadian Jewish Congress, Quebec region (CJC-Q), was somewhat circumspect.

CJC Quebec chair Dorothy Zalcman Howard called the opinion "reassuring to our community," and "logical and consistent with our expectations."

"We must keep in mind that the decision is a legal one, and not political," Zalcman Howard said, "so CJC will continue to advocate a strategy on behalf of Canadian unity."

Continued on page 32

ISRAEL AT 50 PAVILION SPARKLES

Fireworks marked the finale of the gala opening last week of the Israel at 50 Pavilion at the Canadian National Exhibition in Toronto. Please see related story on page 3. *[Greg Dean Signature Photography]*

'Most important case ever'

By IRWIN COTLER
Special to The CJN

Chief Justice Antonio Lamer characterized the Quebec Secession Reference as the most important case ever to come before the Supreme Court of Canada.

When the court delivered its unanimous opinion last Thursday, Aug. 20, it clearly became the most important judgment in the history of Canadian constitutional law. Moreover, it had the unusual, if not historic, distinction of being characterized as a "Solomonic" judgment in which both the federal and Parti Québécois governments claimed victory.

Commentary

The federalist side claimed victory on the grounds that the Supreme Court had unanimously held that Quebec had no right to unilateral secession either under Canadian law or under international law; the péquiste side claimed victory on the grounds that the Supreme Court had not precluded the secession option and indeed, had acknowledged the legitimacy of its negotiated outcome.

It is not surprising, then, that media and political pundits were quick to characterize a unanimous Supreme Court opinion in which each side claimed victory as "Solomonic." Others, less charitable, while still acknowledging its Solomonic character, said the judgment had simply returned us back to square 1 – to the status quo – i.e., that both sides could claim victory because they were both back where they started.

But a careful reading of the judgment will disclose that the Quebec notion of *plus ça change, plus c'est la même chose* has been turned on its head. Everything has changed, and the legal and political status quo respecting the secessionist option will never be the same again. While the true Solomonic character of the

Continued on page 36

EARLY AD DEADLINE

Because of the Labor Day Weekend, the advertising deadlines for the Sept. 1 issue are as follows. Display advertising, Wednesday, Sept. 2 at noon. Classified and organization ads Tuesday, Sept. 1 at noon.

today

Check our Community Focus in Section B.

The News in Brief

CANADA

'Threats' Made On Web

TORONTO — B'nai Brith Canada (BBC) says it is treating "very seriously" what it says are personal threats against its executive vice-president Frank Dimant and the Jewish community. The threats were posted in a readers' forum on the Web site of the weekly, *NOW* magazine.

BBC says it contacted the police hate crimes unit and commended *NOW* for removing the posting from the site. It also asked for a meeting with *NOW* to prevent future postings of this nature. The posting referred to a newsgroup headed "Post your anti-kike comments there."

'Heritage Week' Dropped

MARKHAM, Ont. — The Town of Markham last week scuttled a request to proclaim "European Heritage Week" in October. The town council was going to pass the proclamation, when a last-minute call from Canadian Jewish Congress alerted it to the fact that the neo-Nazi Heritage Front was behind the campaign. In the past few years, several towns and cities have been duped into passing the proclamation.

ISRAEL

Hezbollah Responsible

JERUSALEM — The fundamentalist Hezbollah claimed responsibility for the death of an Israeli soldier in southern Lebanon last week. Ori Samuelov, 21, was killed by a roadside bomb detonated near his army patrol. Four other Israeli soldiers were wounded in the blast. Samuelov was the 10th Israeli soldier killed in Lebanon this year.

Dispute Near End?

JERUSALEM — An end to the dispute between Israel and the Vatican over the appointment of a new Palestinian bishop to the Galilee appears imminent. An Israeli spokesperson said Israel would not oppose the appointment of Boutros Moualem if it received assurances that he would not engage in political activity.

Barak Urges Elections

JERUSALEM — Israeli opposition leader Ehud Barak urged the Knesset committee responsible for preparing a bill that would force early elections to expedite the process, despite the summer recess. Committee chair Hanan Porat said he plans neither to bury the bill nor to accelerate the legislative process.

More Housing for Golan

JERUSALEM — An Israeli government committee last week voted to build 2,300 housing units in the southern part of the Golan Heights. The committee also decided to build 2,500 vacation units in the same area.

WORLD

Iraqi Paper Blames Jews

BAGHDAD — An Iraqi newspaper has claimed that the Monica Lewinsky scandal is a Jewish plot aimed at toppling President Bill Clinton. "The basic Zionist game has become clear," the daily newspaper *Babel* wrote, adding that the scandal's ultimate goal is to replace Clinton with Vice-President Al Gore, "who is known for his pro-Zionist stand."

More Crosses Appear

WARSAW — More crosses appeared near the site of the Auschwitz death camp. Fundamentalist Polish Catholics added to the more than 100 crosses already at the site one day after the Polish government took legal control of a field outside the camp as a first step toward removing them. Jewish groups have called for the crosses' removal.

Insurance Firm Settles

ROME — Italy's largest insurance firm, Assicurazioni Generali, agreed to pay $100 million as part of a settlement of a class-action lawsuit filed by Holocaust survivors. Generali's settlement involves opening its records, which could disclose important information about the wartime activities of other European insurers.

Believes Banks Will Settle

BERLIN — The leader of Germany's Jewish community said he is confident that two of the country's largest private banks would soon settle an $18-billion class-action suit filed by U.S. Holocaust survivors. Ignatz Bubis made the prediction days after Switzerland's two largest commercial banks reached a $1.25-billion settlement of Holocaust-era claims. The class-action suits accuse Deutsche Bank and Dresdner Bank of knowingly trading in gold looted from Jews during the Holocaust.

More Powers For Prince

ROCHESTER, Minn. — Jordan's King Hussein gave his brother, Crown Prince Hassan, more power over the country's affairs. King Hussein sent the directive from his hospital bed at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, where he is undergoing cancer treatment.

Notes Possibly Authentic

AMSTERDAM — Anne Frank experts said it is possible that recently discovered notes purportedly written by the teenage diarist are authentic. The notes, in which Frank reportedly has harsh words to describe her parents' marriage, are in the possession of a former employee of the Anne Frank house here.

Jewish Festival But No Jews

REGGIO EMILIA, Italy — There is no Jewish community any more in Reggio Emilia, a town in northern Italy famous for its Parmesan cheese.

During the High Holy Days this year, Reggio Emilia will be the co-host, along with neighboring Parma, of a three-week arts festival aimed at providing Italians with insights into the influence Jews have had on Italian and global culture.

The festival kicks off Sept. 19, two days before Rosh Hashanah, with a five-hour celebration of the holiday featuring Jewish theatre, music, dance and food, involving Israeli and Italian performers and personalities.

"It should be a lot of fun," said Francesco Spagnolo, director of a Milan-based study centre on Jewish music, who will take part in the event.

The festival will continue through Oct. 10, with a series of theatre performances, readings, concerts and exhibits. Among the scheduled participants is the Israeli writer A.B. Yehoshua, who will launch the Italian edition of one of his books.

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CNE pavilion celebrates Israel at 50

By DANIEL WOLGELERENTER
Student Intern

TORONTO — After a year of planning, the Israel at 50 pavilion opened its doors last week at the 120th annual Canadian National Exhibition (CNE).

Three thousand invited guests, including Israeli Deputy Prime Minister and Tourism Minister Moshe Katsav, Tel Aviv mayor Roni Milo, Canadian Ambassador to Israel David Berger, MP Elinor Caplan and Toronto Sun publisher Paul Godfrey, took a sneak peek at the 107,000 square-foot pavilion the night before the CNE's official opening at a gala evening hosted by the CBC's National host Hana Gartner.

The pavilion's feature attraction is a mosaic floor from a fifth-century Galilean synagogue discovered accidentally by a team of Hebrew University archeologists in 1994 near Tzippori, Israel.

Inscribed in Greek, Hebrew and Aramaic, it depicts scenes relevant to Judaism, Islam and Christianity, including the zodiac, the sacrifice of Isaac and an explanation of major Jewish holidays.

The mosaic floor is being overseen by the Royal Ontario Museum, and it is its first exhibit in a non-museum setting.

"People are very interested in the way it has been preserved and in the information you can get from the mosaic," said opening-day guide Elaine Steiner, one of over 1000 volunteers who will help keep the pavilion running until Sept. 7.

Guests could also visit a gallery featuring Israeli and Jewish artists or take a ride on a camel in the pavilion's 12,000-sq.-ft. Negev desert exhibit.

Israeli-born artist Dubie Arie's 38 ft. x 7 ft. mural *The Mission*, which took 20 years to paint and depicts 4000 years of Jewish history in fiery color, hangs on the desert's far wall.

The pavilion features over 30 vendor booths including a gift shop where guests can buy souvenirs such as a $400 dollar commemorative Roots baseball jacket.

The pavilion is sponsored by a consortium of 175 Toronto-area Jewish community organizations under the auspices of UJA Federation and the Consulate General of Israel.

On the pavilion's centre stage, which during the fair features daily performances, lectures, fashion shows and food demonstrations, chair Karen Morton recited Shehechianu and told the gala's assembled media and guests the "evening marks the culmination of one year of planning, negotiation and just plain hard work by hundreds of volunteers. It could never have happened without you."

Morton said portraying the diversity of Israel in one exhibit was a challenge, "so we took the easy way out and decided to show you a little bit of everything."

Katsav brought "the blessing of the Israeli government" and [Cont'd. on page 7]

Dahlia Obadia gives a demonstration of Moroccan dance on opening day at the CNE's Israel at 50 pavilion. [Daniel Wolgelerenter photo]

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From the editor's desk

Supreme Court's role

The release last week by the Supreme Court of Canada of its decision in the "Quebec reference" provided a poignant example in the Canadian context of the seamless interweaving of democratic values, the rule of law and civility.

That example is an appropriate segue for the excerpts that I promised to publish from the interviews in *Justice*, the quarterly bulletin of the International Association of Jewish Lawyers and Jurists, with Aharon Barak, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Israel, and with Justice Menachem Elon who sat on the court from 1977 to 1994.

The two interviews run for more than 13 pages. The excerpts do not, indeed cannot, convey the full sense of the complete interviews.

***

Justice: "...[D]on't you think the court usurps the powers of elected officials by judges who are not accountable?"

Barak: "...As for non-accountability, that is the major strength of the judiciary. We need judicial review by a body which is not accountable in the political sense, as otherwise, its way of thinking would be the same as that of the administrators.

The whole idea is that the actions of the administration be checked by a body which is outside the executive branch, which is independent, and which always asks itself to what extent the decision fits the basic values of society, and does not impose the values of the majority.

The idea of constitutional law is that even the legislature is subject to basic values, and that even the majority cannot breach some basic values. If the judge was to be elected in the same way as the legislator, he would think like a legislator, i.e., in the same terms as the majority. He is not cleverer than the legislator. For me, non-accountability is not a weakness of the judiciary but a strength."

Justice: "How do you see the evolution of the Basic Laws in Israel?"

Barak: "The real effect of the Basic Law is that it has converted Israel into a constitutional democracy. It has changed the way of thinking of politicians, lawyers and the public at large. We no longer talk as much of the power of the state but more in the terminology of rights which create the power of the state...[M]y great hope lies in the students in the law schools who are now learning about rights, for whom rights have now become part and parcel of their way of thinking... 'Dignity of the human being'...has become everyday terminology. This indirect cultural effect, this movement into an era of rights and not of powers, is of great significance..."

* * *

Justice: "Today we have the Basic Law: Human Dignity and Freedom; how do you regard this law?"

Elon: We are in a new situation. It is the first time in the history of the Jewish State that we are bound to use Jewish law not only in Basic Laws, but in every decision...[T]he common purpose clause of the new Basic Laws enshrines "the values of the State of Israel as a *Jewish and democratic State* (Elon's emphasis), [and] a significant element of the word "Jewish" includes Jewish law.

Every judge who is faced with a constitutional problem, is now bound to anchor his decision in the values of a Jewish and democratic state, and note that the term 'Jewish' precedes 'democratic.' Of course, the term 'Jewish' also includes Zionist values, but one cannot say that it does not include the Talmud. That would be nonsense. Today...there is too little knowledge of Jewish law, and I regret this greatly because the legal system is the culture of a nation."

Justice: "What are your views on the performance of the Rabbinical Courts...?"

Elon: "...There was a period during which the Rabbinical Courts were very active and creative. For example, during the time of the first Chief Rabbi, Rabbi Kook, a Court of Appeal was established. Such a Court never existed before under the Halachah...Unfortunately, this creativity has stopped. I think that the dayanim should be more involved in public life. They must know what is going on...Yeshiva learning is not enough in this modern world."

Justice: "...[Do] you think equally the Judges in the civil courts should learn more Jewish law?"

Elon: "Yes...Ways must be found...Equality must be created between general law and Jewish law. It is a mater for the whole nation. It has nothing to do with coercion or religion but is part of the culture of the nation.

"We are in a very difficult situation today, in terms of the clash between religious and secular sectors of the public. Jewish law is a wonderful way to do something in common without religious coercion. We will use the sources, sit together, study, and most important speak to each other. We will not be talking about faith and religion but about pure issues of the law. We will be talking with our forefathers. The legal profession and the courts can do a lot about solving the hatred which exists today.

"The Supreme Court has played, and continues to play, a prominent role in Israeli society...What is important is to see that [the Supreme Court's] role will be to serve as a mediator, making peace between the different approaches within Israeli society."

MBD

Israel's Jubilee — *from the archives*

HUFFING, THEN PUFFING

Prime minister Yitzhak Shamir meets with foreign minister Shimon Peres and defence minister Yitzhak Rabin after debate in the Knesset in 1987.

[Keren Hayesod – UIA Communications photo]

* * *

For the latest in *Israel at 50* news, check out the *Israel at 50* Web site: [www.feduja.org] or call the *Israel at 50* hotline 416-635-2883 ext. 706.

Greater Toronto Area

UJA Federation's Zbar heads to Queen's Park

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — When he first started as a jail guard in Ottawa 23 years ago, Morris Zbar wondered if he would ever be in charge.

Today, at age 50, as the newly appointed assistant deputy minister of community corrections for the Ontario government, Zbar has seen his dream partly come true. He started his new job on Aug. 24.

Zbar left his position as vice-president of community planning and development for UJA Federation with regret.

"It was a difficult decision to make, but when I got the call, I couldn't say no. UJA Federation is doing a wonderful job for the community and you can bet your bottom dollar that I'll be a volunteer with them again."

Morris Zbar

New assistant deputy minister of community corrections

Zbar found himself in Ottawa in 1975 desperately in need of a job when few were to be found. He had a wife (the former Margaret Levendel of Ottawa) and a young son to support. He had come from Israel with his family because unstable conditions in Africa had made it untenable to continue his studies for a doctorate in African Political studies at Hebrew University.

"I saw an ad in a newspaper for a counsellor at the Regional Detention Centre on Innis Road in Ottawa," he says of his job search.

"Gary Meyer, the superintendent, asked me: 'Why does a nice Jewish boy like you want this job?'

"I said I thought I would be counselling inmates and advising on literary programs.

"The superintendent laughed and took me on a tour. 'You see all those men in uniform over there. They're guards and that's what you will be.'"

But Zbar says he is not sorry he took the job because it has helped him immeasurably in his climb up the ladder in the ministry. ("I hired that man," Meyer has reminded everyone.) In his new job, he will be responsible for probation, parole, young offenders (boot camps) and community programs, and he has not lost any of his early enthusiasm for steering inmates into newer and more productive lives.

But it is a wrench for him to leave UJA Federation, he says, particularly because he has just returned from a mission to Israel and Moscow with 28 other Torontonians.

"There are half a million Jews, most of them elderly, in the former Soviet Union, and they need help. We saw them in such poverty that my wife cried. One woman living alone was afraid to go out because people were so unfriendly. She was living in darkness because her electricity had been cut off."

The goals of UJA Federation are close to Zbar's heart, because he is convinced that it has helped the Toronto Jewish community to become one of the three most important in the Diaspora.

In addition to holding numerous posts in the Corrections Ministry for 14 years, Zbar also had top jobs with the Ontario Culture Ministry beginning in 1988, when the new Liberal government decided to move the headquarters of Corrections to North Bay.

As an active volunteer for community causes, Zbar has been vice-chair of the Ontario Heritage Foundation, a position he will now give up, and was chair of the North York Library board when its new Central Library went up. He is also stepping down as president of Operation Springboard.

Born in Paris, France, he is the son of the late Sarah and Jacob Zbar, Holocaust survivors from Poland who escaped to the east, were sent to labor camps in Siberia, and eventually went to France.

He grew up in Montreal, and received an honors BA from McGill University and an MA in political science from McMaster.

His wife has been a junior kindergarten teacher at the Bayview campus of United Synagogue Day School for 20 years. They have two children, David, 26, in sports marketing, and Ilana, 21, a graduate of the University of Western Ontario, who is off to Israel for six months to study.

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Students, teachers take tour into history

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Brett Stevenson had read extensively about the Holocaust, but until her participation in this summer's Holocaust and Hope Student Study Tour in Israel the 17-year-old high school student had "never been so close to history."

Hearing firsthand accounts from Holocaust survivors had the most impact on her, she told *The CJN* in a telephone interview from her home in Whitehorse, Yukon.

"The last survivor who spoke, I knew would probably be the last survivor I ever heard speak to me," she said.

The trip was "an eye-opening experience," said Chiara Lacey, 17, of Charlottetown. She was struck by the stories of Righteous Gentiles "and how it didn't take money or anything. It just took one person who had courage."

As a result of the trip, Lacey plans to speak to high school students in her hometown and away at university this year.

Stevenson wants to approach a local drama club about mounting a play against racism.

Joanna Laskey, who founded a human rights group last year at her Gagetown, N.B. high school, spoke to her vice-principal before the trip about the possibility of declaring a month for Holocaust education.

She also plans to do some public speaking. "There'll be a lot of stuff I'll be telling people that I would have never considered before, like remembering the victims' names, and you want to remember them as they were before [the Holocaust]."

The ripple effect extends across Canada. Eighteen students, the majority non-Jewish, participated in the tour, which was designed by BBC's League for Human Rights and Canadian Friends of Massuah.

The tour, running this year for the second time, is affiliated with the League's Holocaust and Hope Educators' Study Tour, which takes teachers to Germany, Poland and Israel.

The Educators' Tour, now in its 12th year, runs biannually. Almost 100 educators have participated since its inception.

The two programs overlapped for the first time this year in Israel, at the Massuah Institute for the Study of the Holocaust, located near Tel Aviv.

For Marlyn Keaschuk, an English and history teacher from the town of Herbert, Sask. (population about 1,000), the Educators' Tour strengthened her resolve to incorporate what she's learned into her classroom lessons, but left her with unresolved questions about Israel's political situation.

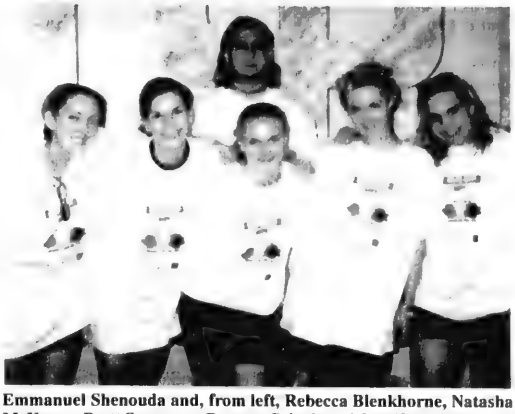
"There are no easy answers there, and I thought there were. I thought if I knew more, things would be clearer."

Keaschuk, who's been teaching for 20 years and has a master's degree in moral education, has always included the Holocaust in her 20th century history classes, although she is not required to. She believes in addressing the issues with sensitivity, avoiding sensationalism and stressing "the human side."

She now plans to be a more vocal opponent of "critical thinking exercises" involving classroom use of tools like neo-Nazi Web sites.

The trip "changed the way I look at the world. I know I'll be much more aware of language implications. I will never take some things for granted again. I'll never assume that people will behave in a moral way."

Keaschuk maintains she's not disillusioned. "I think one of the things we have to do is to focus on the righteous people. In the midst of all of this, there were still good people."



Emmanuel Shenouda and, from left, Rebecca Blenkhorne, Natasha McKenna, Brett Stevenson, Ramona Pringle and Jennifer Jurgeit were among the participants on the 1998 Holocaust and Hope Student Study Tour.

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Anniversary celebrated

[Cont'd. from page 3]

thanked Canadian Jews, their government and the entire Canadian people for continued support since 1948.

"We thank God we have succeeded to fulfil our dreams of many centuries, despite many difficulties...and now we are celebrating the anniversary of Israel, the Jewish state," Katsav said.

CNE Association president Robert Bowman said he hoped the pavilion would reinforce Canada's multicultural values of tolerance, and showcase "one of the most progressive nations in the world."

The crowd also heard greetings from federal Transport Minister David Collennette, as well as Ontario Minister for Citizenship, Culture and Recreation Isabel Basett who extended greetings from Premier Mike Harris.

"You don't have to be Jewish to feel deeply about the great country of Israel," she said, adding that she was gratified her late husband, 1973 Jewish National Fund (JNF) Negev Dinner honoree John Bassett, lived to see Israel's 50th anniversary before his death earlier this year.

Organizers were disappointed by the absence of Toronto Mayor Mel Lastman, who attended the opening gala for the CNE's featured country, The Phillipines, taking place the same evening in an adjacent hall.

"There was a [scheduling] mix-up that I don't want to get into," UJA Federation communications director Howard English said.

The mayor told *The CJN* he was "too tired" after arriving on a late plane from Florida the night of the gala, and could only attend The Phillipines opening, which ended about the same time as the Israel at 50 festivities.

He said the city was well-represented by councilors Joe Pantalone, Chris Korwin-Kuczynski and Brian Ashton, but they did not address the gala because Lastman had expected to be there.

Lastman received a guided tour from Katsav on opening day. Hamming for the cameras, the pair delighted pavilion visitors and organizers by taking a camel ride and drinking Israel at 50 PC Cola.

Lastman and Katsav also managed to find their way onto the pavilion's centre stage for an impromptu chorus-line rendition of *Hallelujah* with the Israeli Scouts Friendship Caravan.

After the concert, Lastman said he plans to bring his grandchildren, who attend Hebrew school, to the pavilion. "They know everything and they really will enjoy it."

"I have never seen a pavilion as beautiful as this one," Lastman said to enthusiastic applause. "We're very proud to have it here in Toronto at our CNE...Please enjoy and spend lots of money."

Doing his best on opening day, was Michael Akoka, a visitor from Kfar Saba, who along with mother Annette enjoyed a "very delicious" corned beef sandwich from the Kosher Market. "From each thing in Israel they took a little bit," he said.

Philippine-born Armando Bayona, who met his wife while working as a UN maintenance worker in Nahariya from 1983-86, enjoyed time with children Amy, 6, and Arlyne, 9, at My Jewish Discovery Place: A Children's Museum. He entered a draw for a trip to Israel by buying a tree from JNF. El Al is also giving away eight pairs of tickets to Israel over the course of the CNE.

"Israel is the best," said Bayona. "If I can visit again, I will."

CORRECTION

In Morton Weinfeld's column last week (Aug. 20) entitled "Competing Demograpic Forces in Israel," we incorrectly published that the percent of the population of Ashkelon comprised of recent immigrants (1989-1997) was 80 percent. The correct figure is 30 percent. We apologize for the error.

Israel at 50 pavilion events

The following is a list of the Jerusalem stage entertainment and event schedule for this week at the Israel At 50 pavilion at the Toronto CNE. All times and performances are subject to change without notice.

Wednesday, Aug. 26

11:30	Sephardi Food Demo (Indian)
12:30	Rita Sue Fisher
1:30	Lawrence Square Scroll (Presentation)
3:00	Sephardi Food Demo (Moroccan)
3:00	Hora Neurim
4:00	Yovel
5:00	Hora Neurim
6:00	Yovel
7:00	Centre Spotlight with Gloria Valentine.

Thursday, Aug. 27

11:00	Amethyst Duo
12:00	Yitzhak Argaman
1:00	Yitzhak Argaman
2:00	Shlomi Assaf
3:00	Amethyst Duo
4:00	Daliah Orgon
5:00	Music à la Carte
6:00	Music à la Carte
7:00	Sephardi Fashion Show
8:00	Shlomi Assaf

Friday, Aug. 28

11:30	Nettie Cronish – Food Demo
12:30	Mickey Lewin
1:30	Nettie Cronish – Food Demo
2:30	Rick Kardonne
3:30	Mickey Lewin
4:30	Yitzhak Argaman
5:30	Shlomi Assaf
6:30	Miriam Snider

Saturday, Aug. 29

11:30	Levon Ichkanian Duo
12:30	Mezzetta Cafe & Restaurant
1:30	Levon Ichkanian Duo
3:00	Mezzetta Cafe & Restaurant
4:00	Nina Shapilsky & Misha
6:00	Nina Shapilsky & Misha

Sunday, Aug.30

11:00	Faye Kellerstein
12:00	Shlomi Assaf
1:00	Israel at 50 Cheesecake Contest Winners
2:00	Sephardi Fashion Show
3:00	Judy and David
4:00	Sephardi Mixed Choir
5:00	Yovel
6:00	Judy and David
7:00	Yovel
8:00	Shlomi Assaf

Monday, Aug.31

11:00	Toronto Little Puppet Theatre
12:00	Jerusalem Dancers
1:00	Alice Brownlee Kids Tree Show
2:00	Jerusalem Dancers
3:00	Toronto Little Puppet Theatre
4:00	Shlomi Assaf
5:00	Shlomi Assaf
6:30	Gloria Valentine/ Nina Shapilsky
7:30	Toronto Jewish Male Choir

Tuesday, Sept.1

11:00	Daliah Orgon – Food • Demo
12:00	Shlomi Assaf
1:00	Daliah Orgon – Food Demo
2:00	Toronto Klezmer Band and Ahuva
3:00	Amethyst Duo
4:00	Toronto Klezmer And and Ahuva
5:00	Shlomi Assaf
6:00	Amethyst Duo
7:45	Toronto Jewish Folk Choir

Wednesday, Sept. 2

11:00	Toronto Little Puppet Theatre
12:00	Jerusalem Dancers
1:00	Jerusalem Dancers
2:00	Shlomi Assaf
3:00	Elizabeth Block
4:00	Shlomi Assaf
5:00	Sephardi Food Demo (Moroccan)
6:00	Miriam Snider
7:00	Beth Emeth Choir

Further Israel at 50 pavilion listings in next week's issue of

The Canadian Jewish news

ScotiaMcLeod is pleased to announce that Jonathan Kirshblum has been invited to appear on the following television news broadcasts on these dates:

August 28 1998	CBC Newsworld Channel 26 6:30 pm and 11:30 pm
September 3 1998	CFTO News Channel 9, Cable 8 6:00 pm and 11:00 pm
September 5 1998	CFTO "Turner Report" Channel 9, Cable 8 6:00 pm

Mr. Kirshblum has been asked to discuss his thoughts on Segregated Funds.

Mr. Kirshblum was recently featured as a guest columnist in the Financial Post on the topic of Segregated Funds. A copy of the Financial Post article can be obtained from our Head Office by calling (416) 863-7238.

S. Jonathan Kirshblum is an Investment Executive at ScotiaMcLeod's Head Office branch located at Scotia Plaza in downtown Toronto. Mr. Kirshblum is also a licensed Insurance Agent with ScotiaMcLeod Financial Services (Ontario) Inc. and he carries the designation of a Retirement Specialist.

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The Canadian Jewish news

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Quintessentially Canadian

The Supreme Court decision last week in the "Quebec reference case" was quintessentially Canadian, choosing a middle line, rejecting the hard line; encouraging moderation, discouraging extremism; raising the possibility of the need to compromise, abhorring the expediency of espousing unilateralism.

With one voice, the court decreed that Quebec has neither the right under Canadian law, nor the right under international law, to secede *unilaterally* from Canada. But the court also ruled that should the people of Quebec choose to leave the federation, the rest of Canada would have to negotiate terms of separation.

The nub of the ruling is as follows: "The Constitution vouchsafes order and stability, and accordingly secession of a province 'under the Constitution' could not be achieved unilaterally, that is, without principled negotiation with other participants in Confederation within the existing constitutional framework…

"[A] clear majority vote in Quebec on a clear question in favor of secession would confer democratic legitimacy on the secession initiative which all of the other participants in Confederation would have to recognize…

"The continued existence and operation of the Canadian constitutional order could not be indifferent to a clear expression of a clear majority of Quebecers that they no longer wish to remain in Canada. The other provinces and the federal government would have no basis to deny the right of the government of Quebec to pursue secession, should a clear majority of the people of Quebec choose that goal, so long as in doing so, Quebec respects the rights of others."

Thus, the court placed the question of separatism within a legal framework and provided parameters of restraint and reasonableness for the political debate which, through the release of the decision last Thursday, returns to the public agenda.

In firm, well-reasoned language, the ruling effectively slams the door shut on the radical, extremist ideologues at both ends of the debate who advocate, respectively, separatism or federalism by all means and at all costs.

But if the extremist ideologues have been left standing outside the door, the tent still seems to accommodate the "mainstream" ideologues like Premier Lucien Bouchard, who prefer the language of provocation and ridicule to that of calm, respectful argument.

Even though he does not recognize the validity of the Supreme Court's judgment, he nevertheless offered that it "poisons" the federalist cause. He preened that the ruling confers on separatists the ability to woo undecided Quebec voters, the so-called "soft federalists" by pointing out they need no longer fear that the rest of Canada would not negotiate separation with Quebec.

But he misses the point, and has missed the point since the very beginning of the debate.

The choice must be put to the people of Quebec honestly, without ruse or pretext. And when they choose, yet again, which society they wish to belong in, to help build up and to pass down to their children, they will do so on the basis of positive reasons, not negative ones. They will choose the society, though imperfect, in which, by constitution and tradition, they are free to pursue the deepest stirrings of their soul, yet obliged as well to tolerance, fellowship and good citizenship toward all others.

What better evidence could there be of such a society than last week's decision itself by the Supreme Court of Canada, thoughtful, reasoned, principled, forbearing and understanding of the paramount significance in this country of a flourishing human and cultural diversity alongside the inviolate values of democracy, the rule of law, civility, mutuality and respect.

WISDOM OF THE AGES
"In dreams, a man is shown only his wishful thoughts."
Talmud, Brachot

Dry Bones
AFTER 50 YEARS OF LIES AND DENIALS
AND AFTER THREATS OF A WORLD-WIDE BOYCOTT OF THE SWISS
SWISS BANKS HAVE FINALLY BEEN FORCED TO RETURN SOME OF THE MONEY THEY STOLE FROM HOLOCAUST VICTIMS
YOU ARE NOW FREE TO TRUST THEM WITH YOUR MONEY AGAIN

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Panel of judges solution another delay tactic

The interview with Bobby Brown, Community Matters supplement (*CJN*, July 30), would leave one with the impression that all is well on the conversion issue in Israel. Although Brown is optimistic in his views, the situation is far different than that described by him.

It is still quite clear that the Chief Rabbinate has declared that it will not participate in the conversions of graduates from the conversion institute thus making the entire enterprise somewhat worthless at best. Brown indicates that if, after two years, a flexible court has not been created, the government will take the initiative to create a panel of judges. The approach is nothing more than a continuation of the delay tactics that have informed the government's approach to this issue since it first arose in June 1997. Why should the liberal Jewish movements wait any longer for a concrete, sustainable solution to a serious problem confronting Jewish status in Israel?

In respect to the Kotel, Brown indicates that the government is looking at Robinson's Arch as a possible location for "alternate prayers." I assume by alternate that he means Conservative and Reform. Why should this be viewed as an alternate form of Jewish worship? Perhaps the government could consider moving the present separation of men and women to Robinson's Arch and "convert" the existing main prayer area for those movements that permit prayer by men and women together. After all, if the Kotel is considered one site, it should make no difference where along the Kotel Jews engage in their individual forms of worship.

Mark S. Anshan
President, ARZA Canada
Toronto

No easy answer to child-parent problems

In the *CJN* (July 2), Guest Voice Sidura Ludwig wrote movingly of her frustration at witnessing a man (a father?) inflicting harsh pain on a small boy while she watched, trying haltingly to stand up for the child. As a mother of four children, I have often tried over 20 years to come to grips with injustices I have witnessed.

But the problem is even greater than you described and I'm afraid it's even harder to fix than you suggest. For example, what can we do when a parent simply abandons his or her family, perhaps leaving them in poverty?

Or what about the case where a spouse, after a divorce turns the children against the other parent so virulently that even years later, they still will not speak to him/her?

What about a parent who belittles, insults, and swears at his/her children constantly, and in public?

What can be done? Social workers have told me that they are busy already with cases that are much worse than the ones I've described. Yet our Jewish values tell us not to stand idly by while injustice is being done. (Cf. Lev. 19:16) On the other hand, sometimes action can do harm, too. Do we want to bring in the long arm of the law when someone's values are different than ours?

The only approach that seems a little helpful is talking about it, telling the stories, trying to understand what these children are going through, and trying to do a better job ourselves.

Ruth Lockshin
Toronto

Police and soldiers in Israel also in danger

As a citizen of Toronto, I mourn the loss of Detective William Hancox and express my sympathy to his wife and family. To serve to protect the lives of others at the risk of one's own life is a noble undertaking. Without the dedication of such young men as Hancox, the citizens of this city could not enjoy the feelings of security and safety that make Toronto a unique, large, livable and safe metropolis.

The State of Israel must also look to the police and, in addition, to the soldiers of the IDF to safeguard its citizens. In Israel, tragically, many must make the supreme sacrifice, often leaving behind young widows and families while performing their duties.

Hopefully, the senseless killings throughout the world will someday cease and the guardians of society will go forth to work in the morning knowing that they will return safely in the evening to their loved ones.

Irving Matlow
The Association for the Soldiers of Israel

***

I and thousands of mourners watched the funeral procession of Detective William Hancox on TV. We all had tears in our eyes resulting from the senseless loss of a bright, young, dedicated policeman fulfilling his duty.

To me this brings up a similar situation where all Jews should be concerned I refer to the daily loss taking place of young soldiers of Israel who are mostly in their teens. We should all think of the loss affecting their families and loved ones, while they defend not only Israel but all Jews the world over. I feel very sorry, as a person dedicated to Israel since the war of 1948 and as a person whose family has served faithfully for Canada in two world wars. I am disappointed by the fact that these brave soldiers are taken for granted by most Canadian Jews.

I am sorry that so much money is donated to science, art and universities, and yet so little is given to help ease the lives of the brave soldiers.

While we all give to UJA, the United Way and hospitals, it is important to remember that without the soldiers there would be no Israel.

Approaching my 92nd birthday, I will remember the soldiers in a most practical way by making a donation to their benefit. I hope that thousands of Jews will also feel the same way.

Alex Beder
Toronto

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures. Letters sent by e-mail must also include the sender's municipal address.

Perspectives

Stories teachers tell

By ALEX POMSON

"Rav Gershenson turned to the class. 'Can anyone explain the *inyan*?' he asked quietly.

"He was answered by silence.

"He sighed loudly. 'Nu,' he said, 'no one can explain it…The truth is, I cannot explain it myself. It is a difficult *inyan*. A very difficult *inyan*.' He was silent for a moment, then shook his head and smiled. 'A teacher can also sometimes not know,' he said softly.

"This was the first time in my life I had ever heard a rabbi admit that he didn't understand a passage of Talmud. We sat there in an uncomfortable silence. Rav Gershenson stared down at the open Talmud on his desk. Then he closed it slowly and dismissed the class."

In this passage from *The Chosen*, Chaim Potok offers what looks like a caricature of Jewish teaching. He describes a world where teachers are invariably male and all-knowing; where Talmud provides the quintessential subject matter; and where students sit in silent awe of scholars who, they assume, will provide answers to the most difficult questions.

If Potok's rendition of Jewish classroom life little resembles the world of Jewish schooling with which most of us are familiar, this excerpt nevertheless offers an excellent example of the ways in which the narrative form can convey the essence of teaching. It also makes us wonder what we might discover about teaching and learning in Jewish schools, if those who teach (or have taught) there, would also tell their stories.

Bar and bat mitzvah are considered one of the early focal points for Jewish education. In this 1869 painting by Moritz Oppenheim, we see a young man presenting his dvar Torah. His family, friends, and presumably his teacher are obviously enjoying it. [From *Jewish Liturgy*, Keter Publishing, 1975]

A team at York University has attempted to realize this ambition through an ongoing project where Jewish day school teachers from Canada and England compose year-long journals about their lives and work. Our quest to collect narratives written by Jewish educators was inspired by a growing body of research in which scholars have increasingly looked to teachers as sources of insight about teaching, using a variety of narrative forms to obtain a fresh perspective on pedagogy and on teachers' professional lives.

In the Jewish world, there are perhaps only two bodies of literature which may presently offer narratives of this sort, and for different reasons, these may either inspire or appal us. On the one hand, there is an ancient body of talmudic/midrashic writing that is rich with anecdotes and stories about students and teachers. On the other hand, there is a recent body of North American fiction in which characters reflect on the terrible impact of their own Jewish schooling. In this case, and on an almost epidemic scale, writers like Philip Roth and Mordecai Richler have offered accounts of Jews scarred or mesmerized by their Jewish education.

It is unfortunate that we do not possess accounts of Jewish teaching which are either more reliable or more recent than these, for it means that prospective or practising Jewish teachers lack a frame of reference within which to make sense of their work. It means that parents, when interacting with their children's teachers, may tend to rely on their own childhood memories of teaching rather than on more contemporary or mature sources of information about the nature of teaching and learning in Jewish day schools. It means also that Jewish community leaders, when making decisions about Jewish education, have almost certainly been deprived of the insights that teachers might bring to their deliberations.

In seeking to fill this vacuum, we have been fortunate to work with teachers from a variety of Jewish day schools, who have been prepared to commit themselves to a demanding journal-writing and interview process. Participants say their commitment comes as much from their appreciation of an opportunity to be taken seriously as from valuing the chance to record and reflect on their teaching year. The stories they tell are engaging, often personal and highly individual. They touch on themes that are part of the life and work of teachers but that also give expression to issues and questions at the heart of Jewish education.

Two journal extracts are presented here from last year's pilot project, in the hope that they may provide food for thought for parents and teachers as they contemplate the start of the school year. (The names of all the people involved have been changed.)

Story 1: *How do our parents feel?*

On Sept. 28, Leslie wrote: Parshat hashavuah is aimed so well at the Grade 4s. They can go beyond what's written, whether a law or a story, and see the abstract concepts. This week we discussed leadership, and what qualities would be needed in a leader who followed Moses. In realizing that the new leader also needed to lead in battle, we moved into the ethical/historical foundations of tribal/national movement, reasons for movement (i.e. hunger, religious persecution, overcrowding, "God tells you to").

From these, [we moved on] to the morality of war, other options for resolution, places where solutions have not been found, terrorism in Israel, suicide bombers, why someone would give their life for God, for a cause, for love.

One girl raised her hand at this point and said, "If my little brother [a baby half-brother] was in the path of a car, I would push him away and let the car hit me instead. I've been lucky to already have lived nine years, but he's hardly had a chance to live at all."

Profoundly moved by what she said, I said that's how I feel about my children. As the kids started to wonder aloud if that's how their parents feel, I closed the conversation, and suggested that it continue at home.

Story 2: *Whose child?*

In late March, Shifra wrote: A boy was pulled out of my class to go to another school because his younger sister was not being motivated at our school. It's really not fair to the brother, but the parents didn't want the sister to go alone. The boy had his friends. He was very happy here.

I bumped into the mother and she began telling me how inspirational I was and how the child keeps talking about me. Everything is "Morah Shifra said…" I felt that they did such an injustice to the child. He had such a thirst for knowledge in *limudei kodesh* and it was taken away because of a younger sibling.

Could the child call me at home ?

Yes, of course.

I can watch this decision and feel it is wrong, but can say nothing. He is their child and it is their right to do as they feel best for their children. Yet it hurts me. At first, I took it personally, until I was reassured by the mother that the decision was purely because of the younger sibling.

There are many ways of reading these stories, but in this context we will suggest simply how they may speak of special problems and possibilities that come from teaching Jewish studies in Jewish schools.

From Leslie's perspective as a progressive teacher in a non-Orthodox school, the centrality of Torah to Jewish self-understanding has made certain demands of her, encouraging her to explore deep questions that most teachers would rarely contemplate raising with 9-year-olds. It is as if she sees herself, like rabbis and teachers for thousands of years, as obligated to weave a fabric of enquiry which joins the weekly Torah portion to the lives of her students, even if this requires starting out from texts and questions far removed from the students' own interests.

There is something poignant about her way of gently moving students through a winding set of often tangential concerns, a process that bears a strong resemblance to the layered method of midrash, perhaps the oldest form of Torah teaching.

In telling this story, Leslie not only celebrates how the study of Torah is capable of moving young children to ask profound questions about their lives, she also shows how, through skilful mediation, traditional texts can shape the rhythm of weekly life in the classroom.

In many Orthodox Jewish homes, students are obliged to report to their parents each Sabbath on some aspect of the weekly Torah portion – on what answers they can give this week. Strikingly, students in Leslie's class choose to take home questions for which they still seek answers.

Shifra's story also speaks about the relationship between school and home, but this time with pain. In part, this comes from her own sense of failure, expressed when she first blames herself for the student's being withdrawn from the school. But her discomfort may also come from the pain of recognizing the limits of her own role. For, although the student here is one who has developed a thirst for what Shifra teaches, in the final analysis, he is only Shifra's student, not her child.

Shifra's influence only goes so far, even if in her judgment, the boy's parents do harm to their son. As a teacher – and perhaps unlike a doctor or lawyer – she feels unable to challenge the client's judgment. She can only make herself available in her own time, outside school.

In preliminary discussions about stories such as these, parents and teachers say the stories express some of the most problematic and profound aspects of parent-teacher relationships. Like all good stories, they seem to mean as much to those who hear them as to those who tell them. In this case, we could suggest that they certainly give new meaning to that old cliché about Jewish education being founded on a partnership between school and home.

Alex Pomson is the coordinator of the Jewish Teacher Education Programme at York University

Opinions

Home away from home

In recent days, a well-established but relatively little-known program that brings Israelis into the lives of thousands of young Canadians and Americans each summer, has been wrapping up at dozens of places around North America. True to form, it has been a huge success although it is far too early to measure its full impact this year.

By Robert Sarner in Jerusalem

Late August marks the culmination of a process that began last winter at a seminar retreat near Tel Aviv. Over the course of several sessions, some 2,500 applicants took part in a workshop where they were evaluated as possible Israeli shlichim (emissaries) to work at Jewish summer camps in Canada and the United States. By April, following a series of intensive seminars conducted by the Jewish Agency, 450 mostly young men and women were selected. By late June, all were in place at 110 camps scattered around the continent.

The program was launched in the late 1960s and at first involved only a few dozen Israelis. Today, 30 years later, it has expanded considerably with specially trained Israelis now playing a vital role at a growing number of Jewish-affiliated camps. Often the shlichim provide the first interaction and living link for campers with real, live Israelis.

The contingent that just completed its summer at Camp Ramah in Utterson, Ont., is a vivid illustration of the program in action. This year, Ramah hired 15 Israelis. Together, their ethnic backgrounds and degree of observance perfectly reflect the diversity of Israel's Jewish population. Among the Israelis at Ramah were Ashkenazim and Sephardim, secular and religious. Some were from big cities, others from small towns and kibbutzim. The group included third generation native-born Israelis and new immigrants from Ethiopia, Russia and North America. Most were between the ages of 20 and 25 and had recently completed their army service. All exuded a strong sense of identification with and love of Israel.

It was a dynamic, committed group who contributed something only Israelis could give to a Jewish camp. I was proud to be part of this delegation along with my sabra wife.

The Ramah movement, with its strong Jewish and Zionist orientation, has long been a champion of bringing Israelis over to work on their staff. Proportionately, the seven Ramah overnight camps in North America employ more Israelis than any other camps.

"It's clear that as a camp whose major goal is Jewish growth, Israel plays a central role for us," says Rabbi Mitch Cohen, who, as director of Camp Ramah in Canada, usually travels to Israel every spring to help select the shlichim for the coming summer.

"The only way to make a real live connection for campers between their own lives and what it really means to live in Israel is to bring over Israelis. The fact that they perform good jobs as specialists at camp is just a small piece of it. More importantly, by living in the cabins with the kids, by going to all the activities with the kids, they infiltrate the lives of campers who get to know Israel as a human thing and not just as some distant concept."

The shlichim, who go through an intensive screening and training process in Israel, work in a vast array of jobs at the camps. This summer at Ramah, in addition to staffing the Hebrew and Judaism programs, Israelis taught krav maga (an Israeli-invented form of self-defence), cartooning, photography, folkdancing and cooking, worked in tripping, and edited the camp newspaper.

They were an integral part of the staff and played an important role in the daily life of camp. As much as they contributed to the atmosphere and activities of camp, they received a great deal in return.

"I learned so much," says Aviva Freedman, 20, who lives in Jerusalem. "Even though we were trained for it, this was a totally new experience for me. What I found amazing here was the variety of ways people practise their Judaism. It's not like in Israel where things are polarized between the Orthodox and the secular. I also learned to better appreciate that in Israel, the Jewish aspects of life are much more natural than in North America outside Camp Ramah. We can be ourselves as Jews more comfortably in Israel."

The Jewish Agency invests considerable resources in the selection and grooming of envoys. For the camps, it is not a casual undertaking as they are saddled with the extra costs of the each Israeli's training, visas, and travel. But the camps must feel it's worth it, as they keeping bringing over more Israelis each year. They're right.

Sharansky's Zionism

Since Natan Sharansky began to play a major political role in Israel, his image has gone through a number of ups and downs.

By Gerald Steinberg in Jerusalem

In the 1996 elections, his party, Yisrael b'Aliyah, was far more successful than had been expected. As a result, Sharansky demanded and gained a cabinet seat as minister of commerce and industry.

In contrast to many of his colleagues, he was also able to work with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, and despite his lack of political experience, the former Prisoner of Zion became a central figure in the government. He is responsible for foreign policy with respect to Russia, and is a member of the small "kitchen cabinet" involved in determining strategy for negotiations with the Palestinians.

However, as Netanyahu and his government became involved in scandals and was seen as indecisive and divided, Sharansky did not escape criticism. His party was riven by factionalism and personality disputes, and many analysts argued that he was not devoting enough time to the problems of the Ministry for Commerce and Industry.

Secular Israelis were angry when Sharansky did not use the large number of mixed marriages among Russian Jews to attack the official rabbinate, and the left expected a more conciliatory position with respect to the Palestinians, as a counter to hard-liners in the government.

Among the Israeli public, none of this criticism has stuck, and Sharansky is emerging as a new Zionist voice. This is most apparent in his demands that any Israeli agreement on territorial withdrawal in negotiations with the Palestinians must be preceded by a change in Palestinian behavior and rhetoric. In these talks, Sharansky is unwavering, insisting that the Palestinians first rewrite their charter, school books and other official documents to remove all the language that denies the legitimacy of Israel and Zionism.

Sharansky's position on this issue reflects his extraordinary personal experience and his total commitment to Zionism, as well as his understanding of the enemies of Israel. As a result of his own history in the Soviet Union, Sharansky knows that the language and signals sent by the Palestinian leadership, from Yasser Arafat down, still fundamentally reject the legitimacy of Zionism and Israel as a Jewish State. In debates with the American Jews in the U.S. State Department who are centrally involved in the negotiations, Sharansky displays the evidence that the Palestinian goal of eliminating the Jewish state has not changed. With increasing conviction, he argues that this, and not questions over land and other technical issues, is the main obstacle to peace. This position resonates with the views of a large number of ordinary Israelis, and along with his sharp sense of humor and his own modesty, it has contributed to Sharansky's political support across a wide section of society.

Perhaps more than anyone else alive during this 50th year of Israeli independence, Sharansky and his wife, Avital, have consistently dedicated themselves to the Zionist dream of Jewish independence and security. Like thousands of other Soviet Jews, Sharansky's views were formed by the events of 1967, when the Arabs prepared to reverse the results of the 1948 war, and to "push the Jews into the sea."

Joining the underground movement that worked to gain freedom for the three million Jews locked behind the Iron Curtain, he was dedicated to the goal of mass aliyah to Israel. For these actions, he was repeatedly interrogated by the KGB and spent many years in the prison camps in

Siberia. In this crucible, his passion for Zionism and sharp insight into the dynamics of hatred and hostility not only endured but were strengthened.

Sharansky's background experiences led him to see what many other Israeli leaders and eager American (and Canadian) peace-makers have missed – that the key issue in the negotiations with the Palestinians is not the quantity of land to turn over or to hold, but rather, the quality of the peace. As an intense Zionist, Sharansky understands that until the leaders, from Arafat to the teachers and journalists, mount a sustained and intense campaign to tell the Palestinian masses that the Jewish state is a permanent and legitimate part of the Middle East, there will be no real peace for Israel.

This Zionist commitment is expressed in other areas as well – including Sharansky's efforts to define a middle and constructive role for religious law and the Chief Rabbinate, and the importance he places on the unity of the Jewish people. It is probably too early to discuss an even wider political role for Sharansky, and he currently lacks a wide party base to run for prime minister. However, it is clear that over the coming years, his importance and impact as a Zionist leader will increase.

It's time already

The matter of the Vatican's silence about its role in the Holocaust has taken yet another turn. When, some months ago, the Papal office issued a statement about the Holocaust that had elements of apology in it, many people greeted this development with the hope that more would follow and that the Holy See would at last own up to its terrible posture during the Nazi years. Unfortunately, this hope has not become reality, at least not yet.

By Rabbi Gunther Plaut in Toronto

The issue has once more become acute – and very quickly so – because the latest Vatican statement was recently attacked by Germany's greatest critic of Rome's activities in those crucial years. The person who again becomes the crucible of this unhappy situation is Rolf Hochhuth, whose play *The Deputy* (*Der Stellvertreter*) made him world famous when it opened in 1963. In it, none other than Pope Pius XII was at the centre of the production, which pictured a timid man who knew what was going on, yet made little attempt to do anything about it.

While in the intermediate years, Hochhuth said relatively little about the politics of the Vatican, he has now spoken out again. Not surprisingly, his voice commanded the German media and has revived the critique that his play had presented so effectively.

Since the secret archives of the Vatican have, at least in part, been made accessible to the public, they are indeed a sad commentary on the Pope's relative inactivity. To be sure, some Jews, and perhaps a significant number, were saved – the actual figures are in doubt and may exceed many thousands – the Pope's personal support of Hitler never wavered (at least not visibly), and several of his most influential bishops did very little to alleviate the mounting catastrophe.

As late as 1942, when the killing machine of the Nazis was operating at full blast, the Vatican saw fit to emphasize the Jewish guilt over the killing of Jesus and continued to pillory the Jews as a people who had committed "deicide." The newly accessible documents reveal that this particular reference was typed by the Pope himself on his personal typewriter.

And when the war was over at last, the Vatican facilitated the escape of many Nazi criminals to South America, where they lived out their miserable lives in security and never had to face the kind of retribution that justice would have demanded.

To be sure, all of it is now more than 50 years in the past, and much has happened. The Church has made a serious effort to look at itself, to seek rapprochement and mutual understanding with the Jewish people in many countries, including Canada, and also with Israel, but so far has not found the courage to state in forthright fashion, openly and courageously, that its activities were less than morally defensible in those days.

Nothing would help to put a final seal on this unhappy aspect of Jewish relationships with Rome as would this kind of declaration. Pope John Paul has now opened the door to such action, but his March declaration was clearly inadequate. It is not too late to make it right, and the time to do it is long overdue.

The Kirshner File

Small town American Jewry profiled

Sociological case studies of Jews in the United States have focused on major cities like New York, Chicago, Philadelphia and Boston, even though smaller towns with less than 100,000 residents were the destination of one-quarter of all Jewish immigrants who settled in America.

By Sheldon Kirshner

In light of this fact, it is surprising that there has been so little published material about this second group. Ewa Morawska's book, *Insecure Prosperity: Small-Town Jews in Industrial America, 1890-1940* (Princeton University Press), is one of those rare offerings. Her findings, one supposes, could also be applied to a Canadian setting.

In this illuminating volume, Morawska, a professor of sociology and history at the University of Pennsylvania, profiles the Jewish community of Johnstown, a steel town in the coal mining region of western Pennsylvania whose population hovered around the 50,000 mark between the turn of the century and the outbreak of World War 11.

Johnstown, 70 miles southeast of Pittsburgh, was established by an Anglo-Protestant elite, and as it grew it attracted additional immigrants from Western and Eastern Europe. By 1940, Johnstown had 340 Jewish households, comprising some 1,200 individuals.

The vast majority of Johnstown's Jews were from Eastern Europe, with a sprinkling from Germany. As Morawska points out, a significant proportion was related through blood or marriage, and 40 percent shared an identical surname.

Due to a combination of factors, principally poverty and restrictive housing covenants, the first Jewish settlers gravitated toward immigrant neighborhoods near the mills and the downtown area close to the railroad station.

The synagogue was the centre of organized Jewish life. By the mid-1920s, there were three shuls, two Orthodox (frequented by the Eastern Europeans) and one Reform (founded by German Jews). As well, the community was served by the usual array of organizations, clubs and societies.

A diligent researcher, Morawska discovered that 90 percent of the Jews were small traders. They did not work at local mills or mines, being considered unfit for arduous manual labor. In any event, Jews did not seek out this kind of employment.

Occupying a tightly-knit ethnic niche, Jews rarely socialized or forged personal friendships with Christians. Consequently, there were very few interfaith marriages. Morawska, herself the product of an intermarriage, claims that mixed marriages made up only 1.6 percent of weddings in the Jewish community prior to 1940.

In a reflection of their desire to be inconspicuous, Jews did not publicize United Jewish Appeal fund-raising campaigns, nor did they take part in Johntown's civic life. According to Morawska, their preoccupation with avoiding public attention sharpened their image as outsiders.

Nevertheless, over 80 percent of Jews voted for the conservative Republican party, whose socio-political ethos permeated Johnstown. Jews believed it was simply more expedient to be registered as Republicans. Johnstown's ruling class was Republican, and Jews felt they could better further their economic interests by identifying with the powers-that-be.

Despite their allegiance to Republican values, Jews were the butt of traditional prejudice, which existed in both the upper and lower strata of society. But, she hastens to add, Johnstown's was a subdued, non-vitriolic anti-Semitism.

In an epilogue on the Jewish community since the end of World War 11, Morawska divides its development into three separate periods: growth through the late 1950s; decline from the 1960s to the 1980s; and a limited revival in the past several years.

As a result of a fresh influx of East European Jews after the war, the size of the community nearly doubled. Jews began to participate in civic affairs, yet social relations between Jews and Christians remained very limited.

During the early 1960s, the local economy, dependent on outdated "smokestack industries," declined and the overall population decreased. Jews, of course, were affected by this process. The children and grandchildren of oldtimers who had rushed to colleges in the post-war era did not return, and a growing number of retirees left for Florida. By the late 1980s, no more than 415 Jewish men, women and children lived in Johnstown and environs.

Johnstown's prospects have brightened since the introduction of high-tech industry in the 1990s, but at the same time, the nature of the Jewish community has changed.

Third and fourth-generation American Jews from across the country have been drawn to Johnstown, and they work for mainstream U.S. companies rather than for Jewish small merchants.

These young professionals regularly participate in civic organizations, and they are welcome as members of country clubs. In other words, the Jews of Johnstown are far more integrated than in the past. They are secure rather than insecure about their place and status in local society.

Israel at Fifty pavilion is a feast for the eyes

In computer parlance, it is a virtual experience, almost like visiting Israel itself. The *Israel at Fifty* pavilion at the Canadian National Exhibition in Toronto, which runs until Sept. 7, is a feast for the eyes and, in part, a reflection of Israel's diversity.

The pavilion, the largest such exhibit outside Israel, is an eclectic ensemble of archeology, culture, biology and current events, as well as a lively marketplace of Israeli food and products ranging from canned hot peppers to Scent of the Bible perfume.

Walking through the vast pavilion, I could not but think that Israel has come a tremendously long way since its tumultuous origins five decades ago.

The centrepiece is doubtless the fifth-century 45 feet by 13 feet Tzippori synagogue mosaic floor, which has been lovingly restored and reconstructed by the Israel Museum. It reminds us yet again that the Jewish people's connection with Israel transcends the ages. Toronto artist Dubi Arie's phantasmagoric mural, *The Mission*, which depicts the tragic and joyous sweep of Jewish history, lends further substance to this fact.

The Negev Desert display, replete with cascades of sand, bristling cactuses, feathery vegetation, beekeeper's boxes, reptiles and two camels from the Bowmanville Zoo, highlights a region which may be the key to Israel's future should it sign a final peace agreement with the Palestinians.

Being an exercise in public relations, the pavilion ignores the worrisome rifts in Israeli society and glosses over Israel's Arab minority, comprising 20 percent of its population. But, as you know, the voracious media fill in these gaps quite regularly.

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Israel a technological power

Diplomatically Speaking

By JEHUDI KINAR

In 1948, Israel had a population of some 650,000. By 1951, an additional 668,000 people had arrived. Given the country's struggle for survival and the urgency of providing for the most basic needs of a population that tripled over the course of a decade, it was hard to imagine that Israel would make significant economic or technological progress.

And yet, 50 years after its establishment, Israel has become an economic and technological powerhouse. It has the 21st highest per-capita GDP in the world. A recently published United Nations report ranked it 23rd worldwide in its standard of living, based on per capita income, life expectancy and educational standards. Much of this progress is due to innovations in applied sciences and technology.

Since the country was almost bereft of natural resources, special emphasis was placed, from the beginning, on the need for advanced education and scientific research. A number of top-level academic institutions were established by the Yishuv, the Jewish community in Palestine, even before Israel gained its independence. The first of these was the Technion – Israel Institute of Technology, established in 1924. The Hebrew University of Jerusalem was inaugurated in 1925 and the Weizmann Institute of Science, which came into being in 1946, had its origins in the Sieff Institute, founded in 1934.

Even before these academic institutions were formed, the Jewish community was already conducting agricultural research at the Mikveh Israel School (established in 1870), and at the Agricultural Station (set up in Tel Aviv in 1921), which later became the Agricultural Research Organization. The British mandatory government had also established public research institutes and government institutions that boosted scientific development.

In fact, the combination of the educational and scientific infrastructure with the country's most pressing problems unexpectedly made for a creative synthesis which set development in motion.

Today, the country is enjoying a blossoming of high-tech entrepreneurship rivaling that in the most developed countries in the world. Agricultural innovations aimed at producing food for a rapidly growing population have included drip irrigation, agromechanical equipment, and more recently, the use of plant genetics to produce better-yielding and more disease-resistant crops.

In Israel, research and development is now carried out primarily at the universities. Today, 105,000 students are enrolled in Israel's universities, with about 21 percent of all undergraduate students and 50 percent of all PhD candidates specializing in the sciences or medicine.

Relative to the size of its labor force, Israel has a significantly larger number of publishing authors in the natural sciences, engineering, agriculture and medicine than any other country, and this also represents a significant degree of international scientific cooperation.

Research and development also takes place in industry; in fact, studies have shown that R&D-intensive companies have been a major source of growth in industrial employment and exports. Today, Israel boasts 1,800 R&D-based companies, including many new start-ups and software houses, which account for more than half the country's $20 billion in exports.

Since Israel achieved independence in 1948, scientific research and technological innovations have been key factors in shaping the country into a modern state able to meet the challenges of development in the face of scarce natural resources.

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Chassidism on the Web

By MARK MIETKIEWICZ

Three hundred years ago, a rabbi was born whose followers would ultimately change the face of Judaism. The founder of the chassidic movement, Rabbi Israel Ben Eliezer (the Baal Shem Tov) was born on the 18th of Elul, 5458 (1698).

Born in extreme poverty, Chassidism has evolved into several sophisticated worldwide movements that make full use of the Internet and related technologies to get their message across.

Chassidic groups have developed everything from computerized Jewish libraries to on-line music to a service where *kvittels* (letters of Divine request) can be e-mailed to Jerusalem to be deposited at the Western Wall. While some chassidic groups have been quick to embrace new technologies in order to spread their message, others have been more reticent. However, we'll see that the power of the Web is so irresistible, even one traditionally insular chassidic group has decided to set up its own "unofficial" Web site.

Through the teachings of the Baal Shem Tov, Chassidism traditionally emphasized the priority of emotion over intellect, the ability of everyone to experience God's presence and the importance of joy.

Eliezer Siegel does a good job summing up the roots of chassidic beliefs **[http://acs6.acs.ucalgary.ca/~elsegal/363_Transp/Orthodoxy/Hasidism.html]** as does the TimeLine of Jewish History **[http://www.jewishamerica.com/TimeLine/chassidi.htm]**.

At the same time, the Misnagdim under the Ga'on of Vilna opposed abandoning traditional Jewish scholarship. Sometimes you need a guide map to help you sort through all the varieties of Chassidim and Misnagdim. In order to get your bearings, Eliezer Segal has prepared a road map of the various strains of Orthodox Judaism along with explanations of their beliefs, views about other Jews and political relationship to the State of Israel **[http://acs6.acs.ucalgary.ca/~elsegal/363_Transp/08_Orthodoxy.html#Map]**.

Central, of course, to all Chassidim is reverence of their Rebbe and the many stories told and retold about his remarkable personality. I'll devote a future column to those stories.

For more on Chassidim, take a look at Links prepared by Digital Genizah **[http://uscj.org/metny/middletown/hasid.htm#CHASIDS]** or by Michael Graffam **[http://www1.mhv.net/~mgraffam/rel/hasidism/hasidism.html]**. And if you want to actively study the teachings of the Baal Shem Tov, you can join the Chassidus list **[http://www.contrib.andrew.cmu.edu/usr/kb4m/info.htm]**. Every week four or five short teachings from the Baal Shem Tov and other chassidic masters will be e-mailed to you. The focus of the list: "Love of God, Love of his fellow Jew, and Love of the Torah."

Finally, to get an excellent feel for chassidic belief, I highly recommend How and Why Hasidim Pray by Rabbi Harold Schulweis of Valley Beth Shalom of Encino, Calif., **[http://www.vbs.org/rabbi/hshulw/hasspray.htm]**.

Rabbi Schulweis says that even non-Chassidim have much to learn and emulate from Chassidim, particularly from the chassidic struggle against mechanical study and prayer. He retells the following anecdote: "I have gone through the Shas (Gemarah) six times already," the young talmudic scholar boasted. The Rebbe asked him, "And how many times has the Shas gone through you?"

Next week, more on Chassidim on the Web.

* * *

Mark Mietkiewicz is a television producer in Toronto with an interest in the Internet. He can be reached at [mdm@inforamp.net].

Jewish Life

Kazin's last book explored authors' ideas of God

Books

By Bernard Baskin

***God and the American Writer*, by Alfred Kazin (Random House, $35)**

As both writer and personality, Alfred Kazin was impressive. I deeply lament his recent passing. He died on his 83rd birthday in his cluttered West Side Manhattan apartment.

In 1942, when he was only 27, Kazin wrote his interpretation of modern American prose literature, entitled *On Native Grounds*. It was widely praised for its fresh and incisive evaluation of writers from William Dean Howells to William Faulkner. The book's success transformed his life. In short order, he became editor of the *New Republic* and was welcomed into intellectual circles. During his long and busy career as teacher, lecturer and author he produced 13 works of non-fiction and 10 literary collections.

Memorable among his writings were his autobiographical reminiscences: *A Walker in the City* (1955), *Starting out in the Thirties* (1966), and *New York Jew* (1978).

He was born in the largely Yiddish-speaking ghetto of Brownsville, Brooklyn, the son of poor uneducated immigrants from czarist Russia. He wrote: "Every time I go back to Brownsville, it is as if I had never been away. From the moment I step off the train at Rockaway Avenue and smell the leak out of the men's room, then the pickles from the stand just below the subway steps, an instant rage comes over me, mixed with dread and some unexpected tenderness. As I walk those familiarly choked streets at dusk and see the old women sitting in front of the tenements, past and present become each other's faces; I am back where I began."

Always concerned with aspects of Jewish culture, he was ambiguous about Judaism. A decade ago in a revealing essay, he confided, "In the last few years I've discovered – and this is the simple fact – that nothing has as much emotional and spiritual value for me as the Jewish experience. I can't explain why. If anyone would say to me, 'Well, what is your position on the following?' I would have to answer: 'I do not go to synagogue. I have not sat up all night reading Hebrew. My body will be cremated. Yet, I have and have always had some kind of religious impulse.'"

Unlike some of his fellow critics who engaged in high-flown rhetoric and elliptical literary theories, Kazin wrote for the general reader. Like Edmund Wilson, the critic he most admired, his aim was always to communicate the manifold pleasures to be found in reading.

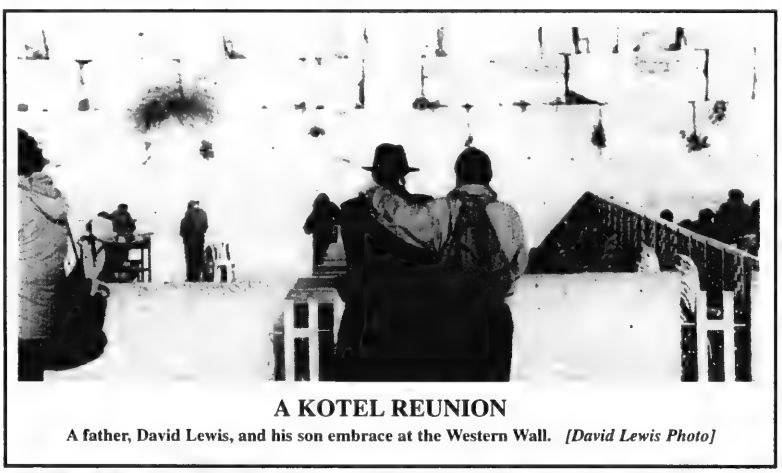
In *God and the American Writer*, Kazin,with his unfailing stylistic verve and penetration, examines the life and work of such American literary figures as Hawthorne, Melville, Emerson, Whitman, Dickinson, Eliot, Frost, and Faulkner. He gives a profound sense of each, and his quotations from their works are deftly chosen to illuminate what the idea of God means to them, as indicated in their writings.

Once, in a lecture to a college audience he admired the poetry of T.S. Eliot. He was reproached, "How can you admire such an enemy of the Jewish people?" Kazin responded with one of the most chilling sentences I have ever read, "If I had to exclude anti-Semites I would have little enough to read."

A centrepiece of the book is an analysis of writings at a time of the Civil War, including Lincoln's astonishing second inaugural address, and its reflections on divine providence. Kazin writes: "The triumphant North needed proof of its saintliness, and found it in the consecration of Abraham Lincoln. The Lincoln who never joined the Church became the god of a godless religion. Under the smug Republican administration of Calvin Coolidge, a great temple in Washington was built around a statue of Lincoln seated on a throne. Now the people truly had someone eternally to worship."

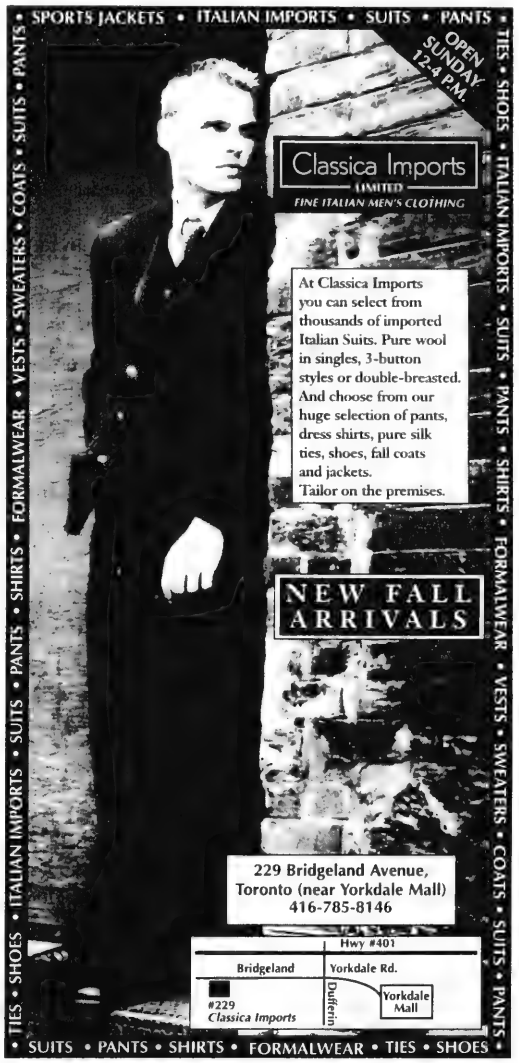
When Herman Melville visited the Holy Land in 1856, he was disappointed that the scriptural places provided nothing of the spiritual uplift he had expected: "Jerusalem, January 1857 – a village of lepers, their houses facing the wall, their park a dung-heap. They sit by the gates asking alms – their whine – avoidance of them and horror… The Church of the Holy Sepulchre amounts to broken dome, dingy, queer smell."

Fifty-five years after the appearance of *On Native Grounds*, the author has left his sorrowing readers a new understanding of a group of classic American authors and their ideas and opinions on a subject of enduring interest.



A KOTEL REUNION

A father, David Lewis, and his son embrace at the Western Wall. ***[David Lewis Photo]***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Couple find new home in 'Russian Town'

By MILA KLETSKY
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — The Bathurst and Steeles area of Toronto is the heart of "Russian Town," which has a population of over 40,000.

A number of generations of "Russians" reside here. One can see grey haired couples walking down the road with small children who are their great-grandchildren, or baby boomers playing tennis with their 20 year-old "kids." They speak Russian; their kids answer them in English. They feel they are Canadians more than Russians.

One can hear many amazing life stories in this town of people who transformed their lives, raising kids and gradually creating this Russian town. For example, three generations of the Perlamutrovs, or as they now call themselves, Perlovs, live in the Russian Town.

Eva and Simon Perlamutrov have been together for 56 years. They left their native Odessa 22 years ago. Though any "Odessit" will share with you how difficult it is to leave the "best city in the world," they did it and found a new life here in Canada, different from their expectations, but happy and interesting nonetheless.

As a young man, Perlamutrov, a veteran of World War II, dreamed of becoming a lawyer. But he would never agree to be a member of the Communist party, which was the passkey to a law career at that time in the U.S.S.R. Thus, he was obliged to change his plans. Instead of attending the law school at Odessa University, he went to the university's history department, expecting that nothing could ruin his future as a teacher of history. Unfortunately he was wrong.

There was no job for Perlamutrov as a teacher and he had to find other work. Hiding his diploma "until better times," which never came for him as a teacher, he found a job as an auto mechanic.

Years later, in his 50s, the Perlamutrovs made the important decision to leave for Canada. Here Simon was hired for an entry level position at Shopsy's, the sausage maker. Before starting his job, he went back to school to "fight" the battle of learning English. He won that battle and started his new Canadian life.

His wife, who had been a doctor in Odessa, could not get certification to practise medicine here, and Perlamutrov felt additional pressure as the sole supporter of his family in their new country.

He was quickly promoted to the position of assistant to the supervisor and 10 years later, he retired from Shopsy's to start a new "working life."

Eva and Simon Perlamutrov

He divided his time in three volunteer jobs: offering his service to the Jewish community; working in the Association of Soviet Jewry; and assisting his son's family to raise his grandson Paul.

His son Fred and daughter-in-law Isabella had to devote much of their time to their jobs, Fred as an engineer, Isabella as an accountant in an insurance company.

"So, how could I enjoy my "free time, when my grandson Paul needed my care?" Perlamutrov wondered.

As the years passed, Paul graduated from high school and from the Royal Conservatory of Music. But then he decided to become a doctor, and he is now doing a residency in Montreal, although classical music is a passion for him, as it is for all of the Perlamutrov family.

Some years ago, Simon Perlamutrov started a furniture bank. It was a simple idea: get good furniture and appliances from people who do not need them anymore and offer them free to new immigrants. The concept proved successful and many people have been helped through the furniture bank.

Now another project occupies Perlamutrov. He, along with Sander Kovarsky and other Jewish Soviet veterans from World War II, all members of the Association of Soviet Jewry, are trying to bring to fulfilment the dream of establishing a museum of Soviet Jewish military glory, based on unique documents and materials in their possession.

"We want to demonstrate how courageous and strong the Jews were, to show that we were worthy to be the descendants of the Maccabees," Perlamutrov explained.

He wants to tell the world about the Jewish military contribution to the victory over the Nazis, to show that Jews not only were victims, but also resisted the Nazis. In this way, he hopes to encourage future generations of Jews to be strong and proud.

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Agudath Israel (O)	129 McGillivray Ave. (416) 789-5514	6:20, 7:15 & 7:55 PM	7:30 & 8:45 AM	7:00, 7:30 8:00, 8:30	6:20, 6:50 & 7:15 AM	6:00 & 8:00 PM
Anshe Minsk (O)	10-12 St. Andrews St. (416) 595-5723	8:00 PM	9:30 AM	9:30 AM	7:30 AM	----------
Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am (C)	55 Yeomans Rd. (416) 633-5500	7:00 PM	9:00 AM	8:30 AM	7:00 & 8:00 AM	6:00 PM
Beth Jacob (O)	147 Overbrook Pl. (416) 638-5955	7:15 PM	9:00 AM	8:00 AM	6:40 & 7:30 AM	7:55 PM
Beth Radom (C)	18 Reiner Rd. (416) 636-3451	8:00 PM	8:45 AM	9:00 AM	8:00 AM	8:00 PM
B'nai Torah (O)	465 Patricia Ave. (416) 226-3700	6:30 & 8:05 PM	7:30 & 8:45 AM	7:00 & 8:00 AM	Mon. Thurs. 6:20, 6:45, 7:10 Tues. Wed. Fri. 6:30, 7:00, 7:20	7:55 PM
Soleil Congregation (R)	2399 Folkway Dr. (905) 820-5915	8:30 PM	10:00 AM	----------	----------	----------
Temple Kol Ami (R)	36 Atkinson Ave. (905) 709-2620	7:30 PM	10:30 AM	----------	----------	----------

This is not a comprehensive listing of the synagogues in the Greater Toronto area. The information is provided by the Vaad Harabonim of Toronto and the Toronto Board of Rabbis. The Vaad and the Board will periodically revise the listings.

U of T scholar captivated by Leo Strauss' work

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

Leo Strauss is one of the finest Jewish philosophers of our time, yet even in academic circles he remains an obscure figure.

"He's very difficult," Kenneth Hart Green concedes. "He makes people work hard at what he's saying."

Green, an associate professor of modern Jewish religious thought at the University of Toronto, should know. He is one of the world's leading authorities on Strauss (1899-1973), a German Jew who was also a first-rate political thinker.

Since being drawn to Strauss by one of his mentors, the former University of Toronto philosopher Emil Fackenheim, Green, 45, has produced a substantial body of work about him.

Five years ago, he wrote *Jew and Philosopher: The Return of Maimonides in the Jewish Thought of Leo Strauss*. In 1997, he edited a volume of Strauss' essays, *Jewish Philosophy and the Crisis of Modernity*. More recently, he has prepared for publication the first of five volumes entitled *The Jewish Writings of Leo Strauss*.

"Strauss speaks to me as a Jew and as a person interested in philosophy," explained Green, who received his undergraduate degree from the University of Toronto and his post-graduate degrees from Brandeis University. "His writings exert a magnetic hold on me."

The issues which Strauss minutely examined, and which keenly engage Green today, turn on a basic question: How can one be a Jew in a modern society? Beyond that, Strauss grappled with such interrelated matters as the meaning of the Holocaust and the importance of Israel.

Strauss, whose interests generally ranged from the origins of modern Judaism to the philosophic underpinnings of Baruch Spinoza, was born in Kirchhain, in Hesse, and raised in an Orthodox Jewish environment.

Eventually, he drifted away from his parents' Orthodoxy, and "Strauss began to define himself as one of 'those (modern Jews) who cannot be Orthodox, but who must remain loyal to Judaism," Green writes.

After World War I, Strauss studied philosophy, history, mathematics and the natural sciences at several German universities. For two years, he taught at the Free Jewish House of Learning in Frankfurt. Subsequently, the Academy for the Science of Judaism in Berlin appointed him as a research fellow, a job he held until 1932.

While working there, he finished his first important book, *Spinoza's Critique of Religion*, and worked on a series of volumes on Moses Mendelssohn.

Leaving Germany less than a year before Hitler's assumption of power, Strauss became an itinerant scholar in France and England, where he researched the medieval philosophy of Moses Maimonides, as well as the political philosophy of Thomas Hobbes.

In 1938, the year of Kristallnacht, Strauss immigrated to the United States, taking up a position as a lecturer in philosophy at the New School for Social Research in New York City. Then, from 1949 until 1968, he taught at the University of Chicago's political science department.

Strauss, who considered political Zionism a moral force in modern Jewish history, was a visiting professor at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem in 1954 and 1955.

Apart from his writings about Strauss, Green – who considers himself a "traditional" Jew – teaches two courses about him at the University of Toronto's Centre for the Study of Religion.

Born in Toronto, Green was raised in a Reform household, the son

Kenneth Green

of Patrick, a businessman, and Freda, a library technician. The Greens had three boys, two of whom are medical doctors, and they encouraged them to appreciate the values of ideas. The lively debates in their home whetted Green's appetite for intellectual inquiry.

At one point, he contemplated the notion of becoming a rabbi, but the pull of academe was irresistible. "I found that a life devoted to teaching Judaism at the university level allowed me to have a greater impact," he said. "Introducing students to the fundamentals of Judaism and hoping it shapes their lives is like a rabbinic calling."

Green, who is married to Sharon Minitz, a part-time University of Toronto lecturer in Hebrew and Yiddish literature, passionately believes in the power of Jewish studies as a vehicle both for strengthening Judaism and for combatting assimilation and intermarriage.

"No one goes away from these courses less of a Jew," said Green, a member of Thornhill's Beth Avraham Yoseph. "Knowledge is the key to turning around intermarriage and assimilation. We have such a rich tradition, with so much wisdom. When people are exposed to Judaism in a positive way, it changes their lives."

Given his views, Green is troubled by the acrimonious culture war which has widened the chasm between religious and secular Jews in Israel.

Jewish unity, he said, should take precedence over all such quarrels. "Jews who don't see that are deceiving themselves." Yet Green has no illusions, realizing that Israelis have still not learned to respect each other's beliefs. "Israel, in the long haul, can't survive unless these issues are addressed and resolved," he warned.

Believing that the differences which currently divide Israelis will ultimately diminish, he draws hope from bridge builders like Rabbi David Hartman, Finance Minister Ya'acov Ne'eman, the leadership of Bar-Ilan University and secularist humanists like Hebrew University political scientist Dan Avnon.

Green claims that Orthodoxy cannot be blamed for a monster like Yigal Amir, the assassin of Yitzhak Rabin. "Amir represents a certain kind of error in contemporary Jewish thinking, not restricted to Orthodoxy, which confuses the messianic idea with the rebirth of Jewish independence and statehood."

The father of three children, Green is upbeat about the future of Judaism in North America. "I expect modern Orthodoxy, and traditional varieties of Reform and Conservative Judaism, to grow. People feel a greater need for religious roots, faith and discipline. There is a certain kind of disillusionment with secularism."

It is his credo that a Jew can be traditional and open to the world. "The two," he said, " are not mutually exclusive."

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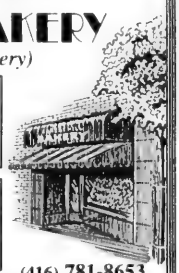

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Bertha Dermer was president of Toronto Women's ORT

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Bertha Dermer's life motto, which hung on her kitchen wall for some 30 years, was a quotation from Cicero: "Live each day as though you are going to die tomorrow; learn each day as though you are going to live forever."

The longtime community volunteer, who founded the Toronto chapter of the Dysautonomia Foundation and was a president of Toronto Women's ORT, died recently at age 83 of liver failure due to Hepatitis C.

Among her other involvements were the Canadian Society for the Weizmann Institute of Science and Israel Bonds.

Her daughter Alicia, speaking by phone from her home in New Jersey, recalled hearing people comment many times, "Bertha, you're doing too much."

"Life is short," her mother used to say. "If you're going to do something, you've got to spend the time and do it."

Obituary

Bertha was born in a town called Vielna in Buchovina, a province that was then part of Austria and is now part of Russia.

The eldest of three sisters, she was raised in Chernovitz, Romania, where she studied languages at the University of Chernovitz in the late 1930s, paying her own way by tutoring.

A brief pre-war marriage ended when her husband was taken to a labor camp, never to be heard from again.

Bertha spent four years in a concentration camp in Transnistria before resuming university studies, this time in medicine at the University of Vienna.

"It was unusual for a woman in her circumstances," noted her daughter.

She left her medical studies after two years to marry Angel Dermer, a second cousin who had written her from Colombia on learning she had survived the war.

Angel had established a dental laboratory in Bogota and Bertha worked with him, learning to design removable bridges for dentures and helping him build a country-wide chain of labs.

Their son Ricardo was born in 1951, and Alicia two years later. Ricardo was diagnosed with familial dysautonomia, a rare genetic disorder that affects the autonomic nervous system.

Symptoms of the disorder, also known as Riley-Day Syndrome, include high fevers, repeated vomiting attacks, stunted growth, fragile bones and inability to suck or swallow.

In 1981, Bertha became involved in one of her most personally satisfying charitable endeavors, founding the Toronto chapter of the Dysautonomia Foundation to raise awareness and funds for medical research.

Longtime community volunteer

Because of the political situation in Colombia, the Dermers immigrated to Toronto in 1962 to join Bertha's father, stepmother and youngest sister. They joined Temple Sinai and Bertha became involved in volunteer organizations like Hadassah-WIZO and ORT.

Although she continued to work with her husband and spent much time taking care of her son, Bertha "seemed to have just blossomed when she came to Canada," said Alicia.

At Alicia's urging, she returned to school, graduating in 1977 with a BA in languages from the University of Toronto at the same time Alicia received her MD.

"She had this constant drive. She was going all day, and could be doing three things at once," recalled Alicia. Angel referred to her by the Spanish word *terremoto*, which means earthquake.

"She really was an amazing person," said Alicia.

In addition to her daughter and husband, Dermer leaves two grandchildren, and sisters Clara Engel and Josefa (Pepi) Epstein. Her son Ricardo predeceased her in 1991.

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Greater Toronto Area

New shaliach will hit road to small communities

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Bezalel Ben-Eliahu knows what it means to be an Israeli on the receiving end of donations from Diaspora Jews. He'll be here until the end of the year as a shaliach for the organization that is the conduit for such funds.

The native Quebecer, who began a five-month stint with UIA Federations on Aug. 1, made aliyah in 1957 and settled four years later on a moshav near Afula in "a totally new and previously unsettled area.

"All the funding for the building of our village and our homes and our farms was a direct contribution from the world Jewish community."

Now based in the Toronto office of UIA Federations, Ben-Eliahu, a 61-year-old father of five and grandfather of four, will be working with about two dozen non-federated communities in Ontario and the Maritimes, including Kitchener-Waterloo and Halifax.

He will travel from community to community "to explain the role of UIA in helping Jews around the world," he said.

Bezalel Ben-Eliahu

UIA Federations is the conduit through which United Jewish Appeal and Combined Jewish Appeal dollars earmarked for international use are routed. Most funds go to the Jewish Agency in Israel, which operates rescue and settlement programs for Jews making aliyah.

Ben-Eliahu feels it's also important to help Jewish leaders in small communities pass on Jewish values to their children by bringing programming related to tzedakah and Jewish life.

As an example of the role UIA plays internationally, Ben-Eliahu noted that the Joint Distribution Committee provides food parcels to the Jewish elderly in the former Soviet Union.

In Israel, he said, funds are also needed. "There's a concept that Israel is rich and doesn't need us any more."

That is a misconception, he said. Many Israelis are struggling newcomers whose lifestyle is "little more than basic survival," he emphasized.

Moshav Ram-On, where Ben-Eliahu owns a sheep farm, "is quite well developed... we have almost paid back all our loans. We've seen the prospering of our village, [but] when we look back to the beginning, it's very clear that without this assistance, we would never be where we are today."

Unlike most of his fellow alumni of Montreal's Jewish People's School and the Jewish People's High School, Ben-Eliahu has strong rural roots. His grandparents had emigrated from Russia "for ideological reasons, to be farmers. They felt it was important for a certain number of people to work the land."

Ben-Eliahu was raised on a farm in rural Quebec, and attended a one-room school until he was about 10 years old. His parents then moved to another farm, this one closer to Montreal in Ste-Sophie, and he commuted two hours each way to school.

The experience "opened a window to a different perspective of Jewish life," Ben-Eliahu recalled. "I became more and more convinced that you could live a Jewish life anywhere, but the fullest Jewish life could only be lived in Israel."

Ben-Eliahu spent time in Canada on several occasions during the '60s and '70s, serving as director of the Atlantic Jewish Council, as executive director of the Jewish National Fund in the Maritimes, as shaliach to Habonim youth movement in Vancouver and as assistant director of the Vancouver Jewish Community Centre.

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Greater Toronto Area

Former OISE director prepares for new challenge

DANIEL WOLGELERENTER
Student Intern

TORONTO — After a career in academia stretching back to the late 1950s, it could be time for Arthur Kruger to kick back and enjoy his retirement.

With a resume full of scholarly and administrative accomplishments, most would say the 65-year-old former director of the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education (OISE) and longtime community volunteer has earned it.

Instead, the father of four and grandfather of 11 is planning the next phase of his career: in September, he becomes vice-president of professional and graduate programs at New York-based Touro College.

His friend Rabbi Adin Steinsaltz – who has stayed with Kruger and his family over the years when in Toronto – once told him "we wish that people live to 120, but rarely do people live to 120…[the idea] is that you should assume at 70 that you have fifty years to live," says Kruger.

"You should always have the attitude that it's never too late to start a new career, a new anything," he says. "Just because you reach the magic age of 65 doesn't mean you should retire…if you have something to give, you should give."

An economist with a PhD from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and a specialist in industrial relations, Kruger has been working as a labor arbitrator since his retirement from OISE in 1995. After OISE's almagamation with

Arthur Kruger

the University of Toronto's (U of T) education faculty, OISE required an academic dean of education rather than an administrator, he said.

He'd been an arbitrator part time since the early 1970s and "at a certain point, you're not learning much new," he says.

But, he says,"[the Touro appointment] was something I was not looking for. I was not in the market for a job.

"I was doing arbitration and that was keeping me busy, but my real love was being around universities," the former U of T Faculty of Arts and Science dean says.

He couldn't pass up the opportunity at Touro and accepted just before Pesach, having been recommended by his son, Rabbi Yaacov Kruger, to Touro president and founder Dr. Bernard Lander.

The 25 year-old private university has 9,000 students – about 75 percent are Jewish – spread among seven campuses: four in New York (including Harlem and Spanish Harlem); two in Moscow and Israel for business and Jewish studies; and a medical school in San Francisco.

Of those, about 6,000 are "under my jurisdiction" Kruger says, "and that is going to grow."

Its master's program in Jewish studies is "one of the best" in Israel, Kruger says. With about 300 students, it's also the biggest, "bigger than Hebrew U, Tel Aviv, Bar-Ilan and Haifa combined – much bigger," he says.

He will also oversee Touro's law, medical and health sciences programs.

It's a large responsibility, but "I'm not coming with any preconceived notions of what I'll be doing," Kruger says, adding he'll take about "six months to a year taking a good hard look at what they're doing before developing a program of action.

"Someone has to come in there and see the broad picture, to work with existing deans to develop new programs," he says.

As a side benefit, the job will take him to Israel "quite often – [it's] one of the attractions of working for Touro," which means he'll get to see two of his four children, his son and a daughter, who are based in Israel.

In addition to his academic career, Kruger has a long interest in Jewish continuity and education. He is a life member of the Associated Hebrew Schools and former board member at Ulpanat Orot Girls' school and Or Chaim Yeshiva, as well as the Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto.

Continuity requires "good intensive Jewish education," Kruger says, and he's particularly enthusiastic about Jewish camping and campus services.

Kruger says more money is needed for camps with "a strong Judaic atmosphere…that permeates all aspects of the camp," and which observe Shabbat "whether in a Reform way, a Conservative way or an Orthodox way."

Subsidies would allow "a large percentage of Jewish kids [to] attend these camps, instead of 'Camp Yuppie,' where maybe they serve a piece of challah Friday night."

The former Jewish Campus Services president – from September 1996 to January 1998 – also feels "the campus is a neglected area in Ontario, and in Toronto in particular."

Comparing community spending on Toronto's approximately 10-12,000 Jewish students at Ryerson, York University and U of T to spending on the University of British Columbia's 1,200 Jewish students, Kruger says the Vancouver community commits "more than Toronto is spending – total, never mind per capita.

"The resources that the community has pumped [into Toronto campus services] are pathetic," Kruger says. "It's the last opportunity you have to work with young people when they're together. After that, they're dispersed [and] it's much harder to work with them."

His interest in Jewish continuity attracted him to Touro, which requires its Jewish students – such as those studying business at its Moscow campus – to take Jewish studies credits to graduate from secular programs.

Once they find housing, Kruger and wife Betty will leave for New York City. Their house is sold, but "I can't work in New York out of Toronto…until I find something there I'm not moving," he says.

"Some people think we are crazy and some people think we're taking a great new challenge in life – it depends on who you talk to," Kruger jokes.

"Lots of times, I think we are crazy."

LAUNCH OF SOCIETIES' CAMPAIGN

Israel's renowned Hora Neurim folk dance troupe performed at the launch last week of UJA Federation's Societies Division's campaign. The drive hopes to raise $500,000 to endow student scholarships for the annual March of the Living. [Elaine Fogel photo]

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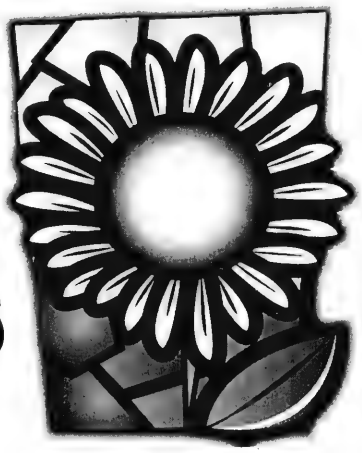

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Greater Toronto Area

Mayor's invitation brings survivor back

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Holocaust survivor Israel (Irving) Gold went back to Germany last month, closing a horrific chapter in his life.

Gold returned to the Landsberg concentration camp where he had been a forced laborer from Aug. 1944 to April 1945.

Fifty-three years on, he revisited the camp, near the town of Landsberg, as a guest rather than as a prisoner.

He and his wife, Faye, were invited to Landsberg by the mayor, Franz Xaver Russel. The Golds spent about a week in this region of southern Germany, grappling with bitter memories but glad to be alive as witnesses to a brutal era.

Their host was Michael Streicher, a local farmer whose late parents, Ludwig and Veronika, gave Gold shelter after he was liberated.

Gold, a retired dress cutter who immigrated to Canada in 1948, was originally invited to Germany in 1995 for the 50th anniversary of the liberation of the Landsberg concentration camp, but due to ill health he was unable to go.

The invitation was a function of the town's desire to come to terms with Germany's Nazi past.

"[We] would like to contribute towards keeping the memory of this dark chapter of our history alive," the mayor wrote three years ago. "...we feel it is important that the eyes of the generation born after the downfall of Nazi Germany are opened to the atrocities which human beings are capable of.

"Although this generation is innocent, it is not free from the responsibility of learning from what happened...Injustice and crime must not be allowed to be forgotten."

Born in Lodz, Poland, Gold was a teenager when the German occupying force established a ghetto there. His father, Baruch, died of hunger in 1941. Later, he and his family were sent to Auschwitz.

"As we arrived in Auschwitz, I was chosen to work, while my mother Gitel and my brother Shmuel were shunted off to the gas chamber," he said.

In August 1944, Gold was sent to Germany through Dachau to the Landsberg concentration camp. He remained there until April 28, 1945, when it was freed by Allied soldiers.

Liberated at last, he was almost killed when American aircraft bombed the train he was on. Leaving the wreckage, Gold and a group of Jewish survivors walked to the village of Petzenhausen. Had he gone to a neighboring village like some of the other survivors, he would have been shot by the SS.

Instead, Gold spent the next three months in the home of the Streichers. "He and his family treated me very well, and for this I will always be grateful," he said.

Subsequently, Gold was transferred to a displaced persons camp in Landsberg, where he remained until 1948. He met his wife, also a Polish Jew and a survivor, in Toronto. They were married in 1952. They have one son and three daughters, as well as five grandsons and two granddaughters.

Upon arriving in Munich last month, the Golds were picked up at the airport by the mayor's chauffeur, and driven to the home of Michael Streicher, whose parents died about 20 years ago.

During their visit, the Golds were busy from morning to night.

They were shown former concentration camps and monuments denoting the mass graves of Jews who had perished there.

The mayor received them at city hall and gave them an extensive briefing of Landsberg's history during the Third Reich.

They were also given a tour of the prison where Adolf Hitler had written *Mein Kampf* in 1924.

And finally, they were taken to a concrete bunker where Gold had toiled under difficult conditions.

Israel Gold

"It wasn't easy to go back to Germany," conceded Gold, who harbors no animosity against the post-war generations of Germans. "We didn't know what was waiting for us. But I'm pleased I went."

The trip, he said in closing, brought relief and closure.

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Weinryb plans her programs around nostalgia

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
CJN Staff

Judy Weinryb

TORONTO — To Judy Weinryb, seniors' coordinator at the Bloor Jewish Community Centre (JCC), seniors' memories are more than just simple stories.

"A lot of my programs revolve around nostalgia. We might watch an old Yiddish film, talk about Toronto as it used to be or reminisce about the CNE. People learn from each other's stories and talking about them makes them feel less isolated," says Weinryb.

Seniors always like to look back and remember, she says. "It's a positive experience. By talking or writing about their immigrant or Holocaust experience, or about what they did before the war, they are validating their memories. They become closer to the other people in the group," Weinryb says.

A graduate of Wurzweiler School of Social Work at Yeshiva University, she has worked primarily with seniors since returning to Toronto in 1983. She has written a volunteer manual for the Second Mile Club, run a couples club at the Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, and worked as a social worker at Baycrest Day Care Service and Ahavath Achim Day program for frail seniors.

She has been at the JCC since 1995.

"When I work with seniors, I learn from the richness of their experiences," Weinryb says. "There is a lot of wisdom packed into their memories."

Not everything at the weekly group, however, revolves around memories, she says. "We've visited the Bata Shoe Museum, gone to the ballet, and hosted lectures by various professionals. Jewish content is an important aspect of the programming, and as well, classes are held in fitness and in crafts such as knitting or pottery."

Although her primary function is to plan programming, Weinryb depends heavily on input from program participants. "I facilitate the planning process and involve them heavily in it. We have a reciprocal relationship," she says."

She also feels it is important to create a social atmosphere where the seniors feel comfortable. "I want them to have a warm, special relationship with the others and with me. Seniors have limitless amounts to offer. They should be respected and be given the opportunities to learn. I want them to ask and be heard."

People from all backgrounds attend her seniors' group, but Weinryb's main goal is to serve the people in the downtown Jewish community.

"I'm trying to create links. Last year, we made shalach manot with University of Toronto students and delivered them to housebound seniors. We've also had intergenerational programs in which people have read stories and reminiscences over afternoon tea.

"I have people in the group who live on Major Street or Baldwin Street, or in the area around Honest Ed's, and a lot of these people are in their original homes. We bring people together and help them form their own downtown Jewish community. I am trying to reach the isolated elderly who may be unaware of our program."

A tremendous bond has developed among the people in the group, she says. "People see it as their second home."

SERENADE AT THE CNE: ISRAEL AT 50 PAVILION OPENS
Israeli singing group Yovel Israel at Fifty entertains the 3,000 invited guests at the gala opening of the Israel at 50 pavilion, running until Sept. 7 at the 120th annual CNE. **[Daniel Wolgelerenter photo]**

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Catholic magazine slams Israel

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A small Catholic magazine has unleashed a vicious attack on Israel.

A recent issue of the Toronto-based monthly, *Catholic Insight,* says the Jewish state, "as it stands now, will not and should not endure. It will not endure because Palestinians cannot be repressed forever. It should not endure because a secular state is no answer to a religious quest."

The magazine's editor, Father Alphonse de Valk, in an article titled "Israel at 50," says Israel "has become a Bismarckian-Machiavellian power state which maintains itself through blood and steel."

In Israel, the article continues, "Arabs – whether Muslim or Christian – hold second-rate citizenship, while their cousins in the occupied lands have practically no rights at all."

The article, which also accuses Jews of "ethnic cleansing" following their 1948 victory in the War of Independence, says Israel "must cease to ignore the greatest Jew of all time – compared to whom all other illustrious Jewish names appear pathetically puny – Jesus, the anointed."

The magazine has a circulation of about 3,200. Father de Valk, a priest with the Basilian order, told *The CJN.*

He defended the article, saying that at no time did he question Israel's right to exist.

Israel 'should not endure'

But, he added, Israel, a "power state, uses all means and all tools to repress part of its citizenry. It cannot survive unless it wants to oppress Arabs forever."

The editorial brought a brusque letter from Toronto Jewish activist Bert Raphael, who condemned it as an "anti-Semitic and anti-Israel piece of bigotry.

"I guess in your list of puny Jews, you would include Abraham, Jacob and Moses, David Ben-Gurion and Yitzhak Rabin," Raphael wrote to the magazine.

Father de Valk said he "did not have the Old Testament in mind" when he used the word puny.

He called Raphael's letter "very silly," but said he would print it in the September issue.

Anthony Palma, a reporter with the *Catholic Register,* says *Catholic Insight* is regarded as "quite conservative" and is known for its strident, doctrinaire views.

He said some Catholics have been offended by the tone of its articles.

Bernie Farber of Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario region said the editorial is "one of the most insensitive and uninformed editorials on Israel that we have seen in a long time. We are especially concerned that a Catholic news-magazine would be so ill-informed on matters relating to Israel. They should be ashamed of themselves."

Suzanne Scorsone, a spokesperson for Toronto's Catholic Archdiocese, said she cannot comment on *Catholic Insight* because it is a "completely independent" publication.

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פון אָלעק סילווער

זונטיק, דעם ד־טן יוני, 1998, זייַנען מיר, מיין פרוי און איך, געגאַנגען אויף א קאָנצערט פון טאָראָנטער ייִדישן פֿאָלקס כאָר. עס איז געווען א שייַנער נאָכמיטאָג, דער כאָר איז געווען אויסגעצייכנט און דער עולם, כאָטש נישט קיין פֿולער זאל, האָט הנאה געהאַט פון מחקאַלישן רעפּערטואָר. דער כאָר איז דירעקטירט פון אסתר נאָן, א טאָלאָנטפֿולע מחיקערין, וואָס גיט דעם כאָר זייַן לעבנסקראָפֿט. די פּיאַנאָ אקאָמפּאַניסטין איז געווען מחיקלערין פון לינא זמפּאלמאן, א באַגאַבטע פּיאַניסטין און מחיק־לערערין.

דער פּראָגראַם איז געווען אויסגעשילט מיט איין סייל איז געווען געווידמעט דעם 100־יעריקן געבורטסטאָג פון באריסמן נעגער־זינגער פֿאל ראָבסאָן — א גרויסער ייִדן־פֿרייַנד. איינס פון די לידער אין דעם סייל איז געווען „א דין־תורה מיט גאָט", וואָס דער אַרטיסט האָט א סך מאָל געזונגען.

מיין באַקאַנטשאַפֿט מיטן טאָראָנטער ייִדישן פֿאָלקס כאָר גייט צוריק א סך יאָרן, שוין באַלד א האַלבער יאָרהונדערט. איך האָב צום ערשטן מאָל געזען דעם כאָר אין 1950 אין „מעסי האַל", אַ־ געפירט פון לעגענדאַרן דירידזשענט עמיל ראָזענבלוט. איך דעמאָלט האָט דער כאָר אויפגעפירט „די נייַע הגדה", דאָכט זיך צום ערשטן מאָל. דער פּאַרטאָרבעזער רעדאַקטאָר פון „וואָכנבלאַט", יהושע ראָזשמאַן, האָט מיר „געפּתדעוועט" א בילעט צו דעם קאָנצערט.

איך מוז דאָ באַטאָנען, אַז דעמאָלט האָט „די נייַע הגדה" גע־מאַכט אויף מיר א קאַלאָסאַלן אייַנדרוק. עס איז געווען ערשט פּינף יאָר נאָך מיין באַפֿרייאונג פון די קאָנצענטראַציע לאָגערן. דער וויטיק איז נאָך געווען אזוי פרישׁ, דער חורבן — נאָך אזוי נאָענט.

עס איז יעדן באַקאָנט, אַז דער טעקסט קומט פון דער פּאָעמע „שאָכנס פון וואַרשעווער נעטא", געשריבן פון ייִדיש־סאָוועטישן מאַרטיידער־פּאָעט איציק פֿעפֿער, נאָך דעם ווי ער האָט דערנאָך דעם חורבן אין פּוילן.

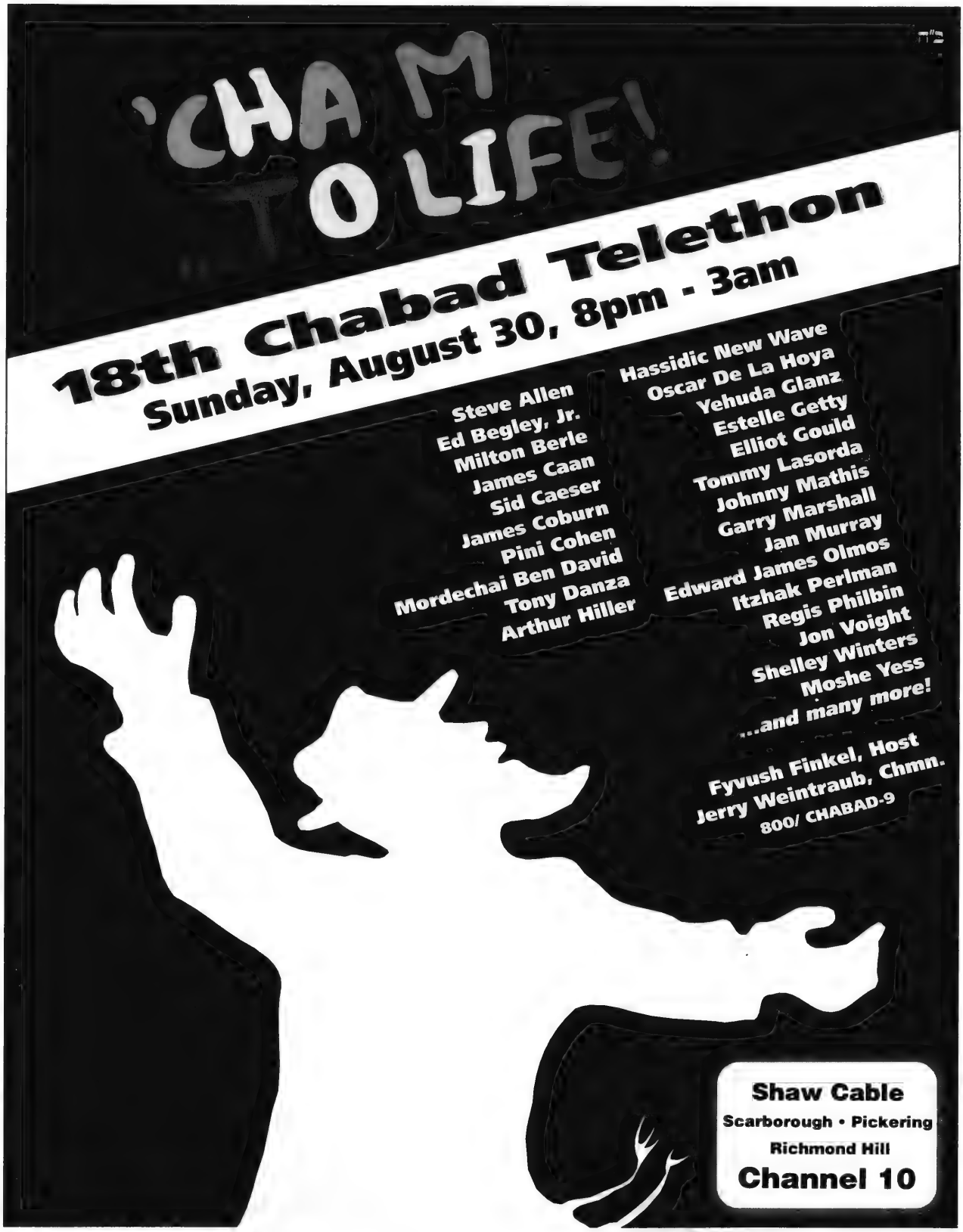
ווען דער נאַראָטאָר האָט אויסגעשריגן די ווערטער: „רבונו־של־עולם! אָט דאָ האָבן מענטשן / גלעזבט און גיבאָרגעט, גע־טאָנעט און גיזונגען!... / דאָ האָבן זיך קינדער צו מאָמעס גע־טוליעט, / דאָ האָט מען אויף חתונות אויף גרויסע געהויליעט... זייַנען פֿאַר מיר, און איך גליבּ פֿאַר די אַלע על־פּי־כּן גערעטעוועט פון חורבן, וואָס האָבן דעמאָלט אַנגעפּילט דעם זאָל, אויפגע־שוויסען בילדער פון דער אַלטער היים, וואָס מיר האָבן ערשט נישט לאַנג צוריק פֿאַרלאָזט. מענטשן און ערטער האָבן ווי דורך כישוף אויפגעלעבט אויף ביַטע. יעדער פון אונדז האָט אַבער גע־וואוסט, אז די דאָזיקע וועלט איז נישטאָ מער. געבליבן זייַנען בלויז שאָכנס, זעקס מיליאָן שאָכנס, וועלכע „. . . בלאָנקען ווי שני־טער, / ווי שניטער פֿאַרשניטן אין גרויסן געוויטער". אָן אויבער דעם אַלעם, אויבער דער פֿאַרוויסטונג, אויבער די גוואַלדן פון די אומשולדיקע קרבנות, אויבער דעם הילכיקן געלעכטער פון נאַצי־מערדער, האָט אָרויסגעשריגן די מעכטיקע קשיא, דער מיט בלוט באַצייכנטער פּראָטעסט־געשרייַ צו דער וועלט: „מה נשתנה?" פֿאַר וואָס זייַנען מיר יידן אַנדערש פון אַלע פעלקער? . . .

איך בין דעמאָלט געווען א סך נענטער צום רעאַל מצב פון ייִדישן פֿאָלק נאָכן חורבן. מיטן גאַנג פון יאָרן ווערט דער זכרון א ביסל אָפּגעשוואַכט, די עמאָציעס א ביסל קעלטער און דער געפיל פון נקמה אויסגעוועפט. אָבער דאָס ייִדישע פֿאָלק טאָר נישט פֿאַר־געסן, וויל „געבענטשט זיינען די, וואָס געדענקען די קבֿרים, / וואו ס'ליגט אונדזער פֿאָלק, אונדזער גרויס, אונדזער אַרעמס".

איך אַלגעמיין האָט דער כאָר זיך אויסגעצייכנט מיט זייער האַרמאָניש זינגען. סיי איך די לידער לזכרון פֿאַל ראָבסאָן, סיי איך די לידער לכבוד מדינת ישראל און סיי איך „די נייַע הגדה", האָט מען געפילט, אז דער גאַנצער אַנסאַמבל האָט אויסגעבּרענגט די געהעריקע אַטמאָספערע און דעם געהעריקן מחיקאַלישן קלאַנג. עס איז געווען א פֿאַרגעניגן צו הערן דעם שיינעם ייִדיש פון נאַראָטאָר בּען שפּק, א ייִדיש וואָס ער האָט זיכער איבערגעגעמען פון זיין פּאָטער סאל שפּק ע"ה, מיינער א גוטער פרייַנד.

איך מוז דאָ אויסהייבן איין הויך־פונקט איך קאָנצערט, וואָס האָט מיך שטאַרק באַאיינדרוקט. דאָס איז געווען דאָס לידּ: „א דין־תורה מיט גאָט". די מחיק אַראָמשידזע און דער סאָליסט מאַראָ מאָקסוסאָוו זייַנען געווען וואונדערבאַר. איך האָב שוין געהאַט די געלעגנהייט צו הערן דאָס לידּ פיל מאָל פון אַזעלכע זינגערס, וויי דזשאַן פּירס, סיראָר בעלאַרסקי, און אפילו פון פֿאל ראָבסאָן, אָבער דאָס איז געווען דאָס בעסטע.

ס'איז אַן ספק, אז דער טאָראָנטער ייִדישער פֿאָלקס כאָר איז איינע פון די וויכטיקסטע אינסטיטוציעס בּיי אונדז אין שטאָט. ער דאַרף אונטערשטיצט ווערן פון יעדן איינעם, וואָס האָט ליב ייִדישע מחיקע און כאָר געזאַנג.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MISSION PREPARES FOR HISTORIC CAMPAIGN

Seeing is believing according to participants in UJA Federation's recent mission to Moscow and Israel.

The group, which included 30 key UJA Federation volunteers, all of whom will be fundraising for the upcoming Campaign for Fifty, spent eight emotionally charged days witnessing first hand how UJA Federation dollars change Jewish lives.

"This mission will make us better campaigners," predicted UJA Federation Women's Campaign Chair Judy Engel, who led the journey with Campaign for Fifty Vice-Chair Dr. Howard Price. "We're seeing first hand how tzedakah maintains dignity and now we must take this message back home to our donors."

The Campaign for Fifty's objective is to raise $50 million annually by 2001 - $13.5 million more than last year. The additional dollars will be allocated to specific projects that strengthen Jewish identity, assist the vulnerable and further the rescue of Jews in danger.

In Moscow, mission participants visited Jewish Agency operated summer camps where thousands of children are being exposed to their Jewish heritage for the first time. Many of them will make aliyah without their parents. "It was very emotional and heartwarming to be right there as young children and teenagers discover their Jewish identity," said Marlene Levinsky, who came on the mission with her husband.

Mission members also came face to face with Russia's aging Jewish population. Two elderly sisters, one a former engineer and one a former economist, welcomed the group into their modest one bedroom apartment and began conversing with Dr. Anna Day in Yiddish. "They were living in complete and utter poverty," explained Day. "They were so appreciative of our visit and the help they get from the Jewish Agency, yet we were the ones who felt honoured to meet them."

"What hit me the most was the fact that our support gave these people, no matter how young or old, the freedom of choice to stay in Russia or immigrate to Israel," noted Karen Perlmutter.

From despair to hope, was how one participant described the journey from Moscow to Israel, where the group visited UJA Federation funded projects such as a therapeutic riding centre in Eilat, a volunteer network of home care support services, and a battered women's shelter.

The experience was particularly moving for Israeli-born Miri Schneiderman, who experienced aspects of her homeland she never knew existed. "It was one of the best times of my life," said Schneiderman. "There wasn't one day that wasn't special.

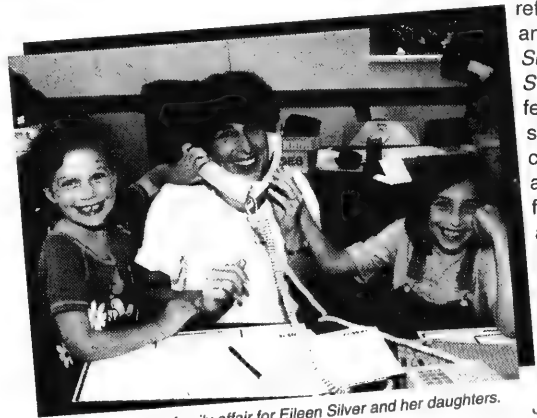
UJA Federation campaigners on their mission to Moscow and Israel, prepare for an historic fundraising drive.
Photography by Paula Feig

Super Sunday. It's for the Family

Feel like taking the family for a Sunday drive minus all the traffic, smog and squeegee kids? Join hundreds of other fundraising drive participants at UJA Federation's annual *Super Sunday*, September 13 and help raise millions of dollars for Jews in need.

Super Sunday is the largest one day telethon blitz of the UJA Federation annual campaign. Last year, *Super Sunday* volunteers raised more than $2 million, before collecting an additional $300,000 during Super Week telethons.

This year, in addition to refreshments and prizes, *Super Sunday* will feature fully supervised children's activities from 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.- many taking place in the Albert J. Latner Jewish Public Library in the Lipa Green Building.



Super Sunday is a family affair for Eileen Silver and her daughters.

"We want people to bring out their entire family," says Maura Cooperberg, who is chairing *Super Sunday* with UJA Federation's Immediate Past Campaign Chairman Leo Goldhar. "I can't think of a better way for parents and children to work together on behalf of Jews who desperately need our assistance". Cooperberg says she hopes *Super Sunday* will become just as much a family event as UJA Federation's popular Walk for Israel, with which she has been heavily involved for many years.

Super Sunday telethon shifts begin at 9:00 a.m. and continue to 9:00 p.m. Volunteers are also needed for Super Week (September 14 - 17) both during day and evening shifts. To sign up or to find out more information, call (416) 635-2883 ext. 115.

Community Matters, a supplement of the Canadian Jewish News, is sponsored and produced by UJA Federation. Website: www.feduja.org

Community Matters

Toronto Welcomes New Shaliach

It hasn't taken long for Eli Ophir, UJA Federation's special emissary from Israel, to feel right at home in Toronto's Jewish community after arriving only a few weeks ago. But considering his genuinely optimistic outlook on Jewish peoplehood and life in general, this isn't surprising. After all, the 49 year old Israeli Army veteran turned financial consultant, makes no distinction between his native countrymen and Jews living all around the world. They're all family to him.

Eli Ophir

Ophir, who will spend the next three years assisting UJA Federation and building bridges between Israel and the Diaspora, believes wholeheartedly that the long-term survival of the Jewish people depends on the existence of Diaspora Jewry-Jews, living outside Israel's borders. "If all Jews made Israel their home, look how easy it would be for our enemies to destroy our entire people.

But it's not fear of Israel's foreign foes that weighs heavily on Ophir these days. This father of four is more concerned about threats of another kind.

"Assimilation and a lack of basic Jewish education," declares Ophir, are what worry me the most. That's why UJA Federation's work in strengthening identity is so important," says Ophir. "My role is to let people know why they should give their support."

"I'm here to help bring Israelis and members of Toronto's Jewish community a little closer by meeting face to face with as many people as possible, explains Ophir. Perhaps that's why he didn't wait very long before starting his ambassadorial work. Ophir was so eager to get to know what he now considers his new extended family, that he insisted on joining a group of 30 UJA Federation campaigners and community leaders on their recent mission to Moscow and Israel.

"It was a great bonding experience, reports Ophir. "I look forward to connecting with many other UJA Federation supporters."

Mission Moves Campaigners

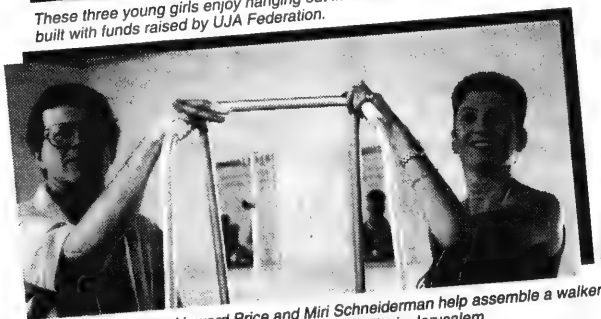
It was an intense nine days for participants on UJA Federation's Worker's Mission to Moscow and Israel. Emotions ran high as 30 members of Toronto's Jewish community, led by Judy Engel and Dr. Howard Price, came face to face with an aging and impoverished Russian Jewish community on one hand, and the hope shared by thousands of olim beginning new lives in Israel, on the other. Then there were the children.The following photos, taken by Paula Feig, capture highlights of the emotional journey.

UJA Federation Women's Campaign Chair Judy Engel was joined by her daughter Tina for part of the mission.

This elderly man is one of thousands of impoverished Jews in the former Soviet Union, aided by UJA Federation.

Photo by Leah Price

These three young girls enjoy hanging out in the community centre in Eilat, built with funds raised by UJA Federation.



Mission co-chair Dr. Howard Price and Miri Schneiderman help assemble a walker at the Yad Sarah homecare support services facility in Jerusalem.

West Bank resident Bob Lang (left) and Palestinian representative Yousuf Najajreh share their views on Peace over-looking Har Choma in Jerusalem.

***Community Matters**, a supplement of the Canadian Jewish News, is sponsored and produced by UJA Federation. Website: www.feduja.org*

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What's New

By Miriam Herman

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DEADLINE REMINDER

What's New and About People deadlines: Monday, Aug. 31, is deadline for Sept. 10 issue, and Tuesday, Sept. 8, is deadline for Sept. 17. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 391-1836, fax 391-0829.

Thursday, Aug. 27

SUMMER PATIO PARTY

TNO (Thursday Night Out) patio party for singles 30-45, 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. at Summit House Grill, 40 Eglinton Ave. E. $5 donation at door to Jewish Family & Child Services. Finger foods, prizes, cash bar. **Jordana** 927-9818.

Wednesday, Sept. 2

A TIME FOR RENEWAL

The 21st Century, A Time for Renewal is the theme of the Wagman Centre general meeting, 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Keynote speaker **Sarah Jane Growe,** grandparenting columnist, the *Toronto Star*. Members $8, non-members $12. Tickets at Service Desk.

ROMANIAN BB LODGE

Romanian speaking Dr. Filderman Lodge B'nai Brith meeting with **Herman Manu** speaking on Canadian Jewish Writer A.M. Klein: His Times, 6:30 p.m., B'nai Brith Building, 15 Hove St. **Felicia** 631-0634.

Thursday, Sept. 3

FOREST HILL PLACE

Forest Hill Place, 645 Castlefield Ave., features a performance by Creative Living Choir, 2 p.m. Reserve. **Marlene** or **Susan** 785-1511.

And What Else Is New

SHABBATON FOR DEAF

Toronto Jewish Association of the Deaf (TJAD) hosts its first Shabbaton Aug. 28-30 at Scarborough Howard Johnson Hotel. Deaf American rabbis **Chaim Tzvi Kakon** and **David Rabinowitz** will lead the weekend. Deaf, hard of hearing and hearing people are welcome. **Jack Osten** 756-9951 (TTY) or 785-7949 (voice).

KADIMA CENTRE

The Kadima Centre at Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue is a social, recreational centre for developmentally disabled adults, 18 years old and over. September to June – Supper Club Tuesdays 4:30-6:30 p.m.; Sunday programs usually 2-4 p.m.; trips, arts and crafts, sports, glee club, drama workshops, dances, bowling, guest speakers, discussion groups, Jewish holidays.

Welcome Back dance, registration and open house, Sunday, Sept. 27, 2-4 p.m. **Suzanne** 635-6800.

VOLUNTEERS FOR ISRAEL

Leaving Oct. 19 for Israel are 15 volunteers to spend 18 days on an Israeli Army supply or maintenance base doing manual work. Pay airfare and $100 registration. Accommodation on the base, kosher meals, work clothes, some touring provided. 18 or over? Go any time or join this group. 781-6089.

ORAYNU

Oraynu Community for Secular Humanistic Judaism (formerly Secular Jewish Association) 385-3910.

Children's School classes begin Sept. 13. Jewish history, culture and traditions. Register.

High Holy Day tickets available. Reserve.

JEWISH ART STUDIO

Jewish Art Studio in Forest Hill, for children 4-9 years, offers Jewish themes and educational programs, professional artists, multi-media art, cooking, drama, music, stories, 9:30 a.m. to noon Sundays Sept. 13, 20, 27, Oct. 4, 11 at Temmy Latner Centre, 446 Spadina Rd. Suite 203. First session focuses on High Holy Days. **Susan Eklove,** Ohr Somayach, 905-886-5730.

JEWISH FOLK CHOIR

Toronto Jewish Folk Choir invites singers in all voice ranges. Rehearsals, Wednesdays 7:30 p.m., begin Sept. 9 with a welcoming

[Cont'd. on page 27]

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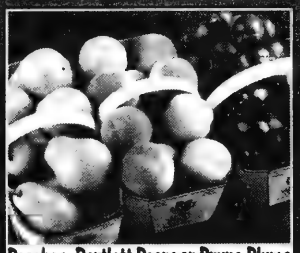
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Chicken Breasts
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Valu Club Pack, 7.35 kg
333 lb.

Kellogg's Cereals
Frosted Flakes, Rice Krispies, Corn Pops or Special "K" Fibre, 375 - 700 g box
299

Chick Pea Salad
From The Kosher Kitchen
.59 /100 g
269 lb.

Jumbo Cantaloupes
Product of Ontario
Canada No. 1
199 ea.

Bolgna or Chicken Loaf
Peri's, Sliced
175 g pkg.
179

Dunkaroos
Assorted Varieties
170 g box
269

Apple Pie
From The Bakery
600 g
249

Single Rye Bread
From the Bakery
425 g
.99

WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO LIMIT QUANTITIES. PRICES IN EFFECT SUNDAY, AUGUST 23 UNTIL SATURDAY, AUGUST 29, 1998.

What's New

[Cont'd. from page 26]

evening at Winchevsky Centre, 585 Cranbrooke Ave. Some musical training desirable. Hear performance plans for 1998-98. Choir sings at Israel Pavilion at the CNE Tuesday, Sept. 1, 7:45 p.m.at Israel at 50 celebrations. **Sophie** 444-2332 or **Ben/Jean** 489-7681.

LEARNER'S SERVICE

Ohr Somayach's "New Beginyan," Saturday mornings Learner's Service for people with little background, 10 a.m., 613 Clark Ave. W. 905-886-5730.

HEBREW CLASSES

Keren Hatarbut Institute of Hebrew Studies, 788 Marlee Ave., fall courses for adults, teenagers and preteens in conversational Hebrew for beginners, intermediate and advanced students: Wednesday mornings Sept. 16-Dec. 16; Thursday mornings Sept. 17-Dec. 17 ; Thursday evenings Sept. 17-Dec. 17; Friday mornings Sept. 18-Dec. 18. Register. **Joseph Klinger** 787-0197.

BOWLING LEAGUES

Maven Bowling League of singles and couples, male and female, 30s and 40s, is looking for new members. Season starts Thursday, Sept. 10, 7 p.m. Pre-season barbecue, Saturday, Aug. 29, 6:30 p.m. **Ron Caine** 481-4211 days, 905-889-8333 evenings and weekends.

Mixed Bowling League, Mondays 6:30 p.m., Play Time Bowl. All ages. **Sarah** 661-8266 or **Harry** 905-737-3860 after 6 p.m.

JERRY-AT-TRICK REVUE

Mel Lastman Variety Players *Jerry-At-Trick Revue* at Fairview Library Theatre Sept. 2, 3, 9, 10, 12, 13. Choreographer **Betty Arlin**. Enquiries/tickets 905-881-8011 or 665-3934.

BROADWAY TO KLEZMER

Broadway to Klezmer 2 and More concert, pianist/musical director **Paul Mathew** conducting, nine-piece band, singers, comedian, dancer, violinist, Sunday, Sept. 6, 1 and 7 p.m., Leah Posluns Theatre. For tickets 635-0720 or 781-6101.

KENTON TINY TOTS

Kenton Tiny Tots recreational co-op program for ages 2½-4 years, five mornings a week. Weekly themes, Jewish holidays, arts and crafts, stories, outdoor play, music, drama, ABC recognition, special events, kosher snacks. $1,600 for school year. Sponsored by City of Toronto Parks and Recreation. **Randi** 398-6055 or **Ann** 630-6324.

SINGLES SCENE

Singles events 25-36 and 36-55. Under the auspices of Beth Emeth bais Yehuda Synagogue. **Rhonda** 905-731-9441.

Meeting, 36-55 group Monday, Aug. 31, 8 p.m. at Beth Emeth; Pre-New Year discussion Sept. 9; Rattlesnake Point hike, apple picking; Shabbat service, luncheon, speaker Oct. 24; Trivia night; *Les Miz*.

JF&CS GROUPS

Jewish Family & Child Service groups: **Pat Lieberman** 638-7800, ext. 215.

The Challenge of Anger: For Women, daytime, evening groups, begin Oct. 22 and 27; Bereavement Groups (For Younger Persons) begin Sept. 3; Parenting the School Age Child, begins October; Looking Ahead, for separated and divorced people, begins Sept. 9.

FOR SENIORS

Bathurst Jewish Centre programs:

Habima Players performing drama group openings for senior males and females. Will train. Rehearsals Mondays 1-3 p.m. **Minnabelle** 633-5136.

Chai dancers, performing dance group 55+ openings for dancers. Some dance experience necessary. Rehearsals Mondays and Wednesdays 1:30-3:30 p.m. **Teme Kernerman** 636-1880, ext. 364.

Shalom Singers senior adult performing choir openings for all voices, particularly tenor and bass. Rehearsals Thursdays 10-11:30 a.m. **Dolly** 636-9468.

Association of Jewish Seniors general meeting Thursday, Aug. 27, 9:30 a.m. Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue. Topic, Medic Alert. Everyone welcome. **Goldie** 635-2860.

Bowlers wanted for Sunday mixed seniors five-pin league. **Ben** 633-2428.

LZA Seniors Club registration for Miami trip 1999, four, six and eight weeks. **Libby** 782-2059 or **Shelagh** 250-1234. Ladies folkdancing Thursdays 1:30 p.m. and Cultural Discussion Group Tuesdays 10 a.m. at Borochov Centre, 272 Codsell Ave. Centre open for socializing Monday to Friday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: Aug. 30, annual barbecue party; Sept. 9, Casino Niagara; Sept. 14, Town Hall Square; Oct. 15 and 28, Casino Rama; Nov. 22-25, Atlantic City Trump Plaza Hotel, $449 Canadian. 395-7881.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). Aug. 27 is a lecture by **Lisa Armoni**, director, Institute of International Affairs, B'nai Brith. **Jerry Bengall** 905-707-7334 or **Dalia Dahary** 661-4689.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club: Oct. 27, *Man of La Mancha* at Stratford; in the planning, a trip to Israel in November, orientation and information meeting Monday, Aug. 31, 1 p.m. **Lena** 785-5773. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel. **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1536.

SINGLES EVENTS CAN BE FOUND ON PAGE 28

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. 225-2112.

Does Intermarriage Work? with **Max Goody**, Tuesday, Sept. 1, 10 a.m. **Bookie Kwart**.

Good Vision, Tuesday Sept. 1, 12:15 p.m. when **Uzi Grunvald** of Lenscrafters will adjust your glasses free of charge.

Low Vision Support Group meets Tuesday, Sept. 1, 1:15-2:30 p.m. **Linda Hunter**, Ministry of Health, provides an Update on the Assistive Devices Program, Ministry of Health – Have All Your Questions Answered.

On Thursday, Sept. 3, a speaker from the Lung Association presents Tips on How to Make the Flu Bug Fly and How to Make the Common Cold Less Common, 1:15-2:15 p.m.

Israeli Club Etrog meets 7 p.m. Tuesdays for movies, sing-alongs, lectures, bingo, dances. Sept. 1 is a movie. **Anna**.

Movie, *The Joy Luck Club* , Sunday, Aug. 30, 2:30 p.m.

Everything You Want to Know About the Jewish Holidays But are Afraid to Ask – six sessions with Jewish Studies teacher **Penina Steiner**, Thursdays 1 a.m. to noon, Sept. 3 and 10 (Rosh Hashanah); Sept. 17 and 24 (Yom Kippur); Oct. 1 (Sukkot); Oct. 6 (Shemini Atzeret and Simchat Torah).

BLOOR JCC

Bloor Jewish Community Centre, 750 Spadina Ave. 924-6211.

Registration for fall programs begins Sunday, Aug. 30. Find out about the variety of programs during Open House Week beginning Sept. 13.

Programs for children, teens, adults, senior adults to help you Get in Shape, Stay Fit, Exercise Your Mind and have fun.

SPIRITUAL PARENTS

Na'amat Canada-Toronto proclaimed honorees Louise and Murray Cornblum as Spiritual Parents of the Year at its recent Growing Up With Na'amat and Israel's 50th Anniversary Celebration dinner. From left are Sue Holtzman, Growing-Up With Na'amat chair; Murray and Louise Cornblum; Erika Bloom, national president, Na'amat Canada; and Paula Scipper, president, Na'amat Toronto.

[Mollie Rothman photo].

PRESENTATION TO IDF

The students of Bialik Hebrew Day School are shown presenting a cheque to Col. Shuka Harel of the IDF. Harel was in Toronto representing the IDF at the Association for Soldiers of Israel annual dinner. The money was raised through the Shai Lachayalim (Gift to the Soldier) project as part of the school curriculum for Yom Ha'atzmaut.

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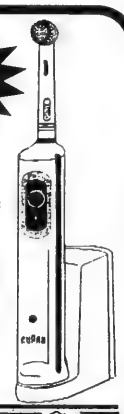

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On Campus

Orthodox students lose bid for housing exemption

By JOHN WOODS
Connecticut Jewish Ledger

WEST HARTFORD, Conn. — A group of Orthodox Jewish students has lost its legal bid to be exempted from Yale University's housing policy.

A U.S. district court judge in Hartford ruled that Yale's policy, requiring some students to live in coed dormitories, does not violate federal housing and antitrust laws.

Judge Alfred Covello ruled in favor of Yale's motion to dismiss the case based on the plaintiffs' inability to prove, among other things, that the university should be held to civil rights laws normally applied to governmental agencies.

Covello made no ruling on the allegations of religious discrimination brought by the four Orthodox students. He also did not rule on whether the students' civil rights had been violated.

The students, known as the Yale Four, filed suit against the university last year, alleging that the university's on-campus living regulation conflicted with their religious beliefs. A fifth student originally involved in the suit, Rachel Wohlgelernter of Los Angeles, got married in order to escape the on-campus living requirement.

The July 31 ruling was not made public until recently.

The students announced that they would appeal the ruling to the Second Circuit Court of Appeals.

"We are extremely pleased that the court has decided this suit," said Dorothy Robinson, Yale vice-president and general counsel. "Yale College's residential requirement is premised on an educational philosophy which values bringing people of diverse backgrounds together in a vibrant community. Yale's rule does not conflict with any legal requirement."

Nathan Lewin, lead attorney for the students, said he never expected the suit to be decided in district court, and that while the ruling is a disappointment, it would be appealed.

"With all due respect to Judge Covello, the ruling is demonstrably wrong," said Lewin. "I'm disappointed, but I never expected the case to be determined by a district court judge."

The suit brought by the students – two freshmen and two sophomores – claims that dormitories which feature coed living conditions and bathrooms, as well as alleged sexual activity in the dormitories, are in violation of their Orthodox beliefs. Yale requires that in lieu of a housing fee waiver, freshmen and sophomores are required to live in university dormitories.

Appeal expected to be launched

Covello dismissed the students' allegation that Yale violated the Fair Housing Act, ruling that because Yale had offered housing to the students, they had no grounds on which to sue.

"The students could have opted to attend another university if they were not satisfied with Yale's housing policy," wrote Covello in his decision.

The judge also dismissed the claim that Yale's housing policy is in violation of the Sherman Anti-Trust Act: that Yale essentially holds a monopoly on the housing of its students and that it is illegal for the university to tie the purchase of one good or service with another – in this case, housing with education.

Covello did not consider whether Yale had violated the students' civil rights because he determined that the Yale Four lawyers had not proven that Yale is a "state actor" or an entity with sufficient links to government to be held accountable to laws concerning civil rights infractions alleged by the students.

"We believe the judge erred in not reaching the merits of the students' religious discrimination and equal protection claims," said Lewin. "He also failed to recognize that, because of Yale's long history of state sponsorship, as well as its close cooperation with, and funding by the government, civil rights law requires it to respect the constitutional rights of its students."

Lewin said that he does not expect the Appeals Court to hear any motions until at least November, with a ruling not likely until March or April of 1999. He also said that he expects the case to eventually be heard by the Supreme Court.

The family of the late
SYLVIA GORDON ז"ל
gracious secretary of Gordon's Driving School, also known as "Cookie", wish to thank the many relatives and friends for their numerous gifts & expressions of sympathy.
The family of George Gordon

We remember with love our precious
STACEY LEVITT ז"ל
on her third memorial anniversary
August 30th
The poetry of her life filled our hearts with love
Always on our minds and always in our hearts
So deeply loved and so deeply missed
The Levitt Family
Ned, Cheryl, Marni & Jacqueline

The Executive and Members
of
THE LABOUR ZIONIST ALLIANCE
mourn the loss of
HARRY WEINSTOCK ז"ל
Past Chairman of the Toronto City Committee
His devotion and hard work to the organization will be sadly missed.
We extend our sincere condolences to his wife, Adele, children, grandchildren and family.

THE L.Z.A. SENIORS CLUB
mourn the loss of
HARRY WEINSTOCK ז"ל
His devotion and hard work to the organization will be sadly missed.
We extend our sincere sympathy and condolences to the Weinstock family.
Sam Englander, *President* — Jay Lipsey, *Secretary*
Joe Isenman, Joe Erlich, *Vice-Presidents*

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Retirement Dinner
honouring
David Beck
in recognition of his distinguished and loyal service to Beth Sholom Synagogue as Shammus and Baal Korah for the past 37 years
Wednesday, September 9, 1998
Cocktails 6:30 p.m. *Dinner 7:30 p.m.*
Couvert $75 per person
RSVP - Synagogue Office - 783-6103

SINGLES EVENTS
is an advertising feature of *The Canadian Jewish News*
Deadline is Wednesday, 4pm, 8 days preceding issue date.
For rates or to place an ad, call:
Tanya at (416) 391-1836
The CJN encourages readers to direct any queries they may have on an upcoming event to the event's organizers

Check out Jewish Singles Events on the web. www.total.net/~jsreg

Come Hear the Shofar Blow at Yonge & Eglinton - The Yonge Shul is offering an exciting High Holiday program. Spend Rosh Hashana at Berlin Night Club and Yom Kippur at the Roehampton Hotel. Traditional services. Interactive classes will be offered. $75.00 (if registered before Sept. 8, 1998). **For information call 416-787-2444**

CYCLE IN THE CITY: Explore the cycling paths of the Don and Humber Rivers. Meet new & interesting people - Sunday, Aug., 30. The Adventure Network - Totally Excellent Tours: **905-707-0147**.

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Waterfront Bash @ H.M.C.S. York, 659 Lakeshore Blvd. W. Join ICRF's Young Associates **Sunday, Aug.30, 7:30 p.m.** Free B.B.Q! DJ! Dancing! Refreshments! Prizes! In & outdoor facilites & Much More!!! Tickets - **$18 advance**, $25 @ door. Tickets, call ICRF office **487-5246.**

On Campus

Toronto students get awards at Yeshiva U graduation

NEW YORK — Adrian Chemel and Tanya Jonkman of Toronto recently received faculty awards for outstanding scholarship at the Wurzweiler School of Social Work block commencement on Yeshiva University's main campus in the Washington Heights section of New York City.

Chemel earned his master's degree in social work with an emphasis on casework and community organization while working at the Baycrest Geriatric Centre counselling senior citizens with depression, and at the Hospital for Sick Children counselling patients in the burn and craniofacial unit.

Jonkman earned her master's degree in social work with an emphasis on casework while working at the Toronto Hospital as a post-surgical counsellor in the areas of neurology, neurosurgery and plastic surgery.

Wurtzweiler's block plan is unique in allowing students to earn their master's of social work as well as a certificate in Jewish communal service in three summer terms while working for social service agencies during the traditional academic year.

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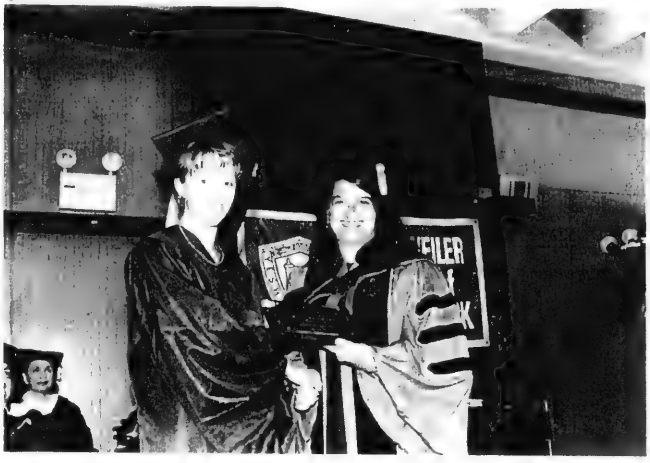

Tanya Jonkman with associate dean Adele Weiner.

Adrian Chemel with associate dean Adele Weiner.

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From coast to coast

Hamilton leader maintains Jewish roots in Jamaica

By MOURA WOLPERT
CJN Correspondent

HAMILTON — For the first time in 10 years, Dr. Anthony MacFarlane will not be going to his native Jamaica this fall to lead the Yom Kippur service.

As president of Temple Anshe Sholom, he says his place at that time is with his congregation here. But once his term is over, he'll return to Jamaica for the High Holy Days in future years.

MacFarlane's eyes shine with pride as he talks about Jamaican Jewish history, his Sephardi Spanish-Portuguese roots – he is a descendant of the Mendes da Costa family – and his Jamaican congregation.

But, he explained in a recent interview, he would never have gone back to his roots if it hadn't been for the welcome he received at Anshe Sholom when he first came to Hamilton 35 years ago.

"I will be in debt for the rest of my life to Temple Anshe Sholom," MacFarlane said. Introduced to the congregation through a chance encounter with one of its members, he found friends, learned about Judaism and converted.

As he researched his Spanish-Portuguese origins with the help of his cousin Harold Andrade of Miami, and Miriam Pereira Podriguez, archivist of the Spanish-Portuguese community in London, England, his commitment to Judaism deepened.

In the fall of 1988, Jamaica was struck by Hurricane Gilbert and anxious about the destruction, MacFarlane took the first available flight out. It happened to be Yom Kippur, and when he enquired about services, he was told Kol Nidrei would begin at 4 p.m. because there was no electricity. He was also told to bring a folding chair and an umbrella because the synagogue roof had blown off and the chairs were destroyed.

It was at that service, recalled MacFarlane, a family physician and the first Reform mohel in Canada, "that I promised myself I would return every year for the High Holy Days."

The congregation's spiritual leader, Ernest Henriques de Souza, who is not an ordained rabbi, gave him a tape so that he could learn the trop, and every year since then MacFarlane has chanted part of the Yom Kippur morning service.

Marranos of Spanish-Portuguese origin first settled in Jamaica in 1655, making it one of the oldest Jewish communities in the New World. During the 18th century, when the New York community had 300 Jews, Jamaica's Jewish community numbered 2,000.

Sephardi synagogue destroyed in 1907

Because of the islanders' mixed racial origins, a large number have Jewish roots; they are the out-of-wedlock offspring of Spanish-Portuguese Marranos. In fact, said MacFarlane, Jamaica can be considered a Jewish island "even in its values and thinking."

In 1907, Neve Shalom, the Sephardi synagogue in Spanish Town, was destroyed by an earthquake and fire, and all records were lost.

Today, Kingston's Shaarei Shalom Synagogue serves Jamaica's Jewish community. Known as the United Congregation of Israelites, it has 300 members, about 25 percent of whom live abroad. The Aron Kodesh is a copy of the ark in the famous Bevis Marks Synagogue of London. The floor is covered with sand, a tradition dating back to the Inquisition, when Marranos holding Jewish services covered the floor with sand in order to muffle the sound.

Approximately 100 to 150 people "of all shades of color, from jet black (the most recent converts) to white" attend High Holy Day services, MacFarlane said.

Services are Orthodox, although mostly in English, he said, with some Hebrew. Prayers involve responsive reading, and the only Portuguese prayer is one "for our brethren who are imprisoned by the Inquisition."

The prayer book is *The Gaster* by rabbi and scholar Moses Gaster, who was appointed chacham of the Sephardi community in England in 1887. "But because the prayer book is very expensive, we have now produced our own, *The Key to the Gaster*," MacFarlane said.

In 1921, the congregation amalgamated with the Ashkenazi community, "who gave us all their ritual objects, and we agreed to follow the Ashkenazi service in certain places," he said.

Among the five or six people assisting MacFarlane with the Yom Kippur service is Dr. Ronald Delevante, whose brother Michael lives in Mississauga.

Today, the community is making a determined effort to research its history and genealogy, MacFarlane reported. A CD-ROM listing 4,500 Jamaican Jewish names has just been compiled by Donald Lindo. De Souza is working on establishing an institute that will try to recapture the Spanish-Portuguese spirit, one which could be of interest to Jewish tourists. Also, Prof. Eli Faber, whose book, *The Jews and the Slave Trade*, will be published in September, is now writing a history of the Jews in Jamaica.

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From coast to coast

CJC cautious while BBC strongly in favor of decision

[Cont'd. from page 1]

In a statement, CJC stressed that it has been particularly active on the national unity front since 1992 and strongly supported the Calgary Declaration, proposed by the provincial premiers in the summer of 1997.

But CJC-Q did not go so far as to explicitly endorse the ruling. Neither did CJC national president Moshe Ronen, who issued a non-committal statement: "This is a complex and important matter. We will be studying [it] carefully and we urge all parties to consider its implications in a spirit of reconciliation and mutual respect."

By contrast, Robert Libman, executive director of B'nai Brith Canada's (BBC) Quebec region gave his strong, unambiguous support to the decision.

Libman, a former leader of Quebec's Equality party who himself scored a major victory earlier this year when he challenged the constitutionality of Quebec's referendum law before the same court, called the decision "a very positive development for federalism."

"It clearly sends an important message to Quebecers: Quebec cannot separate unilaterally without violating Canadian law," he said.

"The most important aspect is that it will force Quebecers to think twice before supporting something that violates the Canadian constitution."

Constitutional law experts polled by *The CJN* had mixed reactions to the ruling.

Prof. Brian Schwartz of the University of Manitoba feels the court went too far on several counts.

Schwartz feels the ruling is too generous in its attempt to accommodate nationalist sentiment in Quebec.

And he disagrees with other aspects of the decision, namely, that the rest of Canada has a legal obligation to negotiate with Quebec in the event of a referendum win, as well as with the court's view that a "clear majority" of Quebecers could decide the province's fate.

"Both are incorrect," Schwartz said flatly. "To say that there is a duty to negotiate is not appropriate. There are no competing majorities. The will of the majority of Canada does trump the majority in Quebec."

The law, he said, always "favors stability over radical change."

Schwartz also took issue with the court's ruling on whether Quebec can secede under international law. It found the province could not break away under international rules, but added that the "possibility of an unconstitutional declaration of secession leading to a de facto secession is not ruled out."

"That's totally wrong," Schwartz said. "The international community does not acknowledge secession by force or conquest." That part of the ruling "holds out a glimmer of hope to hard core nationalists. It's ill-advised."

Possible secession of Quebec

BBC's Libman said Quebec Premier Lucien Bouchard would indeed use the ruling to try and bolster sovereigntist fortunes.

"Bouchard will try. But who will it sink in with? Will it sink in with his sovereigntist rabble?

"Bouchard has done well in containing his temper. But if he tries to rile up nationalist passions too much, he will look too much like a rebel trying to overturn the rule of law in this country, and that will not sit well with Quebecers who are swing voters."

For Prof. Joseph Magnet of the University of Ottawa's law school, the ruling is "very helpful" because "it helps us realize that the sky won't fall if there's a Yes vote."

Should there be a Yes vote based on a clear question, the process "will be difficult, arduous and detailed, but it will be a process governed by the constitution," Magnet said.

However, Canadians are living with "an incompletely manufactured" constitution, said Magnet, hinting at the need for new constitutional talks.

Jews in Quebec fear "being dominated and outvoted. We need to work at ways to accommodate them" and other minorities, he said.

A press release issued by BBC on the day of the court's ruling said Quebec's Jews are "extremely concerned about the possible secession of Quebec from Canada and its implications for minority communities."

B'nai Brith, in fact, wrote a brief for the Supreme Court which appeared to mirror the court's view that under international law, a unilateral declaration of independence [UDI] could only take place if the human rights of Quebecers were being violated "in a grave manner" by the federal government.

While BBC did not not intervene in the case, its brief was referred to by Yves Jolicouer, who was appointed to present the sovereigntist position when Quebec refused to send its own counsel.

Ironically perhaps, Jolicouer, Libman said, agreed with some of the positions BBC put forward, but argued that the court should not be addressing itself to the UDI question in the first place.

Zalcman Howard said CJC did not submit a brief to the court, nor has it formulated a position on UDI in general.

"But our position on unity has always been unequivocal," she said.

As well, the Supreme Court reference, she said, "underscores the civilized manner the debate has to be approached and which we hope will prevail."

Despite the possibility of a provincial election as early as this fall, Zalcman Howard said CJC's national unity committee has not yet been "reconstituted" because its proposed budget was refused.

As a result, the committee, which was chaired by Montreal's Max Bernard, does not exist at this time and will not be reinstated until a new funding formula is agreed upon, and its mandate and programming content defined, Zalcman Howard said.

Meanwhile, she said, Bernard continues to speak on national unity issues for CJC in Quebec.

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Hebron tensions flare after rabbi murdered

By GIL SEDAN
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — The murder of a rabbi in Hebron has cast a pall over already embittered Israeli-Palestinian relations.

The Aug. 20 murder, which sparked weekend clashes in the often volatile West Bank town, prompted several Israeli ministers to call for a total suspension of already deadlocked talks with the Palestinian Authority.

The government also called on Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat to condemn the murder of Rabbi Shlomo Ra'anan.

Arafat has refused to condemn the recent murders of settlers. Some Palestinian officials have stated that while they are ready to condemn terror attacks on Israelis, settlers fall into a different category because of what the officials describe as their provocative behavior.

Israeli security experts suspected that Hamas was behind Rabbi Ra'anan's murder. They said they believed Hamas would choose more settler targets because of a consensus among Palestinians that attacks against settlers are legitimate.

Earlier this month, two settlers from Yizhar, Shlomo Liebman and Harel Bin-Nun, were killed by suspected Palestinian terrorists.

Although the Palestinian Authority refused Israel's demand to condemn the latest slaying, diplomatic sources in Jerusalem said Israel would not suspend the negotiations.

But political observers said the latest developments made it clear that there was little chance of rescuing the talks from their current stalemate.

Security measures were stepped up around West-Bank Jewish settlements in the wake of Rabbi Ra'anan's murder in Hebron's Tel Rumeida enclave.

Israel's army is reportedly planning to erect fences around 20 settlements in the wake of intelligence assessments that Hamas militants have targeted Jewish settlers. Army leaves have been cancelled and tanks were placed on alert in anticipation of further attacks on settlements.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu announced Sunday that he was authorizing the construction of permanent structures at Tel Rumeida.

A secluded Jewish neighborhood located on a hill, Tel Rumeida overlooks the centre of Hebron and its Jewish quarter.

Although the local Jewish community had purchased the land in the 19th century, it was not until 1984 that the Israeli government allowed a limited Jewish presence at the site.

Since then, the government has refrained from authorizing any expansion of the two-acre site, where seven families live in mobile homes.

The authorities had banned the construction there of any permanent housing – a policy reversed by Netanyahu's announcement.

Hours after the slaying, Israeli troops sealed off Hebron to search for the Palestinian suspected of killing Rabbi Ra'anan.

Rabbi Ra'anan's grandfather was Rabbi Avraham Yitzhak Hacohen Kook, who helped inspire the modern-day settlers movement.

According to police, the attacker climbed through a window into Rabbi Ra'anan's trailer, stabbed him several times, then threw a firebomb into the living room.

The rabbi's wife escaped through a window but suffered smoke inhalation.

Tensions ran high in Hebron after Rabbi Ra'anan's murder, with Jewish settlers and Palestinians throwing eggs and rocks at one another Sunday across the divide separating the areas controlled by Israel and the self-rule authority.

Israeli troops forced back about 25 settlers attempting to cross into the Palestinian-controlled section. The troops also clashed with Palestinians throwing rocks and gasoline bombs.

Palestinian police eventually pushed back the Arab demonstrators.

In an effort to restore calm to the city, the army reinstated a guard post in Tel Rumeida and sent in more troops.

Four wounded Palestinians, who were hospitalized in a Hebron hospital, said they had been beaten by the soldiers.

In a related development, a militant Jewish settler confronted President Ezer Weizman in Hebron with shouts that he was a spy and a "danger to the public" who needed to be" institutionalized either in prison or hospital."

Baruch Marzel, who had been a member of the now-outlawed Kach movement, had waited on a street for Weizman, who was on his way to pay a condolence call to Rabbi Ra'anan's family.

Israeli observers considered Marzel's taunts to the incitement that preceded the 1995 assassination of Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin.

Two killed by roadside bomb

By DAVID RUDGE
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM – An IDF soldier and a civilian working for the army were killed last week when a roadside bomb exploded alongside their truck just 150 metres from the Beaufort Castle outpost inside Israel's Lebanese security zone.

An IDF inquiry is concentrating on how Hezbollah gunmen managed to get so close to the position to plant the device that killed Staff Sgt. Moshe Biton, 20, of Beit She'an and Amos Halfa, 29, of Kiryat Shmona.

Their deaths also raised questions about using unprotected civilian vehicles in the security zone, such as the crane-carrying truck in which the two were travelling.

The bombing occurred around 11:30 p.m. last Thursday when an IDF convoy left the Beaufort Castle outpost to head back to Israel.

About 150 metres from the entrance to Beaufort, a large explosive device was detonated alongside the truck, apparently after other vehicles had passed.

It is believed the device was activated from a distance, possibly by Hezbollah gunmen who were observing the movement of the convoy with night-sights.

Civilians working for the army, or performing contract jobs, enter and leave the zone on a fairly regular basis. In many cases, the vehicles they use do not have armor plating or other forms of protection.

Halfa was the first Israeli civilian to be killed in the security zone in many years. He was returning home, with Biton alongside him in the truck as his military escort.

The steep winding road leading to and from the Beaufort Castle stronghold has been the scene of numerous attacks in the past, including anti-tank missile fire at convoys.

Beaufort Castle

He said attacks of this nature had occurred in the past and were unfortunately likely to happen in the future, although the IDF is constantly revising its methods to deal with the threat of roadside bombs.

But Ashkenazi said that even a chain of incidents like those last week would not disrupt the IDF.

"This is a daily war. There have been hundreds of incidents since the beginning of the year, including dozens of roadside bombs. In most of the cases, we succeeded in discovering the devices. In a few cases, however, they [Hezbollah] have succeeded."

Israeli warplanes struck at Hezbollah targets in the Jabal Soujud region last Friday morning. It was the fifth air raid on targets in Lebanon in the space of 48 hours.

Also last Friday, Halfa, the father of a three month-old daughter, was buried in Moshav Alma, near Safed, and hundreds of people, including former foreign minister David Levy, attended Biton's funeral in Beit She'an.

"It is not possible to adapt to a situation in which our soldiers are falling every day," Levy said. "The government made a decision to leave Lebanon and the IDF should be ordered to find the way to bring an end to this awful and prolonged situation. It is impossible to live with a situation in which our settlements are being harmed or our soldiers are dying in Lebanon. Another way must be found."

President Ezer Weizman told reporters last week that "a withdrawal from Lebanon is conditional on arrangements with the Syrians."

And Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said Friday that Israel will continue trying to find a safe way to leave Lebanon.

Asked in an Israel Radio interview how long the situation in Lebanon would remain as it is, Netanyahu said: "It's difficult for me to say when we will be able to leave Lebanon with suitable security arrangements but I can tell you we have not stopped our efforts and attempts – some open and some less open."

He did not elaborate on specific efforts but said, "We know there is no small interest among various elements in Lebanon concerning our proposal to leave Lebanon and of course there is a response to this in some parts of the international community. "

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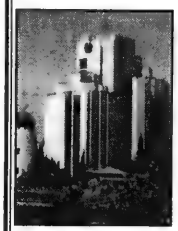

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Clinton blocks bin Laden's financial deals

By LIAT COLLINS
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — U.S. President Bill Clinton launched a new offensive against Osama bin Laden by blocking all financial transactions between U.S. companies and the renegade Saudi millionaire accused of bombing two U.S. embassies in Africa.

U.S. officials called the move a limited first step toward disrupting the wealthy militant's far-flung financial empire.

Clinton warned that retaliatory cruise missile strikes at targets in Afghanistan and Sudan, which he says are part of a guerrilla network organized by bin Laden, might not be the last strike against terrorism.

"We must not allow sanctuary for terrorism – not for terrorists or for their money," Clinton said in his weekly radio address.

In his own radio interview, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu denied Israeli involvement in the U.S. attacks in Afghanistan and Sudan.

"The Americans do not need our operative aid; they have all the necessary capability to act," Netanyahu said.

Asked about the possibility of revenge attacks, Netanyahu said, "We always have this fear, because we know the surroundings in which we live, and we always continue our intelligence monitoring and acts to thwart [attacks].

Militant declares war of revenge

"But it is true that when a government, including a government of a superpower like the United States initiates action against terror – even if in this case it is a response to a murderous act – it can expect an exchange of blows or a strike back.

"This has to be taken into account, but it can in no way prevent action or else the terrorists would always win and will always hit us, the free societies. And if we never hit back, it is a certain recipe, not for a temporary escalation of terror, but its increase to unbearable proportions."

Netanyahu spoke with Clinton, and expressed support for the U.S. action.

"Israel understands [the U.S.] fight [against terror] as its own fight against international terror," Netanyahu told Clinton, according to a press statement.

Clinton apparently thanked Netanyahu for his support and for the work of the Israeli rescue team in Kenya.

On Sunday, Clinton signed an executive order directing the U.S. Treasury to block deals between bin Laden and groups believed affiliated with him and any U.S. national or company.

Two senior U.S. officials said Clinton's order was unlikely to have an impact on bin Laden's fortune, estimated at $300 million (US), because they do not believe most of his assets are subject to U.S. jurisdiction. But they said the U.S. would ask some of its allies to take similar action.

White House spokesperson Mike McCurry said the United States now has intelligence providing further proof that all six militant training camps hit by missiles in Afghanistan sustained "moderate to severe damage."

He said Washington does not know whether any leaders of bin Laden's network were casualties,

Osama bin Laden

and that they know nothing about bin Laden's "whereabouts or his condition."

Islamic radicals speaking for bin Laden insisted that despite Clinton's assertion of "convincing" evidence of his role in the Aug.7 bombings in Nairobi and Dar es Salaam, he had nothing to do with the car-bomb attacks that killed 263 people and injured more than 5,000 others.

But they said bin Laden has declared a war of revenge for the U.S. missile strikes.

An Islamic militant close to bin Laden told Kuwait's *Al-Rai al-Aam* newspaper that the exiled dissident was not involved in the attacks against the U.S. missions.

Ayman Zawahiri, an Islamic Jihad leader wanted by the Egyptian government, told the newspaper that the only casualties from Washington's punitive missile attacks were civilians.

While U.S. allies, including Germany and Britain, leapt to the American president's support, Russian President Boris Yeltsin roundly condemned the U.S. action.

Bin Laden has long vowed to wage jihad or holy war against U.S. forces in Saudi Arabia, because of unconditional U.S. support for Israel as well as U.S. "occupation" of Islam's most sacred shrines in the Saudi cities of Mecca and Medina.

The official radio of Afghanistan's Taleban movement reported 21 people killed and 30 wounded by the U.S. attack on targets near the town of Khost. Witnesses and security sources told visiting Pakistani reporters at least 11 people had been killed and 53 wounded.

In his Israel Radio interview, Netanyahu said the principles behind the U.S. attack are also well known to Israel "and to a large extent, Israel is the one which leads the way in the fight against terror."

He said Israel understands that terrorists rely on a broad infrastructure. "It is definitely justified and acceptable that when its citizens are attacked, a government can act, not just against the terrorists themselves, but also against those who sent them and provided them the infrastructure to hurt us."

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Brace for retaliation, terrorism expert warns

By AMY KLEIN
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — The world should brace itself for more terrorist attacks in response to the U.S. strike on Afghanistan and Sudan said Boaz Ganor, the director of the Herzliya-based International Policy Institute for Counter-Terrorism (ICT), at a press conference in Jerusalem Sunday.

The U.S. missile strikes probably raised the terrorists' motivation but did not severely limit their operational abilities, Ganor said, pointing out that these two factors generally determine the likelihood of a "boomerang effect."

Countries planning an offensive counter-terrorist attack should always consider the boomerang effect, he said, but "terror organizations always try to claim any attack was in revenge for operations against them."

Despite repercussions, Ganor said, there are worthy offensive targets.

"If the American evaluation was correct [that the Shifa Pharmaceutical plant was a chemical weapons factory], these aims justify the measures taken by the United States," he said.

The U.S. attacks in Afghanistan and Sudan targeted Saudi dissident millionaire Osama bin Laden, whom the United States holds responsible for the Aug. 7 bombings of the American embassies in Kenya and Tanzania.

Israel is likely to be a target for revenge attacks, Ganor said, given that bin Laden has criticized the United States for supporting Israel.

To prevent more terrorist attacks, Ganor said, "America must make clear that they have enough intelligence and capability to escalate attacks on bin Laden's network to destroy it completely, and they must make clear to the states [that harbor terrorists] they will have to pay the price," Ganor said.

"They should also gain the support of western and eastern countries and make them understand it's an international problem," he said.

According to the ICT Web site, bin Laden is one of 53 children of Saudi construction magnate Mohammed Awad bin Laden, originally from Yemen. The family fortune is estimated at $5 billion, of which Osama bin Laden has access to $300 million.

Bin Laden moved to Afghanistan in 1979, and – aided by the Afghan government and the CIA – he trained guerrilla armies to successfully throw the Soviet Army out of Afghanistan.

After the war, many of the guerrillas, known as the Afghan Veterans went to Egypt, Algeria, and Sudan to aid Islamic extremists. Some stayed in Afghanistan. Bin Laden returned to Saudi Arabia.

After Saudi Arabia revoked his citizenship in 1994, bin Laden moved to Sudan. He was asked to leave Sudan in 1996, and moved to Afghanistan.

The Week in Israel

Aug. 17

• Palestinian security forces lifted a curfew on Jericho after announcing that the Hamas militant they were seeking, Imad Awadallah, had already fled.

Aug. 18

• Officials charged that the Palestinian Authority (PA) has imposed a virtual siege at a yeshiva established at Joseph's Tomb. The dispute began when yeshiva students sat shivah around the clock for two recently slain colleagues who attended the school. The PA claimed Israel was trying to start a settlement at the yeshiva and prevented buses from entering.

Aug. 19

• The deadlocked peace process has led to a 20 percent drop in tourism in the past three years, Israel's Hotel Association said. Tourism revenues have decreased by $400 million in that time, the group said.

Aug. 20

• Israeli and Polish officials agreed to fly the remains of Jews buried in Poland before and during the Holocaust to Israel. Jews who know the precise burial location of their relatives will have their bodies exhumed and identified before they are sent to the Jewish state.

Aug. 21

• The Health and Interior ministries declared all of Tel Aviv's and Kiryat Haim's beaches off limits to bathing after careless contractors damaged sewage pipes in both communities.

50 Years Ago

JERUSALEM, Aug. 25 — Fighting flared up in Jerusalem today when Egyptian troops in new positions near the Red Cross demilitarized enclave tried unsuccessfully to advance across "no-man's land." Jerusalem's unsettled truce was shattered during the night as three southern suburbs, Mekor Chaim, Ramat Rachel and southern Talpiot, came under heavy shell fire from the direction of Beit Safafa and the Mar Elias Monastery Hill.

Premier David Ben-Gurion said the worst battles were yet to come, since "30 million Arabs in six countries would not reconcile themselves to defeat at the hands of 750,000 Jews."

With files from the JTA and JPFS

On Wednesday, November 18, National Jewish Organizations will recognize Canada's Holocaust Survivors by honoring 50 representatives from across the country at the Parliament Buildings in Ottawa for their outstanding contribution to Canadian society.

Applications from across Canada are invited from organizations or individuals, together with a brief profile and biography. Applications should be sent to the Canadian Society for Yad Vashem before September 11, 1998. For more information, please contact (416) 785-1333, fax us at (416) 785-4536 or by mail at 970 Lawrence Avenue West, #211, Toronto, Ontario M6A 3B6.

NOMINATION FORM

Name of Survivor: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Prov. _____ Postal Code _____

Phone (day): (___) _____ Phone (evening): (___) _____

Fax: (___) _____ E-mail: _____

Attach a short description of nominee's background. Guidelines: a brief description of the nominee which may include biographical information, accomplishments and contribution to Canada.

I Agree to be a Nominee:

Signature: _____

Address: _____

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Phone (day): (___) _____ Phone (evening): (___) _____

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Nominations should be forwarded to: *By Mail:* Zachor Adjudication Committee, c/o Canadian Society for Yad Vashem, 970 Lawrence Ave. W., Ste. 211, Toronto, Ont. M6A 3B6; *By Fax:* (416) 785-4536. ***Closing Date:*** Nominations must be faxed or postmarked on or before Midnight September 11, 1998.

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Russian Jew accused of spying

By LEV KRICHEVSKY
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

MOSCOW — Rumors of a possible Israeli spy ring in Siberia appear to have been put to rest – but not before a slew of reports that one Russian Jewish leader says hearkened back to the Soviet era.

Last week, the deputy head of the Federal Security Service branch in western Siberia, Sergei Savchenkov, said a spy ring had recently been uncovered after a Jewish tank factory worker admitted that he passed on information about a new Russian battle tank to an Israeli agency that has offices in the former Soviet Union.

According to the security sources, Alexander Sakov, 46, a well-known Jewish activist and head of the technical bureau at the Transmach tank manufacturing company, allegedly "had free access to the construction secrets" of the tank and transmitted them to the Nativ agency.

Nativ, a unit of the Israeli prime minister's office, used to collect clandestine information on political and economic organizations in Russia. Now it only officially gathers information available through open sources.

Both Sakov and the Nativ agency denied the charges.

Sakov said in a telephone interview from his home in Omsk that since 1993, he has been providing monthly reports on anti-Semitism and the state of the Jewish community in Siberia to the Israeli Embassy in Moscow – a job for which he was paid $60 to $120 a month.

Mikhail Chlenov, president of the Russian Va'ad, the oldest Jewish umbrella organization in the country, said the charges brought against Sakov were part of a new campaign launched by the Federal Security Service that could be aimed at discrediting local Jewish leadership as informers and agents of the Israeli secret service.

Court rejects unilateral secession

[Cont'd. from pg. 1]

judgment is very different from the pundits' Canadianized version of it – that if there are two sides to the question (or in this instance to three questions) the truth must automatically lie in the middle.

For the new political reality – and the prevailing constitutional law that underpins it – is that Quebec can no longer claim that it has a right to unilaterally secede under Canadian constitutional law, or that, at least, the present Canadian Constitution does not prohibit it. On the contrary, as the Supreme Court unanimously affirmed, the law of the Constitution, which binds Quebec no less than it binds everyone else, (putting to rest, as a matter of law, the shibboleth that the Constitution does not apply to Quebec or that you can choose which parts of the Constitution apply to you), expressly prohibits any unilateral secession, in any form. This unilateral secessionist option – clearly contemplated, for example, by the Parti Québécois in the event of a victory in the 1995 referendum – is as illegitimate as it is unconstitutional.

Similarly, Quebec can no longer claim, as it has continued to argue, that it has a right to secede under international law.

For, as the Supreme Court concluded on this point, this right is open only to a "people" that is in a "colonial" or "oppressed" state, or one whose "internal self-determination" is being so fundamentally denied that its only option is to claim it "externally." That situation, said the court, is not the Quebec reality.

The message, then, from the international legal perspective, is unequivocal. Quebec has no right to secede under international law; no such declaration of independent statehood can be regarded as self-executory, nor can any international recognition confer retroactive legitimacy upon it.

Admittedly, the court did not preclude the option of secession or even the possibility of its ultimate legitimation. But such an option – and its legitimation – must comply with a series and sequence of demanding prerequisites, both procedural and substantive.

First, and from a procedural point of view, the separatist option can only be considered if it has initially been approved in a referendum in which both the question is clear and the majority approving it is clear. In a word, as the Supreme Court repeatedly and unequivocally declared – and unlike the spin put upon the court's clear characterization of this procedural requirement – it must be "a clear question to pursue secession," so that any question which obfuscates the secessionist option or couples it with continued association with Canada is illegal and illegitimate.

Commentary

Second, there must be a "clear majority" for secession, or as the court put it, "a clear expression of a clear majority of Quebecers that they no longer wish to remain in Canada", so that a "50 plus one" numerical formula that does not clearly connote a majority preference for secession from – and, in the court's words, the "clear repudiation" of – Canada, does not constitute the "qualitative evaluation" threshold required by the court.

The court's conclusion on this point could not be more clear: "The referendum result, if it is to be taken as an expression of the democratic will, must be free of ambiguity, both in terms of the question asked and in terms of the support it achieves."

Moreover, what is at issue here is not only the legality of this first set of "procedural" requirements; rather, if the secessionist option is to be ultimately legitimated, it can only be secured through a negotiated agreement anchored in four substantive and fundamental principles whose scope and significance are clearly set out in the judgment, and which include: the federalist principle, the "lodestar" of the constitutional system; democracy, "which would include not only the clear majority of the population of Quebec" but "the clear majority of Canada as a whole;" constitutionalism and the rule of law, including "the principle that a Constitution is entrenched beyond the reach of simple majority rule;" and the protection of minority rights as "an independent constitutional value," let alone the "non-derogable" protection of aboriginal rights. In a word, as the court concluded on this point, "any attempt to effect the secession of a province from Canada must be undertaken pursuant to the Constitution of Canada, or else violate the Canadian legal order."

The judgment was, indeed, a "Solomonic" one. But if "Solomonic" is to adhere to its original understanding in biblical terms (which awarded the baby in dispute to its biological mother) and not to the pundits' revisionist reading of it in contemporary terms (which envisages two babies or the dismemberment of the baby), the Supreme Court's "Solomonic" determination could not be more manifest.

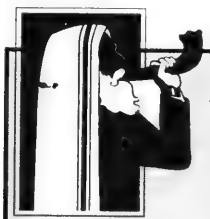
No province has a right, under either Canadian or international law, to unilaterally secede from the Canadian "baby." Any initial secessionist quest necessarily presupposes a clear majority vote on a clear question in favour of secession; and even if this demanding procedural threshold be reached, it would be without any legal effect in the absence of a negotiated agreement anchored in the fundamental principles of the Canadian Constitution.

The secessionist outcome could only be reached, if it is reachable at all, with great difficulty, while all that we now have – constitutionally, politically, economically, socially – is at great risk.

For if "the threads of a thousand acts of accommodation are the fabric of a nation, it would take a thousand cuts to dismember it."

In a word, secession would effectuate the dismemberment of the Canadian "baby," and that would be anything but "Solomonic."

Irwin Cotler is a professor of law at McGill University.



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The contest closes at 3 p.m. on Friday, Aug. 28, 1998.

The judges will choose three photographs which, in their opinion, are the most expressive and evocative. These three photos will be published in *The CJN* Rosh Hashanah issue, Sept. 17, 1998. Each of the "winning" photographers will receive a cheque for $100.

We will undoubtedly receive many worthy submissions. But only three will be selected as the "winners." The decisions of the judges will be final. The odds of winning depend upon the number and the quality of submissions received.

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One of the most important topics covered with every student is study skills. To be a successful student it is extremely important to be able to organize work properly and to utilize time efficiently. This is just as true for the grade one student as it is for the high school student.

"We believe that self esteem is the key to any successful student, and our programs provide the opportunity for students to improve academically and to feel confident and positive about their education," says Les Rothschild, Director of Grade Expectations.

GRADE EXPECTATIONS
LEARNING CENTRES

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A partner in your child's education

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Dance, for body and soul

Studying dance can be fun as well as educational. It improves coordination, muscular development, posture and fitness. It teaches discipline and concentration, which can help you achieve your goals.

Creating beauty with your own body enhances confidence and poise; it improves music appreciation and the sense of artistic expression.

If this appeals to you or your child, call the Conservatory of Dance and Music. Here, students are encouraged to give their best. Their enjoyment, says principal Cynthia Fisher, is the driving force in developing their full potential.

Recently, the Conservatory has expanded and hired new instructors. It teaches ballet, modern, musical theatre, Irish, flamenco and jazz dancing, and Pilates Body Conditioning. There are guest workshops too; in September, a guest artist will come from Alvin Ailey Dance Theatre. Students are aged 3 to adult, with 15 per class maximum.

Cynthia is one of only 7 examiners for the Royal Academy of Dancing. Many staff are professional dancers and choreographers; many former students now work as dancers, or study in schools like Royal Winnipeg Ballet Dance School.

The Conservatory's newest location is in the Pickle Barrel Plaza. For more information, call (416) 590-9507.

The Conservatory of Dance and Music

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Move, **SOAR**, float, Swirl, turn, **LEAP**, jump, **FLY**. Raw energy tamed. Technique refined and sharpened to a fine pointe. The body speaks. The soul soars. **PROPELLED** by the beat. **DRIVEN** by the rhythm. shaped by the melody. **SPEED. POWER. GRACE.**

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Admissions: (416) 484-6533 #245

Little Shoe Palace has grown with you

Since opening in 1979, Little Shoe Palace has built a loyal clientele. Proprietor Joe Marmorstein says customers who once came in as kids now bring their own children.

Little Shoe Palace carries footwear for ages from toddlers to 'teens; this includes adult 10's for fast-growing boys and girls. Sizes include width variations and half sizes.

With a few thousand pairs in stock, you're sure to find what suits your son or daughter for sports, school or social events."We make sure we have enough inventory to satisfy every customer," says Marmorstein.

Little Shoe Palace specializes in custom fitting and full service. Every foot is measured; and every kid receives individual attention. And yet, there's a 15- 20% discount off what you'd pay elsewhere.

And what a selection! Athletic lines include Nike, Reebok and Adidas; and you'll find Stride-Rite, Maniqui-Moda, Minibel, Superfit and Buster Brown, as well as Sorel boots. And no other Ontario store carries the Italian Dinella line.

So bring your kids to Little Shoe Palace: 3189 Bathurst St., 2 lights N. of Lawrence, 785-5290; or 67 Doncaster Ave. N. of Steeles, E. off Yonge, 905-731-8520. Hours are Sun.10-5, Mon.-Wed. 10-6, Thurs. 10-7:30, Fri. 10-6 (summer only); closed Saturdays.

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HOURS: Mon.-Wed. 10-6; Thurs. 10-7:30; Fri. 10-5; Sun. 10- 5; CLOSED SAT.

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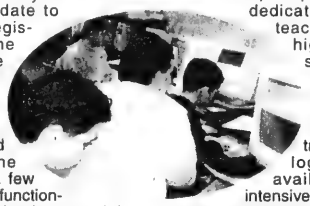
The Merle L. Levine Academy Inc., "the school with a heart," is co-ed and is inspected by the Ministry of Education. The Academy remains resolute in its mandate to provide students registered in grades one through OAC with the academic and/or social skills they require to become independent learners and well-integrated members of the community. In just a few years, most students functioning below their academic potential because of learning and/or attentional difficulties, can be returned to a regular public or private school to continue their education within the mainstream.



Under the ongoing direction of Principal/Director Merle Langbord Levine, B.A., M.Ed., and Vice Principal Yuwattee Persaud, B.A., B.Ed., M.A., a caring, dedicated and well-trained teaching staff develop a highly individual, student friendly educational plan for each student. Each plan embodies the best elements of both the traditional and technological pedagogies available to provide intensive remedial teaching in the core subjects, combined with the teaching of strategies for the transference and integration of these skills into the content subjects. Registration is now being accepted.

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The best of gymnastics, dance and music

Ritmika Rhythmic Gymnastics Club founded 18 years ago has been promoting and teaching this Olympic sport that combines the athletic grace of gymnastics with elegance of dance, and uses hand-held apparatus, such as ribbons, hoops, balls, clubs and ropes to create fluid, beautiful movements. It helps girls' overall development because it combines the best of gymnastics, dance and music.

Ritmika students range from as young as 4 years old to women of any age. Class levels vary from beginner developmental to performing elite to competitive training. The club boasts one of the strongest competitive teams in the country and has groomed several national individual and group champions.

Ritmika is well known for its highly qualified and internationally renowned coaches who come from European countries such as Russia, Bulgaria, and Estonia, where Rhythmic Gynastics has a long history. It's a wonderful sport which caters to all ages and abilities of women.

It's good for you. It's different from any other sport. It's challenging and it's a lot of fun. Ritmika Club can be found in 20 locations in Toronto and surrounding areas with its main facilities in North York. For more information call **(416) 747-7868** or **(905) 731-3381**.

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Rhythmic Gymnastics Club
Established 1980

Rhythmic Gymnastics for tots, children, teens and adults in recreational and competitive levels.

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BACK TO SCHOOL

Advertising Feature

Super Sundays at Cookstown Manufacturer's Outlet Mall

Back-to-school shopping has never been better at Cookstown Manufacturer's Outlet Mall. For convenience, shopping hours have been extended until 8 p.m on Sunday, August 30 and Sunday, September 6 for last minute shopping.

On top of every day savings, participating stores will be offering extra special deals from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. on the two Super Sundays. Be sure to stop in at Apparel Depot - Liz Claiborne Factory Outlet, for free refreshments along with an extra 15% off of summer fashions and 10% off new fall fashions. Get your aftermarket car adapters for only $29.20 at Cantel AT&T and save the GST on all Radio Shack products. Stock up on sweats at Hanes Outlet, for Hanes fleece sweats at 2/$10 or 3/$12. Receive an additional 10% off on all in-stock merchandise storewide at Paderno Cookware Factory Store. On August 30, Royal Doulton Outlet will be offering 50% off Royal Doulton Golf Crystal Giftware and Cloverleaf Mats, as well as 25% extra off selected Royal Vale dinnerware. On September 6, Royal Doulton will be offering Beatrice Liqueur Glasses for $4.99 each (regular $9.99), Royal Albert Cottage Plates for $29.99 (regularly $70.00) and 50% off Cloverleaf Mats. Stock up on footwear for the entire family at Shoe City, where you will save 50% on most summer sandals or buy 1 get the second for 1/2 price (of equal or lesser value) on most in-stock footwear. See in stores for more details.

The kids will love back-to-school shopping at Cookstown Manufacturer's Outlet Mall for all their favourite brand names, including Nike, Levi's, Reebok, Umbro, Kodiak, Rockport, and Kettle Creek. For the young ones, check out Jack Rabbit's Clothing Co., for Canadian made clothing for infants to teens. Moms will also love back-to-school at Jones Factory Finale, Olsen Collection Outlet, and Nine West Shoe Studio for quality designer fashions and footwear at fantastic prices. With over 40 manufacturer's outlet stores at manufacturer's direct savings, you can't miss at Cookstown Manufacturer's Outlet Mall.

Cookstown Manufacturer's Outlet Mall is conveniently located at the southeast corner of Hwy. 400 and Hwy. 89 in Cookstown (just 35 minutes north of the 401), approx. 15 minutes south of Barrie. Open Mon.-Fri., 10 a.m.-9 p.m.; Sat. & Sun., 9 a.m.-6 p.m.; and holidays 9 a.m.-6 p.m. (including Labour Day, Monday, September 6). Don't forget about Super Sundays, August 30 and September 6, where you can shop for back-to-school until 8 p.m.

For more information, please call (705) 458-1371.

Cookstown Manufacturer's Outlet Mall
Back-To-School
Back-To-School
Savings Spectacular
We're Staying Open Late for You!
Come to our Back-To-School "Super Sundays" Savings Spectacular, and take advantage of the EXTRA SAVINGS during our two "Super Sundays" August 30 and September 6.
For two Sundays only, Cookstown Manufacturers Outlet Mall will be open late til 8:00 p.m. Take advantage of the many in-store specials between 6:00 and 8:00 p.m. over and above the regular Back-To-School savings.
Conveniently located at the gateway to cottage country, Cookstown Manufacturer's Outlet Mall is just 35 minutes north of Metropolitan Toronto and 15 minutes south of Barrie.
Cottage Commuters! Stop in on the way back to town. The perfect end to that perfect weekend!
Last Minute Shopping Made Easy!
Take HWY. 400 to HWY. 89 and look for the Water Tower or call: (705) 458-1371
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cool boys

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Advertising Feature

BACK TO SCHOOL

SHS

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AN INDEPENDENT SCHOOL FOR BOYS

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Please contact the Admissions Office at:

(416) 785-3410

for further information.

Applications for admission to the 1999 school year will be accepted as of October 5, 1998.

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Financial assistance may be available to those who qualify.

Class size is limited, so call now:

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A world of sport & art is yours to discover

It has been over 2 years since Discovery School of Sport and Art opened its doors, but it has quickly grown to become a home away from home for children of all ages. At Discovery you can find a little toddler learning to do front rolls to a college student-former gymnast, working out to keep in shape. Besides offering various classes in Artistic and Rhythmic Gymnastics, Trampoline, Ballet and Jazz, the Centre also holds birthday parties, seasonal camps, PD fun days and community activity events such as fundraising, etc. Discovery's 10,000 sq. ft. modern gym is filled with Olympic standard gymnastic equipment for boys and girls with a separate section for kindergym classes. Rhythmic Gymnastics is offered through the Bathurst Jewish Centre. Discovery's competitive athletes could have been seen on Rogers TV, at different competitions, community and school functions.

Besides children's programs, Discovery offers private instructions, school field trips and adult classes. Several private schools, which do not have their own gym facilities, are using Discovery gym to run weekly physical education classes.

Registrations for recreational and competitive classes are now being accepted at the Discovery Centre, 205 Champagne Dr., #5 (Finch & Dufferin). For more information please call: (416) 638-3033.

discovery School of Sport & Art

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Multi-Sport & Dance Centre For Children Ages 18 mos.-18 yrs.

▪RECREATIONAL & COMPETITIVE CLASSES

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♦TUMBLING ♦ BALLET ♦ JAZZ

♦10,000 sq. ft. Modern Gym ♦Olympic Standard Equipment
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♦28' Ceiling For Rhythmic Gymnastics

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205 Champagne Dr. ▪ Unit 5 ▪ North York (Finch & Dufferin)

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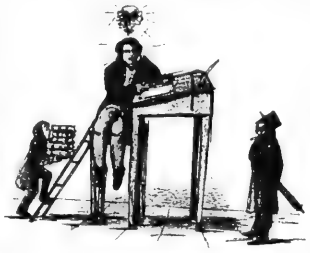
Most people who have difficulties with academic subjects are neither lazy nor stupid nor afraid of hard work. But their teaching or training has been inadequate and they probably lack the fundamentals. Good teaching and tutoring, such as our specialists provide, can put them back on the road to excellence. All our tutors are highly qualified, many are Ph.D. candidates in their subjects, and have teaching skills and the patience necessary to exploit them. When you put yourself in our hands you make it possible for you to overcome any handicaps or earlier roadblocks. If you are aiming at university, with our help, you will reach it. (If you are already in university, you may already know that you too would benefit from our assistance.)



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BACK TO SCHOOL

Advertising Feature

Gym Centre positive experience

Toronto Aspirals Rhythmic Gymnastics Centre is a non-profit, parent run gymnastics club located in the Forest Hill area. Toronto Aspirals runs recreational, pre-competitive and competitive programs for girls ages 3-16. Rhythmic Gymnastics is a sport that combines dance and gymnastic skills in graceful routines that are set to music using apparatus such as hoops, ribbons, balls and ropes. The recreational program is designed to develop basic rhythmic gymnastic skills and familiarity with the apparatus. Advanced gymnasts are invited from the recreational program to participate in more intensive training in the competitive stream. Toronto Aspirals athletes have participated in Provincial, National and International events with great success.

Sr. Level 6 National Group

Classes are run at central locations Monday through Saturday. Toronto Aspirals Rhythmic Gymnastics programs are perfect for girls who want to have fun while improving their poise, fitness and dexterity in a supportive environment.

KEYBOARDERS, for your kids and you

Tomorrow's market will put great demands on your children. Through their school and adult years, typing and computer use are skills they will use daily; and since children retain knowledge easily, educators advise learning early.

Pupils who hand in neat, typed homework completed without parents' help, enjoy better self-esteem and higher grades. Moreover, typing can often help children with learning disabilities.

Since 1996, ***KEYBOARDERS*** has been a successful typing and computer school for kids and adults.

After 8-12 lessons, you will type accurately, using all 10 fingers without looking at the keyboard. ***KEYBOARDERS*** has taught hundreds, aged 7-84, to type up to 60 wpm., many of whom begin with no computer knowledge.

KEYBOARDERS special 1-2-3-GO course enables adults of all ages to be comfortable at the computer in 4 hrs. From there, you progress to word processing, e-mail use, and the Internet.

Classes are small and stress-free; the instructors give each student personal attention. And there's unlimited free practice, with an instructor always on hand. For fall schedules, call ***KEYBOARDERS***, at Bayview and John: **905-731-4744.**

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TORONTO ASPIRALS RHYTHMIC GYMNASTICS

Recreational & Competitive Programs for girls 3 to 16

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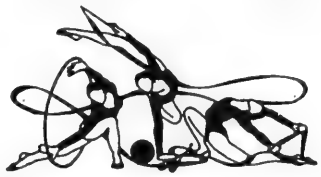

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It's never too early or too late - to learn to SKATE. The Forest Hill Figure Skating Club, housed in the Forest Hill Memorial Arena, 340 Chaplin Crescent (north of Eglinton Avenue West), offers an array of versatile programs for all ages and levels including Pre-School, Mini Tot, Basic, Power, Intermediate, Adult Recreational, Advanced and Competitive. The fully certified and caring staff possess a wide range of skills and experience, and provide a nurturing environment for our skaters. In addition, the Forest Hill Figure Skating Club provides complimentary ribbons and badges, seasonal gifts, photographs and participation in Demonstration Night. The winter skating season begins the week of October 13 and runs until April 24, 1999. On-site registration will be on September 15 from 9:30am - 11:00am and 7:00pm - 8:00pm. Staff and coaches will be available to guide you in your figure skating pursuits. For ongoing registration, or further information, please call (416) 481-7325.

OFFERING A WIDE VARIETY OF PROGRAMS FOR ALL AGES AND LEVELS INCLUDING:

Pre-School, Mini-Tot, Basic, Power, Adult Basic, Recreational, Intermediate, Advanced and Competitive

Fall School – September 15 to October 10, 1998

Winter School – October 13 to April 24, 1999

On-Site Registration – September 15, 9:30am - 11:00am and 7:00pm - 8:00pm

REGISTER TODAY! (416) 481-7325

Mail to: Forest Hill Figure Skating Club, Box 38083, Castlewood P.O., 550 Eglinton Avenue West, Toronto, ON M5N 3A8

Please send more information about lessons & classes:

Name: _____

Address: _____

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Located at the **Forest Hill Memorial Arena**

Travel, Arts & Business

Sculptor believes her skill lies in her genes

By MIRIAM CHINSKY
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — May Marx believes she was genetically intended to be a sculptor.

"I have the same creative hands as my father," she says. "I like to touch, to do things."

But sculpting was farthest from her practical mother's mind when Marx was starting high school. As the eldest of six, she was expected to be sensible, take a commercial course and begin contributing at home.

Then, 35 years ago, Marx happened on a clay modelling demonstration which piqued her interest. The experience blossomed into an ongoing passion and she became determined to learn everything she could about sculpture and related arts.

Toronto born, she studied at the Ontario College of Art and Central Technical Art School.

A wife and mother of two, she realized that, despite her immersion in sculpture, she had to "double my life, not sacrifice family to art."

She originally fashioned figurative pieces, but discovered that the abstract freed her. "I always felt that when I was doing figurative work, I wasn't creating. Someone bigger than I had done it," she says.

She began to strip away the extraneous, to get to the heart.

Working in her light-filled downtown studio, Marx explores the fundamentals of human relationships – caring, confrontation, strength, weakness. She also responds to an inner surge when thought explodes into dynamic images, in a dramatic eclipse, a solar outburst.

Bronze is her medium; the golden glow mirror polish and the more subtle patina reflect what she is saying. She can conjure a range from excitement to fine nuance of emotion.

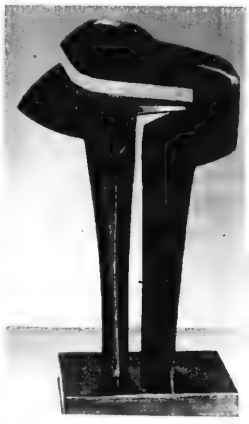
Her striking *Continuum #2*, which places a clearly dominant male in close proximity to an aggressive but physically weaker female, takes on a different aura when each of two identical sculptures is given a different finish. In this way, various aspects of sensuality and confrontation are revealed.

Milestone is a tender evocation. Marx, who generally refuses to explain her works, preferring the viewer's own interpretation, acknowledges that this particular piece – two watchful figures guiding a slender youth – recalls her son's wedding when she and her husband led him toward the chupah.

The Sun, shining rays emanating from a special core, is pure exuberance.

Marx's work is found in North American and European galleries, and in corporate and private collections. Among the owners of her original sculptures are Prime Minister Jean Chrétien, Chrysler Corporation's Lee Iacocca and contralto Maureen Forrester. Marx has also been represented in a video and in several art publications.

This fall, from Sept. 10 until Oct. 24, Marx is presenting a solo exhibition in a beautiful gallery built by the late philanthropist Andrew Carnegie in the town of Harriston, Ont., just 40 miles west of Orangeville.



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Poems reflect love for Israel

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — He left Harbord Collegiate at Grade 10 and doesn't like to read poetry, but David Zaretsky has written 1,000 poems about his life and beliefs.

Many of his poems, such as *Now Once Again We're a Nation* and *Israel Belongs to Me*, reflect Zaretsky's love and aspirations for Israel.

He was born on Augusta Avenue in Toronto 78 years ago, and the simple words and rhymes of his poems grow from his experiences in raising a family and working 12 hours a day as the owner of the Martinway Plaza variety store in Etobicoke with only four two-week holidays in 16 years.

Like their content, the titles of many of Zaretsky's poems suggest the perplexities of life for a Jewish senior in society today. They include *I'm Talking But No One is Listening, It Doesn't Help At All to Watch TV, What Can I Teach My Children?* and *There Isn't A Day I Don't Cry*.

But the beauty of nature is not lost on this people's poet who writes that the best way to see the country is from a train window, and who describes nature's grandeur from the base of a mountain.

Recently he gave a reading in the chapel of the Bernard Betel Centre and his audience responded to his simple and entertaining way of describing pedestrian events.

"I love it," says Zaretsky of his poetry. He started to write seriously about 20 years ago, often getting up in the middle of the night to write down his thoughts in longhand. He never types his poems.

Though he started to write when he was 10, his family ridiculed his early efforts.

As a beer slinger in his brother Benny's Piccadilly Hotel on King Street West in the '30s, he met a lot of celebrities. Once he dedicated a poem, *Up the Ladder and Down the Ladder*, to Dooley Wilson, who played the piano and sang *As Time Goes By* in the film *Casablanca*.

Zaretsky is a member of Shaarei Tefillah Synagogue who attends Shabbat services every week, and several of his poems speak of the importance of religion in his life.

He started out writing songs but found that record companies wanted only rock and roll. "All my poems are really lyrics for songs, I want them to flow in that way."

His philosophy can be summed up in the title of one of his poems, *Why Do We Jews Hold Our Heads High?*

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD ANSWERS

H	A	M		B	R	A		M	O	B		A	R	M
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From Abstraction to Realism

Marcia Rafelman Fine Arts is hosting an exhibition From Abstraction to Realism until Sept. 14. To celebrate Israel's 50th anniversary, all the artists involved are donating 10 percent of the sales to Israel at 50.

Two exhibitors of note are Jewish photographers David R. Cowles and Motty Levy.

Cowles' photographs were taken during a series of trips to North Africa to document remaining Jewish historic sites in Morocco, Egypt and Tunisia "before they disappear completely."

Levy's photographs focus on Hebron and Jerusalem. He said he wanted to get "a close up look at the people in the heart of the [Middle East] conflict."

Etz Haim Synagogue in Cairo by David Cowles.

Marcia Rafelman is at 10 Clarendon Ave., Toronto.

Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

ARTISTS FEATURED AT ISRAEL AT 50 PAVILION

Israel's past, present and future are highlighted at the Israel at Fifty pavilion at the Canadian National Exhibition, thru Sept. 7.

As publicized in*The CJN* several weeks ago, the pavilion features themed food, art, entertainment and shopping areas. Imported from Israel, a fifth-century synagogue mosaic floor is also on view.

Discovered in Tzippori in 1994, the floor measures 45 feet by 13 feet and has never before been displayed outside of Israel.

The travelling exhibit *A Seed in the Pocket of Their Blood*, by **Rafi Aaron**, is among many displays by Canadian artists being showcased at the pavilion.

Artists include **Sorel Etrog**, **Gershon Iskowitz**, **Mayer Kirshenblatt** and **Irene Frolic**.

The pavilion also features live entertainment and musical performances almost around the clock. Performers include **Faye Kellerstein** (Aug. 30, 11 a.m.),**Toronto Little Puppet Theatre** (Aug. 31, 3 p.m.), **Toronto Jewish Folk Choir** (Sept. 1, 7:45 p.m.), **Brian Katz** (Sept. 3, 2 p.m.) and **Judith Cohen** (Sept. 7, 11 a.m. & noon).

Ashkenaz: A Day of Yiddish Culture is scheduled at the pavilion for Sept. 6. Featured artists include the klezmer band **Finjan**, the Arab-Yiddish fusion quartet **Medina**, Yiddish singer **Beth Anne Cole** and comedienne **Deb Filler**, along with a series of films on Yiddish and Israeli subjects. 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.

The Israel at Fifty pavilion is presented by the Israel at 50 Consortium of 175 organizations under the auspices of the Consulate General of Israel and UJA Federation. Go and enjoy!

* * *

In the Spotlight: Canadian-Jewish writer **Fredelle Maynard**, who died in 1989, is best remembered for her two books *Raisins and Almonds* (1972) and *The Tree of Life* (1988) as well as her many magazine articles. She and her late husband **Max** are also remembered as the parents of two very accomplished daughters.

They are **Rona Maynard**, editor of the prominent Canadian women's magazine *Chatelaine*, published in Toronto; and **Joyce Maynard**, a California-based journalist-writer whose latest book, a memoir called *At Home in the World*, has already excited much interest though it is not scheduled for publication (by Picador) until October.

Salinger in Love, a section of the book excerpted in the current issue of *Vanity Fair* magazine, describes the author's nine-month love affair with the reclusive American author **J.D. Salinger**. It occurred back in 1972 when she was a promising writer of 18 and Salinger a legend at 53, famous for such literary creations as *Catcher in the Rye* and *Nine Stories*.

They met after she wrote a "precocious, provocative"cover story for the *New York Times Magazine* and he sent her a letter of admiration in response. Soon she was addressing him in her letters as Jerry and he was writing her that he felt they were "landsmen."

As Maynard explains: "Literally, a landsman is a person who comes from the same place, back in the Old Country. A landsman is someone with whom you find a connection of the heart and soul."

She moved into his New Hampshire retreat, but after a new book she had written started to generate phone calls from the media, he uttered prophetically, "This book of yours could be the end of us." Shortly afterwards he sent her packing, and the two landsmen apparently never crossed paths again.

Salinger's involvement is obviously what makes Maynard's teenaged affair appealing for *Vanity Fair* readers. The magazine, which refers to Maynard on its cover as "J.D. Salinger's Lolita," uncovered a few rare photos of Salinger, apparently taken by strangers during fleeting encounters.

The creator of the literary Glass family has spent a lifetime assiduously avoiding publicity; so one imagines he is cringing at this highly sensationalized intrusion into his private life by a former trusted companion.

While Maynard may be violating a friend's trust, she would probably argue that she has every right to write about her own experiences, especially after a quarter of a century. Incidentally, she is not the least publicity-shy and has posted extensive details of her life on her own Web site, located at [www.joycemaynard.com/home/html].

PRESIDENT'S CHOICE

The Loblaw's supermarket chain has issued these limited edition cola and diet cola cans to mark Israel's 50th birthday and its involvement in the Israel at 50 pavilion at this year's Canadian National Exhibition. The cans are available at participating Loblaw stores featuring food products from Israel. [Ron Csillag photo]

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	MORNING						DEPARTURE
1	Spadina Chinatown Centre (Furama Bakery)					9:45AM	5:00PM
2	Broadview & Gerrard (Kentucky Fried Chicken)					10:15AM	6:00PM
3	Dragon Centre (Hong Kong Bank)	9:45AM	Yorkdale Subway (Bus Lane 13)	10:15AM	Jane/Wilson (Coffee Time)	10:30AM	5:00PM
4	Commerce Gate (505 Hwy 7 Second Cup)	10:15AM	Kennedy & Steeles N.E. Corner (Tripmate Tours)			10:45AM	6:00PM
5	Bathurst & Steeles (Mac's Milk)	9:45AM	Miss. Golden Sq.Ctr. (Rear Entrance of Fuji Optical)	10:15AM	Miss. Chinese Ctr. (Rear Entrance of HK Bank)	10:45AM	6:00PM
	AFTERNOON						
6	Spadina Chinatown Centre (Furama Bakery)					2:15PM	9:00PM
7	Kennedy & Steeles N.E. Corner (Tripmate Tours)					2:15PM	10:00PM
8	Jane/Wilson (Coffee Time)	2:15PM	Mississauga Chinese Centre (Rear Entrance of HK Bank)			2:45PM	11:00PM
9	Kennedy & Steeles	4:15PM	Broadview & Gerrard	4:45PM	Chinatown Centre	5:15PM	1:00AM
	MIDNIGHT						
10	Spadina Chinatown Centre (Furama Bakery)					7:45PM	3:00AM
11	Kennedy & Steeles	8:45PM	Yorkdale Subway (Bus Lane 13)	9:15PM	Jane/Wilson (Coffee Time)	9:30PM	4:00AM
12	Spadina Chinatown Centre (Furama Bakery)					10:30PM	5:00AM

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Role as an extra gave producer a revelation

DANIEL WOLGELERENTER
Student Intern

TORONTO — Most remember the late '80s CBC melodrama *Street Legal* as a better-than-average Canadian ripoff of *L.A. Law*.

But for Jules Pitch, it was a revelation.

His stint as a *Street Legal* extra – with a couple of lines that "ended up getting cut" – changed the 24 year-old Vancouver Film School (VFS) graduate's life ambition from acting to producing.

As the kind of kid who could see three films a weekend, the Richmond Hill resident has "always loved movies" and had completed a summer acting workshop at the Leah Posluns Theatre before his *Street Legal* gig.

"But once I got on the set of *Street Legal*, everything changed," he said. "I noticed that there was much more."

"I wanted to be the person who puts everything together, not just reading lines from a page," Pitch recalls.

Graduating from Bayview Secondary School, Pitch spent a year in a "hands-on, all-film production" program at the VFS.

There he absorbed the filmmaking basics like script writing, directing and editing. But he learned "absolutely nothing about producing" and its schmooze-oriented skills of organizing, financing and hiring.

He finished in the fall of 1993. "This is where the whole Pitch story begins," he says.

A 15-minute short film made with a friend at the VFS, *Museum of Love*, went on to win best short film at the small 1994 Nantucket Springfest.

This could be a Chasing Amy

The award led to work in Nantucket as associate producer and first assistant director on the experimental short film *Ocean Wine*. The film eventually won gold for best experimental short at the 1995 Charleston Film Festival and was a finalist for best original dramatic short at the 1995 Houston International Film Festival.

At the festivals, the aspiring producer began promoting a new project, a full-length feature film called *Lost in Limbo* that he describes as "a mix of *Swingers*, a [British] thriller called *Shallow Grave* and a film called *Beautiful Girls*."

Written by fellow VFS graduate Darren Sacks – who Pitch says "writes dialogue better than anyone else I know" – *Lost in Limbo* is "a twenty-something film, a Generation X film but it's not. It's a realistic film about life in your 20s," he says. "Part of the film is about how far would you go to get what you want."

Pitch puts the film in the same Gen-X indie category as writer/director Kevin Smith's *Clerks*, and *Chasing Amy* and *Swingers* by writer/director Jon Favreau (who may be better known as Monica's software billionaire boyfriend on NBC's *Friends*).

He's looking to spend about $1,000,000 (US) on the project – versus the roughly $250,000 and $750,000 (US) reportedly spent on *Swingers* and *Chasing Amy* respectively – which will star recognizable, if not famous, actors.

"Ideally, this film can be successful with no one you've ever seen before," Pitch says.

Modestly hoping for festival-circuit word-of-mouth and limited theatrical release – "Carlton, Canada Square kind of thing" – Pitch feels the film "could make $6 million This could be a *Chasing Amy*."

While developing what he hopes will be his big break, Pitch has been producing and directing music videos (most recently for new country artist John McCabe).

He also spent a year with Microtainment Plus International, a production company where Pitch received a National Training Mentorship Award from the Canadian Film and Television Production Association to work as a production manager trainee on the recently aired A&E documentary *Peace, Love and Murder: the Ira Einhorn Story*.

Jules Pitch on the set in Nantucket.

Although Pitch says "there is talent that is ready to commit" to his feature, including a "major Canadian producer" and a young actor with extensive Canadian television and film experience, he and co-producer Mitchell Worsoff, 29, have yet to establish their own production company or secure financing.

"I don't even have business cards," Pitch says.

Nevertheless, with a letter from American indie production company October Films expressing interest in distributing a project it feels "has great theatrical potential," Pitch says there's a "75 percent chance" a "Brazilian investor" will pay the tab on the risky venture.

But any potential investor could reap future gains by helping out an up-and-comer, Pitch says. If *Lost in Limbo* is a success, "we'll have a name," and "anyone who gives us a shot will benefit."

He says confidently: "We've got a project that's going to go. It's just a matter of when, how and how much."

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Travel, Arts & Business

Compelling pencil drawings are artist's legacy

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Benjamin Goldfarb's drawings are not for sale.

The 86-year-old retired chemical engineer has created more than 40 compelling black and white pencil drawings of some of the world's most famous faces, objects and classical sculptures.

In his home in north-west Toronto, the walls are covered with impressive likenesses of Albert Einstein, John Kennedy, Martin Luther King, Beethoven and numerous others.

Based on the Italian renaissance style of drawing, his work also includes the hands of Jascha Heifetz, the hands of Mohammad Ali and drawings of sculptures such as Rodin's *The Thinker*.

His works are minutely detailed and each one takes Goldfarb some 300 to 400 hours.

Goldfarb says that although he has loved art since he was a child, he did not take his art seriously until he retired in 1980, when he enrolled in the Ontario College of Art and studied there for five years.

Goldfarb also has a passion for classical music and opera and he has an extensive library of books, tapes and CDs. His love of all the classical arts attracted him to the style of drawing he chose to do.

His drawings have been exhibited at the Ontario College of Art when he was a student there, and at the Bathurst Jewish Centre, where he is a member.

Goldfarb was born in Warsaw. In 1939, he escaped to Bialystock, where the Russians wanted the refugees to become Russian citizens. When they refused, they were sent to a labor camp in northern Siberia.

"The Russians saved our lives," Goldfarb says. "When war broke out, the refugees were released from the labor camp on the agreement that they would join the Second Polish Corps to fight the Nazis."

After leaving the labor camp in 1942, Goldfarb and the others went to join the newly formed Polish Army, part of the Eighth British Army, and he participated in the invasion of Italy.

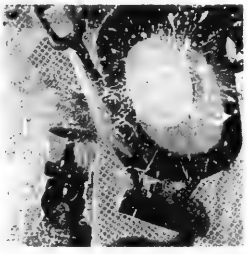
When the war ended, Goldfarb discovered that all his family had perished in the war.

He ultimately located cousins in Toronto who brought him to Canada in 1948, where he later married Alice. They have a son Avery and two grandchildren, Adam and Erica.

He does not want his art to be sold. "My drawings are for my family," he says. "This is my legacy to my family."

Benjamin Goldfarb's work – like Jascha Heifetz's Hands– are notable for their amazing detail. Goldfarb, 86, said he doesn't want to sell his pencil drawings. [Cynthia Gasner photo]

Benjamin Goldfarb with his rendition of Martin Luther King. [Cynthia Gasner photo]



Relics

An exhibition of recent work by artist Jonathan Sheinbaum will be on display until Sept. 10 at Propeller Gallery, 96 Spadina Ave. Toronto, Suite 303, Tuesday to Saturday 2-6 p.m.

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Israeli company finds way to help stutterers

By LISA SAMIN
WZPS

JERUSALEM — At the age of five, Arye Friedman, an immigrant from Latvia, began his long, hard battle with stuttering. Today Friedman, 29, runs his own high-tech company in Israel, Speech Therapy System (STS), and with the use of his own computerized stuttering treatment program, is helping thousands of people who stutter, maintain their speaking fluency.

Growing up in Riga, Latvia, Friedman, small, wiry and soft spoken, was an achiever. At the age of 16, he was Latvia's classical wrestling champion, and later, received a theoretical physics and computer science degree from Latvia State University. At that time, he was also undergoing the spiritual journey that would eventually lead him to Israel.

In 1984, a relative, Mordechai Lipkin (who was killed in 1994 in a terrorized attack near Tekoa) took Friedman to a clandestine, two-month-long seminar in Riga held by Jewish activists. There, he was exposed for the first time to religious observance – kashrut, prayer and mitzvot.

With the breakdown of the Communist regime in 1987, Jewish activities became legal, and Friedman became one of the founders of Riga's Jewish Youth Union.

In 1988, a B'nai Akiva emissary from Sweden came to Riga to meet with Friedman and his friends, and they agreed to help him organize Jewish camps in Sweden and in Riga. The interaction with the 50 children in the Riga camp strengthened Friedman's religious convictions, and in 1991 he made aliyah.

While studying for his PhD in physics at Ben-Gurion University in the Negev, and learning a completely new language, Friedman came face-to-face with his stuttering problem. His supervisor wanted him to be a teaching assistant, but he could not lecture in front of a class. So the supervisor paid him his teaching wages in advance to enable him to participate in a three-week precision fluency shaping course run by Hadassah University Hospital's audiology and speech department. The course changed his life.

"After completing the course, I returned to the university to teach. It was there that I got the idea to develop a software program for precision fluency shaping. Many people who stutter take courses, get over stuttering, but then have relapses because they are not keeping up with their training. The courseware we developed is not a medical tool, but it does help people maintain their progress and speech fluency," says Friedman.

In 1991, with his inherent determination, Friedman requested a grant from the Office of the Chief Scientist (OCS) in the Ministry of Industry and Trade. Not only did he receive a two-year OCS grant and a grant from the settlement department of the World Zionist Organization, Friedman was also chosen by the OCS to become part of an incubator – an organizational framework to support and guide start-up high-tech companies. In 1992, Speech Therapy Systems was born, and now has 10 employees, mostly highly trained engineers from the former Soviet Union.

"The first version of the fluency shaping courseware was in Hebrew, and was used at Hadassah hospital courses, where it is still being used," says Friedman. "We then developed versions in English and German and conducted [customer trial sites] in the United States, Canada and Germany."

The computerized stuttering treatment program, named Dr. Fluency, sells for $499 and incorporates all the exercise material, specialized training tools and methodology needed for effective stuttering therapy, into an attractive and user-friendly environment. The program includes a clinician's package, a home-use package and a post-treatment fluency maintenance package. In this way, says Friedman, "the person who stutters can use the program with a professional speech-language pathologist, individually, or as a fluency maintenance program."

In addition to Dr. Fluency, STS has developed technology for adapting programs from differing computer systems to the Internet. This includes Internet applications, publishing data on the Internet, generators for the Internet and connecting programs to the Internet. Currently, it is looking for strategic partners for advancement of their technologies.

Vladimir Zeev Zeitlin, the company's chief software developer and a former deputy director of the Economic Planning Ministry of Tajbekistan, together with newcomer Jeremy Sulzbacher, a financial consultant from England, now STS's vice-president of operations, have been instrumental in STS's development. "The entire staff of STS is made up of highly motivated new immigrants," says Sulzbacher. "It is amazing how people from the former Soviet Union have adapted so quickly to a more liberal economic society."

Today, STS exports its products to the United States, Germany and Canada, and a new Swedish version of Dr. Fluency has just been completed.

STS is an example of how the professional talent of new immigrants can be channeled into creating successful enterprises in Israel. And for Friedman and his staff, their high-tech knowledge is not only advancing Internet technologies, but touching human lives by giving people who stutter the tools to deal more effectively with their problem.

BAYCREST DONATION

Shoppers Home Health Care senior vice-president Ian Maxwell (left) and Shoppers Drug Mart chair and chief executive officer David R. Bloom (right) present a cheque in the amount of $80,000 to Elaine Todres of the Baycrest Foundation. The presentation was made at an event celebrating the merger of Shoppers Home Health Care with Doncaster.

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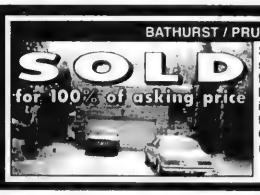

Spacious 5 bedroom side-split, family room, family size kitchen, hardwood floors, finished basement, steps to park. **ACT NOW!** Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

SOLD

FOREST WOOD — PRESTIGE PLUS!
Spacious ranch bungalow on wide 59 ft. frontage, gleaming hardwood floors, eat-in kitchen, walk-out to deck from dining room, finished basement, demand location! Only $399,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

BATHURST / YORK DOWNS — REDUCED TO SELL!
4 + 2 bdrms., 5 baths, parquet floors, 55 x 122 ft. lot, sep. entry to in-law suite, only $329,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

BATHURST / LAWRENCE
Spacious 3 + 1 bdrm. bungalow on generous 54 x 117 ft. lot, fabulous location, excellent value. Live in now — build later! Only $329,000. **ACT NOW!** Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

NEAR CASA LOMA — SUPER LOCATION!
Detached 3 storey facing park. Original charm: leaded glass, gumwood +++, 5 bdrms., 4 baths, large principal rooms, fireplaces, hardwood floors, only $449,000. Call Richard Cash (416) 787-1712.

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Real Estate Inc. Realtor

(416) 488-2875 (416) 226-1987

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CENTRAL PROPERTIES

FOREST HILL RD! $1,895,000
Move-in Tudor home. Cathy Kwinter* 488-2875

UPPER VILLAGE! ENTERTAINING HOME!
Oversized rooms, 4 bdrms. Cathy Kwinter* 488-2875

PRIME FOREST HILL LOCATION – LOWER VILLAGE
Charming family home, 6 br., 56'x130'. Faithe Sversky** 488-2875

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Oakley Place. Call to walk the site! M. Paul**/C. Sniderman* 488-2875

1ST AD! ALEXANDRA WOOD AREA! $689K!
Fab. 71'x112' treed lot w/3+1 br., 2 bth., reno kit.+mn. fam! Million $$ dev't area! Sandon Schwartzben** 226-1987

MAJESTIC 6 BDRM., 5 BATH, 57'x115' LOT
Quiet st., sep. entry to lower level w/o large principal room, dble. gar., A-1 local. Rose Simon* 226-1987

AVENUE/LAWRENCE CUSTOM HOME $525K
3+1 bed., maple/granite kit., 4 bath. Gitta Bogard* 488-2875

6 FAWNHAVEN COURT! $338,800! 10+!
SOLD
Ridgegate gem! 4+1 br., 4 bth., fam., nanny ste! Fab. cul-de-sac! Won't last! Sandon Schwartzben** 226-1987

99 GREENWIN VILLAGE ROAD! $262,800
Bathurst S/Steeles 4+1 br., 3 bath, semi w/nanny ste! Move-in! Sandon Schwartzben** 226-1987

109 YORK DOWNS DRIVE! NOW $299,000!
Dare to compare! 3+1 br., 3 bth., mn fam+lau+2 pce! Nanny ste! 50'x110'! Call Sandon Schwartzben** 226-1987

BAYVIEW PROPERTIES

BRIDLE PATH/POST ROAD AREA! WOW!
Now $469,999! Value packed 4+2 br., mn. fam., nanny ste., gorg'us 90'x146' irreg. lot! Sandon Schwartzben** 226-1987

CONDOMINIUM PROPERTIES

BATHURST/LAWRENCE - 2 BR.+SOL.
$215,000, SE view, 1315 sq. ft., ens., w/in closet. Lil Cooper* 488-2875

PENTHOUSE ON CARLTON ST. SOUTH EXP.
1 bedroom, large condo parking, laundry ensuite. Great location. Call Mark Cowan* 226-1987

150 NEPTUNE, 3 BDRM. CONDO 1300 SQ. FT.
Bright spacious with 2-4 pc. baths, laundry ensuite, lower flr., eat-in kit. Rose Simon* 226-1987

*Sales Representative **Associate Broker

30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE

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DON MILLS & FINCH
Elegance: new exclusive open concept 1 b.r. + fam. + lge. sol. Don't wait – won't last.
For our latest inventory of SKYMARK, contact: The SKYMARK Specialist
Santee Leung, F.R.I. (416) 441-2003

THE MULTI-LINGUAL CONNECTION

135 Antibes Drive, 1 bdrm., 1 bth, $99,500, private sale, no agents. Arthur, wkdays 867-3439, eves/wkends 491-2564.

Bathurst/Clark - 2 bedroom, upgraded. 905-763-7037.

35 CONDOMINIUM FOR RENT

Bathurst-Wilson 150 Neptune Dr. Lux 3 bdrm. 2 full bath, 5 appl. 2nd fl. Shabbat ele. parking & util. $1325 783-6831.

60 SHARED ACCOMMODATION

Bath./Steeles, seeking a roommate to share furn. penthouse condo, kosher, n/smkr, recreational facilities. 416-665-4121.

60 SHARED ACCOMMODATION

Seeking young prof./grad student to share an apt. with, n/smkr Jamie at 324-2262, 408-3892.

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

BATHURST-SHEPPARD
Very lg. 1, 2, 3 Bedrms., ample closets, some 1½ baths & 2 balc., roof, laundry, ravine setting, pool, ind. pkg., 6 apts. per flr. From $850.
960-3238 - Bus.
631-9377 or 631-0388 - Super

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BATHURST WILSON

CONVENIENT NORTH YORK LOCATION

NEWLY DECORATED SPACIOUS 2 BDRMS.

- Large balconies
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- Sunken living rooms
- Surveillance cameras and card access system
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- Close to conveniences and TTC
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HOUSES FOR SALE

105 COTTAGE FOR SALE

R. Sharon Smith
Sales Rep.

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Royal LePage First Contact Realty
(705) 737-0011 1-800-367-2037
Barrie & Area

MAGNIFICENT "PRIVATE" WATERFRONT $419,000. 117' Southern exposure - Ranch style bun. w/"Ambiance Plus" All principal rooms take advantage of the incredible view over Lake Simcoe. 4 Bdrms., 2 Bths., Guest Bunkie++

LUXURIOUS $2,750,000. Spectacular waterfront home, boathouse & docks on private 2 acre lot with 201' frontage - Over 9,000 sq. ft. living area - Lavish construction & appointments through out.

105 COTTAGE FOR SALE

FAMILY COMPOUNDS

BELLE EWART - beautiful yr.-rnd., 8 bed., 3 bath, air, nr.shul & beach
LAKE OF BAYS - yr. rnd., 100' lakefront, 10 bed., 6 bth., 3 kit., tennis crt., air, near shul

BELLE EWART WATERFRONTS

- 62'x316', 6 bed., garage, boathouse, shed, great potential
- 104'x211', 4 bed., boathouse, concrete break wall, marine rail
- 95'x85', 4 bed., dock, deck,
- 35.8'x217', new, 3 bed., 2½ bth., yr-rnd. air, dock, boatlift, sheds

SANDRA ROTH (BOTNICK)
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Muskoka/Bracebridge, modern 3 bdrm, ikfrnt, encl. porch, safe, sandy bch., Jewish community, low carrying cost, 905-731-4466

110 COTTAGE FOR RENT

Lake Simcoe, 3 bdrm. cottage, canoe, good swimming, lge. priv. lot. Avail. Sept. & Oct., weekly/monthly. 416-223-6324

123 TIME SHARE FOR RENT

Towers of Mullet Bay, St. Maarten, 1 bdrm., full liv/din rm, kit., sleeps 4, golf incl, security. Dec. 5-12, 1998. $1,400/wk US. Call 954-341-6178 or email to: amherstw@worlnet.att.net

125 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE

Century Village, Deerfield, 2 bdrm., 1 1/2 bth., garden apt., beautifully furnished, CAC. $37K US. 905-770-9030.

130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT

Hallandale Beach, beautiful bldg, 1 bdrm, 1 1/2 bth, on ocean, fully furn, renovated, security, valet pkg, restaurant. $1800./mo. US, 4 mo min. 305-596-0255 or 305-596-6845.

HOLLYWOOD, Hallmark 2 bdr, 2 full bath, corner, pkg., valet etc. 3 mos min. Avail. 1998/99 season. 905-731-0609.

Miami Beach, on the ocean, 2 bdrm., 2 bth., furn. recently, 4-6 months. 416-968-7143.

Palm Aire, 2 bdrm., 2 bath, newly furnished, main flr., 3 months min., avail Oct 1-Apr 30. Call 416-496-2900.

Seasonal rental North Miami, 1 bdrm apt. on waterway $2200 mthly. 1-561-483-5799.

The Fountains of Lake Worth, 2 bdrm., 2 full bth., compl. furn. w/all amen. Available Jan - Mar. 416-665-2413.

135 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT

ANBER MOVERS
(LOCAL MOVING)
SPECIALIST IN:
TORONTO ↔ VANCOUVER
NEW YORK ↔ FLORIDA
(514) 735-8148
1-800-561-MOVE

143 FLORIDA SHARED ACCOMM. AVAIL.

Hallandale Beach, nice sr. lady wishes to share with same, lux. 2 bdrm, 2 bth apt. Doorman bldg, choice loc., Nov.-April (or partial), $500./mo. 498-7221.

150 FLORIDA TRANSPORTATION

I'll drive your car to Florida, Nov.1, early 40's. 25 yrs accident & claim free driving record. Refs. avail. Call 416-486-1748.

240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Enthusiastic creative, Hebrew teacher req'd. Sun. mornings & Wed. afternoons for downtown school, beginning Sept. 1998. Successful classroom experience & teacher training req'd. Phone Joan Schoenfeld 924-6211 or fax Joan at 924-0442, please include references.

ENTREPRENEURIAL ketubah company seeks full time customer service expert with potential for advancement. Excellent English communication. Mac/Windows, administration experience, Hebrew reading required. Fax resume to: (416) 256-1142.

Exper., qualified, creative Hebrew teacher req'd for Sunday mornings/afternoons, Richmond Hill school. 905-770-1082

MUSICAL JOB. Looking for upbeat, presentable person. Must play portable instrument, have great singing voice, car, good communication skills, want to interact with moms and tots. Unique teaching experience. Reply to CJN Box # 7078.

240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Hebrew & Judaic Studies teachers req'd. for Conservative Sunday Hebrew School. Call 416-226-0111 for information.

WANTED - Friendly, p/t person for busy office, flex. hours $8/hr. Call Joanne at 905-771-7606.

The Hillel Children's Workshop needs a Sunday school teacher for a small class of 11 and 12 year olds. Hebrew is an asset. Great program and great pay. Call Betty at 960-0046 or fax résumé to 977-8587.

Tutor required to learn Polish language. 905-660-6502.

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

A complete cleaning service for homes, offices. Refs., ins. & bonded. Sylvia, 416-740-3034.

An exp. live-in nanny housekeeper needed 630-3773.

Cleaning lady avail. Reasonable rates. Call 416-245-3988.

Cleaning lady experienced. Maggie, 416-635-8223.

Cleaning lady with refs. avail. eves & weekends. 782-8240.

Cleaning or night duty for elderly. Experienced 494-5112.

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Nannies/ Hskprs/Companions.
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Frustrated by trying to find a suitable nanny? Let us help you. We have dependable, caring nannies who are thoroughly qualified, personally interviewed & pre-screened. All refs. are checked. Some are CPR trained. Low finders fee.
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250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

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APPLE
DOMESTICS
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GOLDEN CARE LTD.
There's *no place* like HOME!
Live-in and live-out Caregivers.
Staff training in safety, appropriate behaviour and even Jewish cooking!
On-going contact with you after placement.
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Our Company is dedicated to fulfilling the domestic needs of your family. Tired of searching for the right nanny, housekeeper, elderly caregiver? We pre-screen, interview & verify references personally. Why not let the search end here?
CALL (416) 630-3773

Nannies, live-in/out, full/part-time, in-home elderly care, FT, PT, RN's, nurses aides, cleaning. Bonded,refs. **416-224-9907** ***NUMBER 1 DOMESTICS.***

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

High quality house cleaning. Call Dora, 736-1179.

Home cleaning. Introductory special offer including all cleaning products. 2 people will clean for $15/hour, minimum 4 hours. Fully insured. 7 days a week. *Call Sharon* 416-783-8068.

Lady avail. for cleaning & ironing. Call 416-241-0755, Yona.

Polish exper. cleaning lady, refs. Call 247-4157.

255 DOMESTIC HELP WANTED

Live-in care giver req'd for bright sr. Jewish lady. North York. Exp. ref. 905-889-9504.

259 SENIORS

Ahavath Achim Retirement Home. The home with a Neshama. Planned activities, 24 hr. supervision. For information contact Joseph or Louise Sahar, office (416) 398-5486 or (905) 660-4831.

Wanted bowlers seniors 5 pin Monday afternoon 1p.m. Bowlerama Bathurst & Glencairn. Call Sarah 416-638 -3785.

260 BUSINESS PERSONALS

B"H

"At Soulmates we know that for every soul G-d created he also created their mate!" Find your mate now! **SOULMATES INC.**
***Call* 905-709-3868**
www.soulmates.net

Bringing People Together. No blind dates, view a lrg. selection of photos. Ruth, 905-731-5204.

260 BUSINESS PERSONALS

Jewish Singles Registry, over 1630 members. Website, www.total.net/~jsreg. 483-4151

Jewish singles, 40-60 who like to play friendly home games (cards, chess etc.) like to watch movies, listen to good music, food incl. $15. 794-5898, pager.

264 SOCIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

LEVIN - Alexander & Yosbie (neé Ishii) of Morse, Saskatchewan are overjoyed to announce the safe arrival of their first child, a son, Joshua Alexander on August 14, 1998 at Calgary Rockyview General Hospital. Enormous gratitude to Dr. Walter Moskovitz and nurse Jackie Bogorus. Happy grandparents are Fiodor & Sonia Levin of Calgary, and Kikuo & Misogi Ishii of Ito - City, Japan.

OUR LITTLE SUNSHINE!!!
WAGMAN - Martin & Lillian (nee Foldes) are thrilled to announce the birth of their precious baby boy Michael Eric, born on Sunday, July 19, 1998, weighing 8lbs. 2oz. Sharing our joy are first time grandparents Agi & Tom Foldes. Second time experts Zelda & Bill Wagman.

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

*** CJN Boxes for Personal Companions Wanted ads are valid for 30 (thirty) days only (from 1st publication date). Replies must be received within this time frame in order to be forwarded to the correct CJN Box #.**

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

To **Listen** & **Respond** To Ads call **1-900-451-4552** ***Ext.#*** 65
The cost of the 900# is only $2.29 per minute

To Place Your **FREE** Ad call **905-276-6167** ***Ext.#*** 65

The Meeting Place

Brought to you by the Canadian Jewish News

Women seeking Men

LOOKING FOR FRIENDS
Single female, 50, living in the North York area, is seeking other females interested in evenings out, coffee, theatre and good conversation. AD# 1454

POSSIBLE RELATIONSHIP
Divorced female, 46, professional, non-smoker, fun loving is seeking a professional male, Jewish, non-smoker, responsible, outgoing, divorced. AD#1457

NIFTY FIFTYS
Widow, 54, no dependents, financially sound, enjoys movies, theater, long romantic walks. Seeking a financially stable male with good sense of humour. AD#1510

INDEPENDENT
Single female, 26, petite, enjoys long walks on the beach, movies Seeking a Jewish male, 28-33, that's kind, sensitive, outgoing, ambitious and independent. AD#1438

RESPECTFUL
Single Jewish female, 29, professional, 5'5", 130lbs, attractive, brunette. Seeking a Jewish male, 29-34, that's attractive, respectful, with a sweet disposition looking for the love of his life. AD#1439

CHILDREN WELCOME
Single Jewish female, attractive mom, 5'5", brown hair and eyes, sincere, kind. Seeking a tall attractive Jewish male 40-50 years, traditional, kind, loves life. AD#1473

MARRIAGE MINDED
Single female in 50's, widow, non-smoker, romantic, great sense of humour, financially secure, enjoys dining out, movies, long walks, travelling. Seeking a Jewish male with similar interests. AD#1449

GOOD SHAPE
Divorced female, 34, 5'7", professional, fit, enjoys outdoor activities, movies, reading. No dependents. Seeking a male with similar interests, tall, with a sense of humour. AD#1452

LAUGHTER IS NEEDED
Divorced Jewish female, 46, registered dietician, enjoys movies, dancing, dining, long romantic walks. Seeking a caring male with a strong sense of humour AD# 1524

THEATRE & DINING OUT
Single female, late 40's, 5'4", blondish brown hair, hazel eyes, voluptuous, pretty, enjoy theatre, dining out, romantic walks, seeking a well established male, 48-50, handsome, caring, for sincere relationship Ad# 1394

COME ENJOY LIFE WITH ME
Slim, attractive widow, 5'4", very refined, curious, adventurous, warm, caring, real love for life & laughter, seeking gentleman with a real zest for life to share all the wonders of life with. Ad# 1408

LONG TERM RELATIONSHIP
Jewish lady, blonde hair, blue eyes, seeking Jewish gentleman, 36-46, height & weight not important. Ad# 1412

KIND HEARTED
Single female, 30, Jewish, petite, attractive, fit, down to earth, great sense of humour, seeking a Jewish male, 32-39, sincere, attractive, kind hearted, for friendship,possible relationship. Ad# 1415

TRUSTWORTHY
Single female, middle age, enjoy dancing, dining, travelling, sports, seeking a male who is trustworthy, for serious relationship. Ad# 1417

CAPABLE
Single Jewish female, 40 something, intelligent, sexy, humourous, enjoy dancing, fishing, walks, music, seeking a Jewish male who is available, capable & sensual. Ad# 1421

LASTING RELATIONSHIP
Divorced Jewish female, 49, loving, caring, loyal, great sense of humour, enjoy dining out, dancing, long walks, travelling, seeking a male, 49-57 for lasting relationship Ad# 1420

GOOD VALUES
Single Jewish female, 38, petite, easy going, down to earth, nonsmoker, laid back, good values, seeking a Jewish male, 35-42 to be best friends & lifetime partner. Ad# 1424

ZEST FOR LIFE
Single Jewish female, single parent, seeking tall, fit, sincere, kind, witty, sun loving male, kids OK, honest & caring, 40-55. Ad# 1425

BEST IS YET TO COME
Single female, Jewish, 5'7", blue eyes, sincere, intelligent, attractive, enjoy theatre, travelling, quiet evenings at home, seeking tall gentleman, 50+, warm & sincere who has a passion for cooking. Ad# 1432

ROMANTIC AT HEART
Single Jewish lady, 55, 5'6", red hair, nonsmoker, independent with a great zest for life, seeking gentleman, 55-65, stylish, handsome for long term relationship. Ad# 1520

DINING & DANCING
Single Jewish mom, 37, 5'3", blonde hair, blue eyes, 2 teenage children, enjoy movies, dining & dancing, theatre, outdoor activities, romantic evenings, honest, outgoing, fun loving, seeking male with similar interests & qualities. Ad# 1436

SHARE SAME INTERESTS
Single Jewish female, 35, 5'5", nonsmoker, brunette, blue eyes, enjoy movies, dining in & out, quiet evenings cooking, baking, long walks on the board walk, seeking a Jewish male, 30-43, nonsmoker. Ad# 1378

ROMANTIC MOMENTS
Single female, 50, passionate, caring, sincere, enjoy working out, travelling, dining out, dancing, seeking male to share romantic moments Ad# 1468

LOVE CONNECTION
Single female, Jewish, great smile, love pets, kids & life, looking for Jewish gentleman 38-45, honest, sincere, caring to share the sunshine with Ad# 1384

Men seeking Women

SHARE LIFE'S BEAUTIES
Single male 55, tall, attractive, European, non-smoker, passionate, humorous, affectionate, enjoys dancing, singing. Seeking a petite attractive female with similar interests to share life's beauties. AD#1458

ATHLETIC ROMANTIC
Tall single male, 54, attractive, non-smoker, easy going, athletic, self-employed. Enjoys quiet evenings, sports, movies, music. Seeking a single Jewish female, 38+, non-smoker, attractive with similar values. AD#1453

LONG-TERM RELATIONSHIP
Gentleman, 39, 5'7", enjoys music, movies, sports, good sense of humour, seeks that special lady for romantic times, loves to cuddle. AD#1462

INCURABLE ROMANTIC
Single Jewish male, 39, 5'7", enjoy music, movies, dining, dancing, seeking cuddly lady to enjoy the finer things in lifeAd# 1433

WELL BUILT
Single male, 59, 5'10", 182 lbs., well built, handsome, good sense of humour, non-smoker, nondrinker, enjoy dancing, travelling, cooking, music, seeking a female, 45-52 with similar interests. Ad# 1398

FRIENDSHIP FIRST
Single Jewish male, 30, brown hair, brown eyes, variety of interests, sports, movies, concerts, always willing to try something new, seeking a lady with similar interests.Ad# 1414

OUTGOING & CARING
Single male, outgoing, caring, enjoy live theatre, seeking a female for a relationship, someone who is honest, trustworthy, loyal, good listener & communicator. Ad# 1379

ROMANTIC AT HEART
Gentleman, sincere, sentimental, affectionate, love to cuddle, enjoy movies, music, romantic times & winters in Florida, seeking a slim, attractive lady, 55+ with similar interests. Ad# 1383

WHAT A CATCH
Single Jewish male, 33, 6', brown hair, blue green eyes, slim, handsome, spontaneous, enjoy dining, dancing, movies, outdoor activities, travelling, seeking a single Jewish female 28-34, attractive, slim, easy going, brunette. Ad# 1387

ENJOY LIFE
Single male, 54, tall, romantic, easy to look at, athletic, nonsmoker, enjoy sports, quiet evenings, seeking a single Jewish female who enjoys life Ad# 1391

KIND & HONEST
Jewish gentleman, sincere, kind, honest, not into bar scene, seeking companionship of nice Jewish girl with strong sense of humour, kind & sincere. Ad# 1364

AN ORIGINAL
Gentleman, kind, sincere, intelligent, easy going, professional, enjoy dining, dancing, quiet evenings, seeking lady with similar interests for long term old fashioned relationship. Ad# 1409

STAND BY ME
Gentleman, 26, Jewish, police officer in Toronto area, educated, hoping to return to college, seeking good natured lady with good sense of humour, no more broken hearts. Ad# 1368

AMBITIOUS
Single male, 30, ambitious, outgoing, enjoy travelling, sports, long walks, dining out, seeking a warm, compassionate female who is sensitive & outgoing. Ad# 1370

DRIVES IN THE COUNTRY
Very conservative gentleman, 5'8", stock analyst, enjoy art auctions, drives in the country, looking for a lady or single moms, you don't have to be slim Ad# 1348

SEEKING GOOD COMPANY
Gentleman, Jewish, 51, very good natured, witty, creative, professional, seeking lady, pleasant, kind, sincere, very good sense of humour, for future relationship. Ad# 1351

GREAT TIMES TOGETHER
Single Jewish male, 63, 5'9", 160 lbs., like to give a lot of tender loving care, enjoy arts, sports, seeking a slim Jewish lady who is elegant & proud of her Jewish heritage & religion. Ad# 1357

GOOD CONVERSATION
Single Jewish male, 56, enjoy travelling, movies, walks, have a good sense of humour, goo conversation & romantic, seeking a female who is attractive with similar interests. Ad# 1372

MARRIAGE MINDED
Gentleman, 70, widower, sincere, trustworthy, kind, seeking lady up to 65 years for possible future relationship. Ad# 1318

LASTING RELATIONSHIP
Divorced male from Eastern Europe, handsome, sincere, fit, professional, enjoy movies, dancing, biking, seeking a kind & affectionate female in 30's, slim & attractive. Ad# 1388

PLAYFUL
Single white Jewish male, no dependents, 175 lbs., blonde hair, blue eyes, fit, secure, well educated, seeking lady, slim, attractive, under 40 years. Ad# 1319

To renew your ad call 416-236-6644

Questions ??? 416-236-6644

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

Young looking senior female widow seeks companionship, male or female. CJN Box #7045

CLASSIFIED ADS/ SERVICE DIRECTORY ADS
·CUSTOMER SERVICE·

The CJN requires that advertisers check their advertisement upon publication, as *The CJN* will not be responsible for more than one incorrect insertion, and there shall be no liability for non-insertion of any advertisement. Liability for errors in advertisements is limited to the amount paid for the space occupying the error. All copy is subject to the approval of the management of *The CJN*. *The CJN* reserves the right to classify all advertisements.

Service Directory & Classified Ad Deadlines are Wednesday, 8 days previous to the issue, by 4 pm.

Replying to a Companion ad with a CJN Box Number?

Address your mail to:

The Canadian Jewish News
1500 Don Mills Rd.
Suite 205
North York, Ontario
M3B 3K4
Box # _____

330 OBITUARIES

BENJAMIN'S LANDMARK MONUMENTS

ALL MONUMENTS ARE NOT CREATED EQUAL

BENJAMIN'S
LANDMARK MONUMENTS
3429 Bathurst (corner of Melrose)
(416) 780-0635

335 UNVEILINGS

STRUB, Evelyn Green. Unveiling took place Aug. 23, 1998, Pardes Shalom Cemetery at New Jewish Fraternal Section at 10:00 am. Mrs. Green-Strub passed away on October 16, 1997. Unveiling of a new monument for Evelyn's husband Irving Green who passed away April 30, 1967 also took place at the same time and place.

UNVEILING
RUTH ACKER ז"ל
(BRODSKY, GOLDSTEIN)
will take place
Sunday, Aug. 30th,
2:00 p.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Yavne Zion Plot

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
SANDRA AZULAY ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Aug. 30th,
10:00 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Blue Star Lodge Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
HARRY BROWN ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Aug. 30th,
11:30 a.m.
Mount Sinai Memorial Park
986 Wilson Avenue at Keele
Kiever Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
ELAINE GELLER ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Aug. 30th,
11:45 a.m.
Mount Sinai Memorial Park
Sunnyside Lodge Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

330 OBITUARIES

IZENBERG GOLDBERG *Monuments*
Serving the Jewish community for over 80 years
•Finest quality memorials crafted in our own factory - under our supervision
•Very reasonable prices
MONUMENTS CAN BE PREPARED WITHIN SHLOSHIM

EXPERIENCE QUALITY - SERVICE
3173 BATHURST ST.
(just north of Lawrence)
(416) **787-0319**

335 UNVEILINGS

yad vashem monuments

UNVEILINGS for SUNDAY, AUG. 30

ADEL **BOKSER** ע"ח	Bathurst Lawn Linitzer Section (22)	11:00 a.m.
SONIA **LOTERMAN** ע"ח	Bathurst Lawn Warshover Lodzer Section (46)	10:15 a.m.
ROSE **MANDLE** ע"ח	Lambton Hills Beth Emeth Section (1)	12:30 p.m.
HARRY **SILVERBERG** ז"ל	Mt. Sinai Workmen's Circle Section (5)	11:00 a.m.

Personalizing Memorials For Over 20 Years **416.782.8995**

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
EDITH *(YIDIS)* CORNBLUM ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, August 30th, at 11:30 a.m.
Dawes Road Cemetery
St. Clair Avenue, East of Victoria Park
Farband Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument for
RUCHEL KLEINBERG ז"ל
beloved sister, dear aunt & friend
will take place
Sunday, August 30th, at 11:00 a.m.
Lambton Cemetery
Beth Jacob V'Anshe Dridz Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
SYLVIA MARGOLIN ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, August 30th, at 10:30 a.m.
Pardes Shalom Cemetery
Dufferin St., North of Major Mackenzie Drive
Farband Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
DIANE STITSKY ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, August 30th, at 11:00 a.m.
Roselawn Cemetery
B'nai Abraham Section
The family gratefully acknowledges the donations and support received.
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
DOV KREPEL ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Aug. 30th,
11:30 a.m.
Mount Sinai Memorial Park
Beth Radom Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
SALLY LIPINSKY ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Aug. 30th,
10:30 a.m.
Roselawn Cemetery
Adath Israel Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

335 UNVEILINGS

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
HERMAN RECHES ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Aug. 30th,
11:00 a.m.
Pardes Shalom Cemetery
Beth Tikvah Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
ABRAM ROSENBERG ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Aug. 30th,
10:00 a.m.
Mount Sinai Memorial Park
Workman's Circle Section
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Hockey bug hits home for Israeli teens

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Matan Nemenoff has a very steep learning curve.

Prior to 18 months ago, the 16-year-old Israeli student had never heard of the game of hockey – let alone seen anyone play the game.

Today he's a hockey junkie, a sabra rink rat whose favorite place is between the boards, skating with the puck and making plays.

Only 18 months into his hockey career, Nemenoff is no ankler barely able to make it down the ice. On the contrary. He's already worked his way onto the Israeli national junior team – okay, they're not exactly the Memorial Cup champs – and he represented his country at an IIHF Pool D tournament in Luxembourg last March. Despite it being his first-ever tournament, he was named the Israeli team's MVP.

Last summer, he attended the Roger Neilson hockey camp, Middle Eastern division, which was held at Canada Centre in Metulla, home to Israel's only Olympic-sized skating rink. More recently, he and fellow national team player Amit Shoham, 15, travelled to Canada to participate in Neilson's summer hockey school in Lindsay, Ont.

Neilson, who will hold his second consecutive hockey camp in Metulla in August, took a liking to the boys last year and offered them spots in his Canadian school free of charge, said Jeff Budd, a Canadian who has worked in Canada Centre. Enrolment at the camp goes for $990 a week.

For Nemenoff and Shoham, the trip to Canada was a hockey highlight in their young careers. Especially gratifying for the boys was their ability to hold their own and even excel at the camp, playing against more seasoned skaters from Canada, the United States, France and even Spain.

Trip to Canada was a highlight

"I had a good camp. I enjoyed it a lot," Nemenoff said.

The hockey bug has bit Nemenoff hard. He's no longer content to travel the 1½ hours from his home in Karkom, a small town north of Kinneret, to Metulla for his twice weekly practices. Instead, he desperately wants to move to Canada and take up the sport more seriously.

"I really love hockey and I want to stay with a family and play," he said.

His plans are not without precedent. A few years ago, Israeli national team member Ran Oz played one year for the Midget Marlies in Toronto and was sought after by other, more senior, teams. But instead of pursuing a hockey career in Canada, the big defenceman decided to return to Israel.

Nemenoff, a centre, wants nothing more than to play the game. "Let me play hockey. I don't care about anything else...I feel that every time I'm on the ice, I get better and better."

For him, living in a hockey hotbed like Canada would be a dream come true. One of the boys' first stops in Toronto was to an equipment store, where Nemenoff purchased a new pair of skates to replace the pair that NHLer Bill Lindsay, an instructor at the Neilson's Metulla camp, left with him last year.

Shoham, a native of Kibbutz Sde Nechemia, a 15-minute drive from Metulla, doesn't quite share Nemenoff's hockey passions, at least on this side of the ocean. "I like hockey, but I like Israel more. I want to develop hockey in Israel," he said.

His first exposure to the sport came five years ago after his brother suggested he try skating at Metulla. Even though the skates the rink provided him were of poor quality, he loved the sport.

"I like everything that's cold. I like skiing on the Hermon, I like winter," he said. "I expected it to be cold in Toronto."

Shoham and Nemenoff credit Boris Mindel, Canada Centre's Russian-born coach who played in the Soviet Elite League, with teaching them the fundamentals of the game.

"I was his first player. He taught me everything. We have a great relationship," Shoham said.

Shoham, a defenceman, found skating backward the hardest skill to master. "I used to say, 'I can't do it,' but he urged me to continue. Right now, I'm the best skater backwards."

Matan Nemenoff and Amit Shoham

Last summer, Shoham volunteered during the Maccabiah Games' hockey competition, which was held in Metulla. For Nemenoff, it was his first exposure to high calibre players who played the game with skill and speed.

A hockey nut like Nemenoff, but with access to satellite TV, Shoham used to get up at 2 a.m. during the winter to watch NHL games on ESPN.

Both players are happy with their performances at the IIHF tournament, in which Israel – this time without the aid of Canadian ringers – finished sixth out of eight teams. The undermanned Israelis went with only one and half lines and double shifted their defencemen. Both skaters were team rookies but they played about 14 minutes a period. Even though he hadn't heard of a two-line pass until the tournament, Nemenoff was Israel's best player.

Neilson, meanwhile, knows about Shoham and Nemenoff from last year's hockey camp in Metulla. Both were noticeable by their abilities and "they wanted to test themselves against Canadian kids," he said. In Lindsay, "they played very well...They showed they were not outclassed."

In Metulla, "the Israeli kids, particularly the younger ones, were very eager to play. They were scrappy. It looks like they'd make good hockey players."

Neilson, who'll be visiting Israel for the fourth time this summer, will be accompanied by three instructors from his hockey school and by Philadelphia Flyer Danius Zubrus.

One of the Flyers' young stars, Zubrus was eager to participate in the school, said Neilson, his coach in Phillie. It was difficult to recruit other players, partly because of the Katyusha rocket attacks last summer but more so because most players are just getting into their pre-season training regimen, he added.

The Inside Back

Auschwitz crosses spark crisis

By RUTH E. GRUBER
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

ROME – A growing forest of more than 130 crosses near the gates of Auschwitz has sparked a new crisis in the perpetually strained relations between Poles and Jews.

The crisis, however, reflects not only continuing friction between Jews and Polish Catholics over the former death camp, it also underscores tensions within Poland's Roman Catholic Church itself, within the country's center-right coalition government, and between the church and state.

"This is not a Catholic-Jewish war yet," Konstanty Gebert, editor of the Polish Jewish magazine *Midrasz*, said in an interview. "So far, it is a conflict within the Catholic community itself, where a group of fundamentalist fanatics has hijacked the entire issue."

In an attempt to defuse the situation, the Polish government took legal control of the field where the crosses have been erected.

"This will make further actions possible," Prime Minister Jerzy Buzek was quoted as saying.

In addition, a government source in Warsaw said Polish Foreign Minister Bronislaw Geremek was to meet with Polish-born Pope John Paul II this week at the Pope's summer residence near Rome. Geremek's visit was private, but he was sure to discuss the issue and a possible papal response to it.

Polish Cardinal Josef Glemp, who has antagonized Jewish leaders in the past with his comments about the legacy of Auschwitz, has already called on Catholics not to erect new crosses, but to no avail.

A special meeting of Polish bishops scheduled for Aug. 26 may help resolve the issue.

Backed by some hard-line priests, radical Catholics began setting up the crosses just outside the walls of the former Nazi death camp at the end of July to protest the possible removal of a 21-foot cross that stands there. That cross was used by the Pope in a mass at Auschwitz in 1979.

Kazimierz Switon, the radical Catholic activist who organized the actions, called last week for supporters to place even more crosses at the site – defying Cardinal Glemp and other Polish bishops, local and international Jewish organizations, Polish media and other groups.

He said he wanted 152 crosses to stand there to commemorate Poles who were killed at the death camp where an estimated 1.5 million people were killed, 90 percent of them Jews.

Throughout the world, Auschwitz is regarded as the symbol of the Holocaust and the biggest Jewish graveyard. Jews say no religious symbols should be allowed to be placed there.

But tens of thousands of Polish Catholics also were killed there, and Poles regard the camp as the symbol of Polish suffering under the Nazis.

During the past decade, Auschwitz has been the scene of several conflicts between Jews and Polish Catholics, most notably over the establishment of a Carmelite convent in a building just outside the camp.

The nuns eventually were moved to a new convent after the conflict was resolved in 1993. The so-called papal cross stands in a fenced-in area near the building that had been used as the convent.

"The fact is that most of the people involved now in setting up the new crosses do not have any noble reason for what they're doing," a Catholic source who has followed the affair told JTA.

"It's not about the Holocaust," he said. "It's a provocation by reactionaries opposed to Polish integration into Europe and transformation into a modern democratic state. They are using anti-Semitism [in the guise of national pride]."

Gebert said it was disappointing that Jews had to explain again why crosses were not acceptable at Auschwitz and to restate Jewish determination to combat religious symbols there.

But, he said, the atmosphere surrounding the current crisis so far is different from that during the Carmelite crisis.

"It is important to note that there is none of the knee-jerk, rally-around-the-cross reaction characteristic of the previous conflict," he said. "The opinions of the church leadership are diversified, and public opinion takes a much more relaxed stance."

Indeed, while a recent survey showed that more than 70 percent of Poles wanted to prevent removal of the large cross associated with the Pope, only 32 percent of those surveyed supported the erection of new crosses.

Many Jewish groups in Poland and abroad have called for the crosses to be removed, but Jews so far have refrained from public demonstrations at the site.

During the convent crisis, Poles reacted with an outrage tainted with anti-Semitism when New York Rabbi Avi Weiss and his followers climbed over the walls and into the cloistered convent as part of a protest.

"Jewish reaction so far has been dignified and determined," Gebert said. "We need to keep it that way. Any demonstrations in front of the crosses would only inflame matters further. As long as there is hope for a negotiated solution, such measures should be avoided."

But, he added, "If that hope does dim, then we may have to reconsider."

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1 pkg. devil's food cake mix	3 large egg whites
1 cup vanilla yogurt	1/3 cup kahlua liqueur
1/4 cup oil	1/3 cup semisweet chocolate chips
1/3 cup skim milk	1 oz instant chocolate pudding mix
1 large egg	cocoa

Preheat oven to 350°F. Coat 13"x9" baking pan with nonstick cooking spray and dust with cocoa. Place all ingredients except chocolate chips in a large bowl. Beat with mixer for 2 minutes or until well blended. Stir in chocolate chips. Pour batter into prepared pan and bake for 50 minutes, or until toothpick inserted in middle comes out clean. Cool before cutting.

About Life

Dear Ella,

With the High Holy Days just around the corner, it was time for me to purchase my tickets for the services.

I must admit that I don't attend prayer services regularly. I am one of those people the rabbi usually mentions in his sermon who come to shul only for the Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur services and never see the inside of a synagogue the rest of the year. Unfortunately, almost every year there is someone I have an argument with over the seating. There is no reserved seating on the tickets; it works on a first come first served basis. Inevitably the shul will be full and there will be someone with his or her coat stretched out over three empty seats, or two siddurim sitting on empty chairs, or there will be someone who removes a siddur from a chair to sit down and then the wars begin. I don't go to shul to hear this or to go through this musical chairs type game. It's ridiculous. Is there a tactful way I can get around this on the holidays?

Seatless at Shul

Dear Seatless at Shul,

We've all been there. Unfortunately this happens not only in shuls, but in any place where there is a crowd of people and a limited number of seats. People want to sit with their relatives or friends at shul and they forget the reason they are there.

I agree it is annoying and I myself have been in some tiffs over a "held" empty seat when there was nowhere else to sit. The thing to do is to take a step back and look at the whole picture. Why are you there? It is Rosh Hashanah or Yom Kippur and you are there to pray and to think about your behavior as a good, caring decent human being. Don't start off fighting. That is not the way to spend your energy on the Holy Days.

Ask politely if you may sit in the empty seat till another seat becomes available or until the relative arrives. I know you feel you have a right to the seat, as you are there first and the other person is not; however, this isn't the time or place to argue over pettiness. If it means you have to stand until a seat becomes available, so be it. You will not change these people, and arguing will set the tone for your whole stay in shul.

Stay focused on your prayers and the real reason for being in shul.

Readers may submit their questions to Ella at The CJN. *But Ella is not a professional counsellor. She brings to the questions posed by readers her unique brand of earthy wisdom. Her advice is not a replacement for medical, legal or any other advice. For serious problems, consult a professional.*

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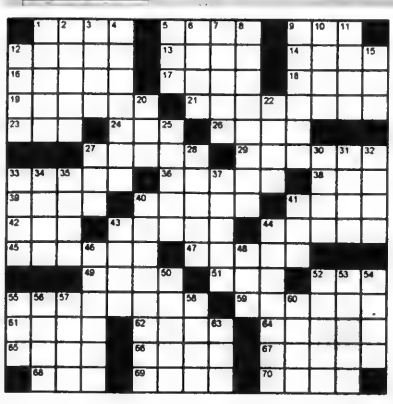

Across

1. Purim need
5. Isaiah or Samuel
9. Sprocket
12. Like Eden's apple
13. "__ of Settlement"
14. Oy Vey!
16. Moses on the mount
17. Israeli silver medallist
18. Anti-semite
19. "Where the Wild Things Are", illustrator
21. Bridge engineer
23. Tel Aviv to Jerusalem (dir.)
24. Karpas ritual
26. Bar Kochba
27. Saul's oldest daughter
29. Soup Nuts
33. Shema ender
36. NY__, Newspaper
38. Lox starters
39. Haman?
40. Mountain
41. Observe Shabbat
42. El Al milieu
43. Judeas, great philosopher
44. Rickles shtick
45. Abbie Hoffman
47. Said amen
49. Artist Yaacov
51. Knight's title
52. Kol Nidre sound
55. Prime __, Netanyahu
59. Part of Talmud
61. Purim month
62. Esau
64. Unbroken letter
65. Schnozze (Eng.)
66. Circumcision
67. Roman ruler
68. Yeled (Eng.)
69. Comic Mort
70. Noah's rainbow

Down

1. Orthodox minyan
2. Say the Viddui
3. Transmit
4. Made the Challah
5. Ein gedi
6. Hamantaschen?
7. First Israeli ambassador to USA
8. The Almighty
9. Actress Dyan __
10. World (Heb.)
11. The strip
12. Seder manner
15. Letter of the Alephbet
20. Syrian ancient homeland?
22. Gershwin and Levin
25. Writer Raphael
27. Damage
28. History of the Jews
30. Trash (Yid.)
31. Misplace
32. Biblical fishing tools
33. Israeli Valley
34. 103
35. David's instrument
37. Calendar cycles
40. Chain for Schuberts
41. Actor Steiger
43. Chazzarim (Eng.)
44. Joshua's victory site
46. Like Noah's animals
48. Faint
50. Medes
52. Tzedakah
53. Gribbenis ingredient
54. The Klezmatics
55. Sixth day creation
56. Pagan deity
57. Resnik's Org.
58. Cecil, Jewish historian
60. Baal __ Tov
63. Radioman Allen

These puzzles are the work of Kathi Handlerof Waterbury, Connecticut.

(Last week's answers are on page 44.)

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COMMUNITY FOCUS

SECTION B **Our Community Focus cover shows children from the community in various activities throughout the past school year.**

[Photos courtesy of the Board of Jewish Education]

The Canadian Jewish news

COMMUNITY FOCUS

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BATHURST JEWISH CENTRE
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Tel: 905-889-3998 Fax: 905-889-5183
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Richmond Hill, Ont. L4C 9L1
Director: Lillian Beniolo
Tel: 905-770-1082 Fax:905-770-6965
Beth Israel Hebrew Academy offers Sundays and afternoon Hebrew programs for children ages 5-Bar/Bat Mitzvah, in Richmond Hill and Thornhill. Small classes, individual attention, special events, and activities are integrated into Hebrew studies. We are affiliated with the Board of Jewish Education and the York Region Board of Education.

BETH SHOLOM HEBREW SCHOOL (Mildred Arnoff Memorial)
1445 Eglinton Ave. W.,
Toronto, Ont. M6C 2E6
Tel: 416-783-6103 Fax: 416-783-9923
A Conservative Synagogue school affiliated with the Board of Jewish Education. Small, friendly classes for Junior Kindergarten to pre-Bar/Bat Mitzvah. Family education programs, integrated art programs, ongoing remedial help and monthly Rosh Hodesh celebrations add to an exciting learning environment, foster a sense of community and enrich students' Jewish identity.

BETH TIKVAH CONGREGATIONAL SCHOOL
3080 Bayview Ave.,
Willowdale, Ont. M2N 5L3
Principal: Samuel Kapustin
Tel: 416-221-3433 Fax: 416-221-1602
Offers a dynamic 2-day-a-week Jewish studies curriculum: Hebrew, Bible, prayer, history and values. We seek to develop a positive Jewish identity in each child through a meaningful, responsive educational environment, with a variety of youth activities. All classes (JK-8) are open to the community and are in the Synagogue.

BIALIK HEBREW DAY SCHOOL
12 Viewmount Ave.,
Toronto, Ont. M6B 1T3
Administrator: Sonia Shron
Tel: 416-783-3346 Fax: 416-785-8287
Bialik Hebrew Day School serves children from JK-Grade 8, striving to provide an integrated Jewish and general education. Through our integrated program, students learn to value their Jewishness and love for Israel while developing a sense of membership in the Canadian community.

B'NAI SHALOM HEBREW SCHOOL
Yorkhill E.S., 350 Hilda Ave.
(at Clark) **Thornhill**
Principal: Joseph Klinger, MA
Administrator: Sadie Domb
Tel: 905-731-2797
School hours - once or twice weekly. K-Grade 7. Free bar/bat mitzvah lessons. Affiliated with Board of Jewish Education. Conservative schools' curriculum. Trusted name in Hebrew education since 1983. Subjects covered: Hebrew, holidays, prayers, Israel, Bible, history, Israeli folkdancing, music.

CENTRE FOR JEWISH STUDIES, YORK UNIVERSITY
260 Vanier College, 4700 Keele St.,
Toronto, Ont. M3J 1P3
Director: Prof. Michael Brown
Tel: 416-736-5823 Fax: 416-736-5823
York U. offers Jewish Studies courses ranging from ancient Israel and Hebrew language to Holocaust, contemporary Canadian Jewry and Jewish Teacher Education. Programs include BA, BEd, graduate degrees and the Advanced Certificate in Hebrew and Jewish Studies. York's Centre for Jewish Studies co-ordinates academic programs, research projects and community outreach.

COMMUNITY HEBREW ACADEMY OF TORONTO (CHAT)
200 Wilmington Ave.,
Downsview, Ont. M3H 5J8
Headmaster: Paul Shaviv
Tel: 416-636-5984 Fax: 416-636-7717
General philosophy: to provide Jewish high school students with a superior Jewish and general education. Unique Jewish studies curriculum available for students coming from public schools. Some ESL and Special Education services are available. Sponsors a wide range of extra-curricular activities including athletics.

DOWNTOWN JEWISH COMMUNITY SCHOOL (c/o Bloor JCC)
Principal: Joan Schonfeld
Tel: 416-924-6211 Fax: 416-924-0442
Independent school. 350 students, ages 4-18. Jr. K-12. High school Wed. 7-8:30 p.m. Special programs/features: community holiday celebration program and Oneg Shabbat dinners, adult education programs, family Israel fair. Provides students with strong sense of Jewish identity in pluralistic community.

DOWNTOWN JEWISH DAY SCHOOL
750 Spadina Ave.,
Toronto, Ont. M5S 2J2
Office Administrator: Doris Weisz
Tel: 416-924-6211, Ext. 45
Fax: 416-924-0442
The Downtown Jewish Day School will open at the Bloor/JCC (with pool, gym and affordable after school program). We offer high academic standards, high teacher/student ratio, arts based education, and a meaningful religious education. Enrichment is made possible by individual attention to children. Subsidies available. Enroll now, call 924-6211.

HOLY BLOSSOM TEMPLE PRE-SCHOOL
1950 Bathurst St.,
Toronto, Ont. M5P 3K9
Contact: Lorraine Sandler
Tel: 416-789-3291, Ext. 240
Fax: 416-789-9697
Dedicated to excellence in early childhood education and the introduction of Jewish knowledge and values. Staff comprises qualified Early Childhood Educators, music specialists, and a JK gym specialist. Student/teacher ratio is 1:8. We provide enriched programming around Shabbat and the holidays. A Jewish way of life permeates the school.

JEWS FOR JUDAISM
Mail to: **2795 Bathurst St., P.O. Box #41032**
Toronto, Ont. M6B 4J6
New centre: **Main Exchange Plaza, 800 Steeles Ave. W. (at Bathurst)**
Executive Director: Julius Ciss
Education Director: Rabbi Michael Skobac
Tel: 905-761-0040 Fax: 905-761-0070
E-mail: jfjciss@interlog.com
Web site: www.jewsforjudaism.org
Jews for Judaism is an international educational, outreach and counselling organization dedicated to counteracting the increased efforts of evangelical Christian missionaries who are specifically targetting Jews for conversion. We provide educational programs, lectures and classes; information, literature, books and tapes as well as counselling for Jews involved in Christian belief.

KEREN HATARBUT INSTITUTE
788 Marlee Ave.,
Toronto, Ont. M6B 3K1
Director: Joseph Klinger
Tel: 416-787-0197
Offers courses for adults and teenagers in conversational Hebrew for beginners, intermediate and advanced students. All classes are conducted under the guidance of skilled Israeli teachers. The promise is that beginners will speak, read and write Hebrew in 14 sessions.

KOLEL: A CENTRE FOR LIBERAL JEWISH LEARNING
36 Atkinson Ave.,
Thornhill, Ont. L4J 8C9
Director: Rabbi Elyse Goldstein
Assistant Director: Rabbi Jeremy Schwartz
Tel: 905-709-1900 Fax: 905-709-1895
e-mail: learn@kolel.org
An adult education centre for university-age and up; dedication to in-depth serious Jewish learning for those seeking a progressive egalitarian atmosphere. Kolel is a unique opportunity for men and women to examine the traditional texts together from a modern perspective. Semester classes, mini-courses, lectures, retreats.

ORAH SCHOOL
45 Canyon Ave., (In Ulpanat Orot bldg)
North York, Ont. M3H 3S4
Contact: Rabbi Yosef Michalowicz
Tel: 416-223-5556
ORAH - Sunday school for Jewish children (ages 4-13) from Russian-speaking families. Classes on Sundays 9:45 a.m.-3:45 p.m. Curriculum includes Jewish studies - Hebrew, customs, traditions, Jewish heritage, Bar/Bat Mitzvah; Russian language. Experienced professional teachers; supportive, friendly environment.

Community Directory of Advertisers

Education Cont'd

PLAYLEARN PRESCHOOL INC.
9741 Bayview Ave.,
Richmond Hill, Ont. L4C 9X7
Director: Mrs. Necha Jakubowicz
Tel: 905-737-3336 Fax: 905-886-0059
Licensed by the Ministry of Community and Social Services, the warm nurturing atmosphere and carefully thought-out programing fosters socialization skills, builds self-esteem and allows each child to reach his/her fullest potential. The joys of being Jewish are carefully transmitted through hands-on activities, forming an awareness and love for people and Eretz Israel.

MORRIS WINCHEVSKY COMMUNITY SCHOOL
585 Cranbrooke Ave.,
Toronto, Ont. M6A 2X9
Executive Director: Maxine Hermolin
Tel: 416-789-5502 Fax: 416-789-5981
Over 70 years of Progressive Humanistic Secular Jewish Education! Sunday morning classes, ages 4-13. Jewish identity & heritage explored through Yiddish culture, Jewish history, literature, music, folk dance, drama & art with social justice perspective. Family-oriented holiday celebrations. Graduation marked by Secular Bar-Bat Mitzvah. Youth activities and projects.

PRIDE OF ISRAEL HEBREW SCHOOL
59 Lissom Cres.,
Willowdale, Ont. M2R 2P2
School Bd. Chairperson: Paul Caplin
Tel: 905-738-4511 Fax: 905-761-0733
The Pride of Israel Hebrew School (affiliated with Pride of Israel Synagogue) is a fully functioning Conservative educational program in the Bathurst & Steeles area. The school welcomes students from the ages of 5 yrs. old, has a full Bar and Bat Mitzvah component, and an excellent weekly Junior Congregation service.

SHAAR SHALOM RELIGIOUS SCHOOL
2 Simonston Blvd.,
Thornhill, Ont. L3T 4L1
Principal: Karen L. Goodis, RJE
Location: Thornhill Secondary School.
Tel: 905-889-0987 Fax: 905-889-1575
Kindergarten, Sunday; Gr. 1-2, twice weekly; Gr. 3-7, three times weekly; Gr. 8 Judaica program. Highlights: family education, winter arts program, emphasis on synagogue skills, enrichment and remediation available. We are committed to providing children with the tools to become committed adult Jews. Affiliated with BJE and United Synagogue of Conservaive Judaism.

TEMPLE SINAI NURSERY SCHOOL
210 Wilson Ave.,
Toronto, Ont. M5M 3B1
Supervisor: Yonah Ander-Balsam
Tel: 416-487-3281 Fax: 416-487-5499
Our programs, enriched with Jewish content, enhance children's awareness and appreciation of their rich heritage. Through a parent involvement co-op, we offer a 2 or 3 day option for age 2; 5 days for age 3, 4 and 5. A variety of Mini-Afternoon programs are available.

UNITED CONGREGATIONAL SCHOOLS
100 Elder St.
North York, Ont. M3H 5G7
Educational Director: Rabbi Joseph Kelman
Tel: 416-633-1338 Fax: 416-633-3153
Comprehensive program emphasizing Hebrew, holiday celebrations, synagogue skills and history. 6 hours of classes, Wednesdays and Sundays. Central campus with free bus service from Thornhill on Wednesdays. Field trips, weekly music program, participating in Zimriyah Choir Festival. Bar/Bat Mitzvah program. Supported by Beth David and Beth Emeth Synagogues.

UNITED SYNAGOGUE DAY SCHOOL
Administration House:
3072 Bayview Ave., North York, M2L 5L3
Director of Education: Lucy Cohen
Tel: 416-225-5928 Fax: 416-225-9108
Bathurst Campus, 416-781-5658
Bayview Campus, 416-225-1143
Richmond Hill Campus, 905-770-0642
USDS is an integrated Jewish day school from Nursery-Gr. 8 which educates over 1,400 students guided by more than 150 teachers. USDS provides an education traditional in content and progressive in approach. USDS is sponsored by Conservaive Syngogues in 3 locations. Open to all in the Jewish community.

Funeral Chapels

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL
2401 Steeles Ave. W.,
North York, Ont. M3J 2P1
Contact: Michael Chas Benjamin
Tel: 416-663-9060 Fax: 416-663-9417
E-mail: info@bpmc.on.ca
We are part of the fabric that binds together the Toronto Jewish community, even in times of sorrow and stress. Four generations of the Benjamin family have provided support to bereaved Jewish families. We devote ourselves to upholding Jewish law and traditions, a responsibility we regard as a sacred trust.

HEBREW BASIC BURIAL
3429 Bathurst St.,
Toronto, Ont. M6A 2C3
Contact: Lawrence Scheinman
Tel: 416-780-0596 Fax: 416-780-0638
When economy is a major consideration, you should know that Hebrew Basic Burial offers the lowest interment costs available from any Jewish establishment. Families who have used Hebrew Basic Burial's services have all found that dignity and observance of Jewish law were exactly as they should be.

STEELES MEMORIAL CHAPEL
350 Steeles Ave. W.,
Thornhill, Ont. L4J 1A1
Managing Funeral Director:
Carol P. Saucier
Tel: 905-881-6003 Fax: 905-881-8539
The Toronto Jewish community has, for almost 70 years, entrusted us with its most sacred and important task. We accept your trust with a measure of humility and a great sense of responsibility. As a community run organization we have established a tradition of tzedaka towards organizations in the city and in Israel.

Israel Based Organizations

AID TO DISABLED VETERANS OF ISRAEL BEIT HALOCHEM CANADA
3101 Bathurst St., 4th floor,
North York, Ont. M6A 2A6
Tel: 416-787-8950 1-800-355-1648
Fax: 416-787-1097
E-mail: bhcan@interlog.com
Web site: www.interlog.com/~bhcan
Beit Halochem Canada assists disabled Israeli veterans and their families rehabilitate themselves physically and emotionally. Four state of the art facilities in Israel offer a comprehensive range of services to disabled members including medicine, hydrotherapy, physical therapy, creative and athletic activities. Please help ensure that these programs continue for our Israeli heroes.

THE ASSOCIATION FOR THE SOLDIERS OF ISRAEL
788 Marlee Ave., Ste. 201,
North York, Ont. M6B 3K1
Tel: 416-783-3053 Fax: 416-787-7496
Toll free: 1-800-433-6226
The Association is: the only civilian group whose programs make the life of every soldier on active duty in Israel's Defence Forces a little easier; co-ordinating its projects with the IDF to meet each soldier's recreational, educational and emotional needs; making army service more pleasant for every soldier; showing we care.

CANADIAN FRIENDS OF BOYS TOWN JERUSALEM
2788 Bathurst St., Ste. 200,
Toronto, Ont. M6B 3A3
Executive Director: Denise Gold
Tel: 416-789-7241 Fax: 416-789-1090
Over the past 50 years, Boys Town has enhanced the lives of more than 10,000 youths giving them new hopes and aspirations. Programs include computer science, design and manufacturing, electronics, mechanics, academic and religious studies. In turn, these boys have become key assets in building a better and stronger Israel.

CANADIAN FRIENDS OF GIVAT HAVIVA
1111 Finch Ave. W., Ste. 456,
Downsview, Ont. M3J 2E5
Tel: 416-736-9655 Fax: 416-736-1405
Supports Givat Haviva, one of Israel's leading centres promoting democracy, tolerance and mutual respect between Israel's diverse communities; integrating new immigrants; presenting Holocaust workshops; developing community access to art and the media; and working with troubled adolescents.

THE CANADIAN SHAARE ZEDEK HOSPITAL FOUNDATION
3089 Bathurst St., Ste. 205,
Toronto, Ont. M6A 2A4
National Executive Director: Sheila Dropkin
Tel: 416-781-3584 1-800-387-3595
Fax: 416-781-6439
E-mail: cansz@on.aibn.com
The foundation represents Shaare Zedek Medical Center, Jerusalem's "Hospital With A Heart." Our groups and committees offer rewarding and self-fulfilling activities for people of all ages. Our all-occasion cards and certificates, Jewish New Year cards and place cards for simchot provide supporters with an opportunity to honor friends and family.

CANADIAN SOCIETY FOR YAD VASHEM
970 Lawrence Ave. W., Ste. 211,
Toronto, Ont. M6A 3B6
Executive Director: Marilyn Somers
Tel: 416-785-1333 Fax: 416-785-4536
E-mail: ydvashem@istar.ca
The Canadian Society for Yad Vashem is a non-profit, volunteer organization which seeks to link all survivors and those who wish to identify with Holocaust education and to Yad Vashem in Jerusalem. An Educational Resource Centre will be opened at our new offices using materials designed by Yad Vashem in Israel, including the 1st of 4 interactive CD-Roms on the Holocaust "Return to Life".

CANADIAN VOLUNTEERS FOR ISRAEL
788 Marlee Ave.,
Toronto, Ont. M6B 3K1
Tel: 416-781-6089 Fax: 416-785-7687
Montreal tel: 514-735-0272
Sar-el is a voluntary, non-political organization providing Diaspora Jews with the opportunity to directly help Israel. Most volunteers are between 18 and 65. They work and live for 18 days on IDF maintenance bases. Room and board supplied. Many extras.

THE CANADIAN ZIONIST CULTURAL ASSOC.
788 Marlee Ave., Ste. 201
North York, Ont. M6B 3K1
Tel: 416-783-3053 Fax: 416-787-7496
Toll free: 1-800-433-6226
The Association offers its facilities without charge for social and education programs for young people and new immigrants in Israel; sponsors holiday camps for widows and orphans of soldiers providing psychological and group support; grants university scholarships and sponsors refresher courses for required university entrance tests to applicants having fulfilled national service.

CANADIAN ZIONIST FEDERATION, CENTRAL REGION
3995 Bathurst St., Ste. 300,
North York, Ont. M3H 5V3
Contact: Barbara Peters
Tel: 416-633-3988 Fax: 416-633-4382
The official Canadian representative of the World Zionist Organization the CZF umbrella brings together 15 national constituent organizations whose vision is a strong and vibrant Jewish life in Canada. Its mission is the promotion of Jewish culture, education, aliyah and strengthening the ties between Israel and Canada.

JEWISH NATIONAL FUND
4600 Bathurst St., Ste. 238,
Willowdale, Ont. M2R 3V3
Executive Director: Ben Prossin
Tel: 416-638-7200 Fax: 416-638-7345
Best recognized as the organization which has planted forests, parks and trees in Israel. It really does much more - builds roads, constructs dams and reservoirs, develops land infrastructure for new immigrant housing, prepares recreation and tourist sites, and conducts research with regard to various ecological concerns. Donors to JNF receive receipts for income tax purposes.

NA'AMAT CANADA
272 Codsell Ave.,
Downsview, Ont. M3H 3X2
Tel: 416-636-5425 Fax: 416-636-5248
A dynamic fighter for women's rights in Israel and Canada. Since 1921, Na'amat Israel, with 450,000 members, has dramatically affected lives of women by providing child care, high schools shelters and counselling centres for family abuse and legal advisory clinics. In Canada, Na'amat sponsors Bialik Hebrew Day School, Camp Gesher, Habonim-Dror Zionist Youth Movement and a Free Legal Aid Advisory Clinic.

ORT Canada (Organization for Educational Resource and Technological Education)
3101 Bathurst St., Ste. 604,
Toronto, Ont. M6A 2A6
Administration Director: Robyn Raisin-Buchman
Tel: 416-787-0339 Fax: 416-787-9420
ORT is the world's largest non-governmental and non-profit educational network, providing vocational and technological training in more than 60 countries. Helping people help themselves continues to be the guiding force behind all of ORT's work. Today 260,000 children and adults attend 800 ORT schools worldwide. Ort provides education that works!

Monument Companies

BENJAMIN'S LANDMARK MONUMENTS
3429 Bathurst St.,
Toronto, Ont. M6A 2C3
Contact: Michael Levitt
Tel: 416-780-0635 Fax: 416-780-0638
Benjamin's Landmark Monuments is Toronto's foremost Jewish monument dealer, continuing the proud tradition of service associated with the Benjamin family name. As the only Jewish monument dealer in Ontario authorized by Rock of Ages to distribute the "Sealmark" granite with the perpetual warranty, our monument counselors can assist you in preparing an honoured memorial of unsurpassed quality.

IZENBERG GOLDBERG MONUMENTS
3173 Bathurst St.,
Toronto, Ont. M6A 2B1
Tel: 416-789-0319 Fax: 416-787-0310
For over 80 years Izenberg Goldberg Monuments has provided the Jewish community of Toronto with excellent quality memorials at the most reasonable possible price. Our granite is carefully selected from quarries the world over, and all lettering and design work is now done in our own North York factory under our direct supervision.

YAD VASHEM MONUMENTS
3687 Bathurst St.,
Toronto, Ont. M6H 2E6
Contact: Akiva Balter
Tel: 416-782-8995 Fax: 416-782-8995
A monument should reflect the characteristics and values of the deceased. It is a tribute from a family who appreciated and recognized the uniqueness of the individual. Yad Vashem Monuments has been personalizing memorials by combining traditional inscriptions and innovative designs for over 20 years.

Religious Life

ADATH ISRAEL CONGREGATION
37 Southbourne Ave.,
North York, Ont. M3H 1A4
Administrator: Sheila Starkman
Tel: 416-635-5340 Fax: 416-635-1629
A dynamic family-oriented synagogue in North York. Daily minyanim, shabbat and festival services. Hebrew School, with special program for Gr. 8 & 9. Religious, social and educational programs for youth, families and seniors. Active Sisterhood and Brotherhood. Beautiful social halls, COR catering by ZB Catering Ltd. New members welcome.

ADATH SHOLOM SYNAGOGUE
864 Sheppard Avenue West,
Downsview, Ont. M3H 2T5
Contact: Carol Modlin
Tel: 416-635-0131 Fax: 416-635-0953
Adath Sholom is a warm, friendly and family-oriented Conservative Synagogue, encompassing over 350 families, and offering a range of activities which include "haimishe" daily minyans, Shabbat and festival services led by Cantor Marshall Loomer, sisterhood and brotherhood, and exclusive newly renovated catering facilities. New members are most welcome.

ANSHEI MINSK SYNAGOGUE
10 St. Andrew St. (Kensington Market),
Toronto, Ont., M5T 1K6
Contact: Rabbi Shmuel Spero
Tel: 416-595-5723
Our Downtown synagogue provides daily and Shabbos services. The beautifully restored sanctuary glows with warmth and tradition. Please join our weekly Friday night dinners and a variety of educational and family programming. Our spirited shul community fosters a Judaism that is grounded yet spiritual, traditional and creative.

BEIT RAYIM SYNAGOGUE
9711 Bayview Ave.,
Richmond Hill, Ont. L4C 9X7
Tel: 905-770-7639 Fax: 905-671-5178
A warm family oriented Egalitarian Conservative Synagogue serving the growing community of York Region. Women can choose to participate in all aspects of our services and children are welcomed into the sanctuary. We are dedicated to making the synagogue experience meaningful and enjoyable, with innovative and award-winning programs for children, teens and adults.

BETH JACOB V'ANSHE DRILDZ CONGREGATION
147 Overbrook Pl.,
Downsview, Ont. M3H 4R1
Contact: Rabbi Jay Kelman
Tel: 416-638-5955
A growing young community oriented Orthodox Synagogue welcoming to all. We offer daily services, child care, youth programs, adult education, alternative learning minyan, ongoing social programs. Reasonable membership rates with financial incentives for home buyers in the area. A warm close knit community of 180 families. Central neighbourhood close to all amenities.

BETH RADOM CONGREGATION
18 Reiner Rd.,
Downsview, Ont. M5H 2K8
Rabbi/Cantor: David Bagley
President: Barry Goldsmith
Office Administrator Anne Wolle
Tel: 416-636-3451 Fax: 416-636-1042
Beth Radom has a growing membership, curently at 350 families, under the religious leadership of world renowned Rabbi/Cantor David Bagley. A member of USCS, it offers modern facilities for religious services and simchas, and kosher catering under the supervision of the Kashruth Council, Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto.

COMMUNITY FOCUS

COMMUNITY DIRECTORY OF ADVERTISERS-CONT'D

RELIGIOUS LIFE CONT'D

BETH SHOLOM SYNAGOGUE
1445 Eglinton Ave. W.,
Toronto, Ont. M6C 2E6
Executive Director: Ruth Podeswa
Tel: 416-783-6103 Fax: 416-783-9923
Celebrating 50 years of a family oriented, warm Traditional Conservative atmosphere with over 1,000 families. We support Torah study, Social Action programs and family activities. Reserved seats for High Holy Days, dynamic Youth Groups, Congregational School, elegant facilities for simchas, wheelchair accessible. Membership inquiries welcome.

BETH TIKVAH SYNAGOGUE
3080 Bayview Ave.,
North York, Ont. M2N 5L3
President: Heather Shapero
Tel: 416-221-3433 Fax: 416-221-1602
A traditional Conservative synagogue with active lay participation. With the assistance of outstanding professional staff, we offer a Congregational school, exceptional music, young family and adult programming, and an attractive financial plan for new members. We are Toronto's only Conservative synagogue to offer the choice of 4 caterers under COR supervision.

BETH TORAH CONGREGATION
47 Glenbrook Ave.,
Toronto, Ont. M6B 2L7
Contact: Marsha Domb
Tel: 416-782-4495 Fax 416-782-4496
Conservative synagogue in existence over 30 years, Lawrence-Dufferin area. Daily minyan, active sisterhood and brotherhood, adult education, breakfasts, singles program, kosher and high quality catering by Abe Levy and under supervision of the Kashruth Council, Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto. Handicapped access.

B'NAI SHALOM NORTH CONGREGATION
275 Arnold Ave.,
Thornhill, Ont. L4J 1C3
Tel: 905-731-2797
Rabbi - Chazzan Solomon Domb's "Hartzig Davening" inspires congregational singing and participation during High Holy Day services at the Garnet A. Williams Community Centre, 501 Clark Ave. W., Thornhill. Enjoy family seating with youths 6-17 yrs. in the main hall, or in a separate youth service. Nursery for 2-5 yr. olds provided. Also, catering facilities at the synagogue all year under the COR.

B'NAI SHALOM V'TIKVAH
1787A Bronte Square,
Pickering, Ont. L1V 3C1
President: Michael Chasler
Tel: 905-420-4429 Fax: 905-420-2909
B'nai Shalom V'Tikvah serves Scarborough, Pickering, Ajax, Whitby and Oshawa through the principles and practice of Reform Judaism. At the core of our congregation are High Holiday and monthly services, Religious and Hebrew School programs, social events involving holidays, dances and picnics plus education workshops emphasizing Jewish customs and lifestyles.

BOROCHOV CULTURAL CENTRE & KOL YISROEL CONGREGATION
272 Codsell Ave.,
Downsview, Ont. M3H 3X2
President: Dave Newman
Tel: 416-630-9444 Fax: 416-630-9451
A Conservative synagogue situated in the Borochov Cultural Centre. Weekly Shabbat services are held in a warm, friendly atmosphere, apparent during the kiddush when everyone socializes. Bar and Bat Mitzvahs and other special occasions are held. No membership fee. High Holy Day services are held in the main hall in the Centre.

CANADIAN COUNCIL FOR REFORM JUDAISM
36 Atkinson Ave.,
Thornhill, Ont. I4J 8C9
Director: Rabbi Paul Golomb
Tel: 905-709-2275 Fax: 905-709-1895
Canadian national office of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, representing over 850 synagogues throughout North America, promotes liberal Judaism through synagogue support, outreach, youth programs, Jewish camping, adult and child education, social action.

CONGREGATION BETH HAMINYAN
c/o Rita Jacobson,
650 Briar Hill Ave., Apt. 704,
Toronto, Ont. M5N 1N3
Membership Representative: Joy Lipkin
Tel: 416-782-6845 Fax: 416-256-2925
A close knit, participatory havurah. Traditional services with separate seating. We also offer children's programs, adult classes, holiday events and periodic services with full participation by women and men. Shabbat services at West Prep. School, 70 Ridge Hill Dr.

CONGREGATION BINA
PO/CP 92127, 2900 Warden Ave.,
Scarborough, Ont. M1W 3Y8
Tel: 416-491-9109
Contact: Miriam Mozes, Secretary
Tel: 905-884-7737
The main objective of Congregation BINA, a non-profit organization for Jews from India, is to assist, maintain, and promote traditional religious, social, cultural, and educational activities among its members. Each year, High Holy Day Services and social gatherings are held, and a quarterly news bulletin, *Contact*, is published.

CONGREGATION B'NAI TORAH
465 Patricia Ave.,
Willowdale, Ont. M2R 2N1
Tel: 416-226-3700
An Orthodox congregation of over 300 families, offering: women's mikvah for Sabbaths and festivals; separate Shabbat services for adults, youth and children; High Holy Day services; vibrant youth programs; daily shiurim for men and for women, and for pre- and post-bar/bat mitzvah youth; dynamic adult education programs; library.

CONGREGATION HABONIM
5 Glen Park Ave.,
Toronto, Ont. M6B 4J2
President: David Goldfarb
Tel: 416-782-7125
Congregation Habonim is a liberal, egalitarian synagogue in North Toronto. Shabbat services are held the last Friday of every month. Habonim offers Religious School for members of the community as well as its own members, on a 'space available' basis.

DANFORTH JEWISH CIRCLE
P.O. Box 65003,
358 Danforth Ave.,
Toronto, Ont. M4K 3Z2
Contact: Claudia Bali
Tel: 416-614-4681 Fax: 416-469-0406
A progressive egalitarian community based in Riverdale, inclusive of interfaith and alternative unions. We're a friendly, family-oriented group committed to nurturing Jewish life and traditions through holiday and life cycle celebrations, monthly Shabbat services, and education and social action programs.

DOWNTOWN REFORM MINYAN
36 Atkinson Ave.,
Thornhill, Ont. L4J 8C9
Steering Comm. Chair: Dr. Shelley Albert
Tel: 416-538-8553 Fax 905-709-1895
We meet every Saturday at 10 a.m., room 204, Bloor JCC (Bloor & Spadina) for a warm, egalitarian and casual Shabbat service. We welcome singles of all ages and families of all varieties. We also celebrate all festivals throughout the Jewish year. Please join us.

FIRST NARAYEVER EGALITARIAN CONGREGATION
187 Brunswick Ave., Toronto, Ont.
Tel: 416-927-0546
For the 11th year the congregation will sponsor High Holy Day services at the BloorJCC. Tickets are available at the BloorJCC or by calling the shul office. The shul offers Shabbat and holiday services, and programs, junior congregation, adult education and opportunities for participation. Guests are warmly welcomed at all times.

KEHILLAT AHAVAT HESED
788 Marlee Ave., 3rd floor, Toronto
Contact: Marion Abel, 50 Bannatyne Dr., North York, Ont. M2L 2P1
Tel: 416-449-0004
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Sabrina Kerbal prepares for the henna ceremony traditionally held for Sephardi brides just before their wedding. *(See story on B11).*

Let us not lose sight of the individuals

Kol Yisroel areivim zeh bazeh – every Jew is responsible one for the other. The significance of this saying struck me with particular force during the United Israel Appeal Israel 50 Mission to Minsk and Israel, which I was privileged to be part of earlier this year.

Most of us have some idea of the work funded by United Jewish Appeal in Canada, such as education, relations with government, immigrant absorption, and continuity efforts. We take pride, as we should, in the assistance UJA, through its affiliation with Keren Hayesod, gives to Jews in Israel and in other parts of the world.

But for the most part, we think of UJA, if we think of it at all, in vague, almost philosophical terms. We give to UJA, often because we feel an obligation to do so, rather than because we feel an emotional touch of the heart.

My trip let me see the other side of the equation – the human side. I visited a disabled, lonely former surgeon in the Russian army, whose only contact with the outside world is through the services to Jewish seniors offered by Keren Hayesod.

A charming family served up a lavish spread, complete with vodka, while talking about their son, who is studying in Israel, thanks to the Na'ale 16 program, a Jewish Agency and Keren Hayesod project. And the son was thrilled to receive a packaged of home-made cookies that we brought him in Jerusalem.

An elderly matron wearing a sheitl proudly showed off exquisite wall hangings she had made at a seniors centre in an old stone building in Jerusalem, while in another room, an immigrant from France demonstrated how to fashion gold jewelry.

It is very easy to see the Jewish community, or any community for that matter, as merely a series of organizations, institutions and causes. But we must not lose sight of the individuals that make up the community – the young, the old, the athletic, the artistic, the healthy and the sick or disabled, the well-known and the people in the background.

They are what give vibrancy and color. They give meaning and purpose to the infrastructure that sometimes seems to be the be-all and end-all of our interest.

This Community Focus supplement tries to strike a balance between the two concepts, by examining, for instance, what goes on at the Lipa Green Building, and also talking to a Sephardi bride. A supplementary school in the downtown area celebrates its 20th anniversary, and a volunteer confides her feelings.

It is important to remember that the community could not function without its organizations and institutions. Similarly, those same organizations and institutions could not continue without the support of community members or without taking into account their unique and collective needs.

LS

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Region needs central Jewish address

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

Sephardic Kehila Centre

VAUGHAN — Is a central address in the future for York Region's booming Jewish population?

Community planners say a Lipa Green Building/Bathurst Jewish Centre-style "campus," pulling together several services and programs, is in "discussion stages" for the region.

Smaller Jewish communities in Canada, namely in Winnipeg and Ottawa, recently opened campuses with a special view toward combining services for the elderly and the young.

In York Region, "if the right property is found, [plans for a central address] would become serious," says Perry Romberg, UJA/Federation's point man in the region.

Romberg says Federation is working closely with developers to find a site that would serve York Region.

It's the sort of "problem" most Jewish communal planners would love to sink their teeth into: how to provide for Canada's fastest growing Jewish community.

According to the 1991 federal census, York Region's Jews numbered 45,000. Officials believe the tally today is closer to 50,000.

That makes the sprawling area north of Steeles Avenue home to Canada's third-largest Jewish community. Put another way, more Jews live in the region than in Vancouver, Winnipeg and Ottawa combined.

And here's the clincher: officials with UJA Federation expect York Region's Jewish population to swell to 75,000 by 2010 – a 50 percent jump in just 11 years.

To keep pace, Federation recently struck a community planning and allocations committee to focus on York Region's phenomenal growth.

Committee chair Louis Greenbaum says a campus would serve as a community hub and provide social, cultural, recreational and religious programs.

The committee is giving the idea "a strong priority," Greenbaum said, adding that in the meantime, it is working to identify the needs of the community and the type of services that exist.

Across southern York Region, schools, synagogues, outreach centres and kosher services dot the landscape. Jewish life is especially vibrant in Thornhill (both in Vaughan and Markham). Indeed, whereas Jews represent 8.7 percent of York Region's total population, they account for 28 percent of all Thornhill residents.

Jewish families can also be found in Richmond Hill, Aurora,

[Cont'd on page B7]

Lillian Benlolo

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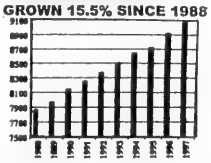

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Canadian Council for Reform Judaism

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Jews in York Region

[Cont'd from page B6]

Newmarket and even as far north as Sharon and Holland Landing.

It's all the result of the community's northward push. Early immigrants settled on downtown streets like Cecil and Baldwin; their children moved "uptown" to St. Clair and Eglinton; and the next generation has crossed the psychological boundary of Steeles Avenue.

But all along, notes Romberg, the community has clung to the Bathurst Street corridor like a lifeline.

Community planners have seen a large influx into the region of South African, Russian and Israeli emigres, as well as many ex-Montrealers.

Normally, York Region gets lumped into the Jewish figures for the Greater Toronto Area, but there are significant differences "up north."

Because it is mainly a bedroom community, it is a young one. Federation figures say that in Metro, 16 percent of the Jewish population is 14 years old and under; in York Region, it's fully 34 percent.

And over half the region's Jewish population is between 30 and 49.

But planners are also projecting a rise in the number of Jewish seniors. That's why Baycrest is awaiting word from the government on its proposal to build a 160-bed long-term care facility in the region. Baycrest already provides geriatric services through Markham-Stouffville Hospital.

About a dozen years ago, the Spring Farm subdevelopment in Thornhill led the way in Jewish growth, pulled along by the Beth Avraham Joseph of Toronto Congregation.

Romberg says there are now over 30 Jewish organizations in the region. Last year, UJA Federation itself opened an office there (1118 Centre St.), also home to B'nai Brith Youth Organization.

In recent years, Reena and the Canadian Council for Reform Judaism have moved north of Steeles.

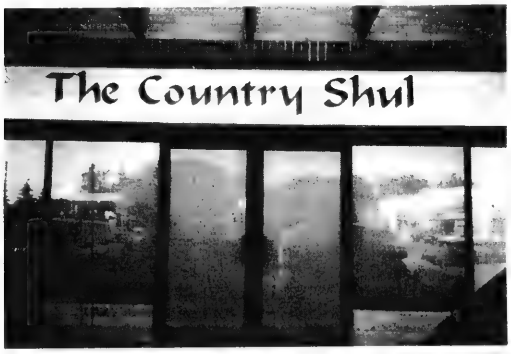
As well, there are three new day schools, an office of Jewish Family & Child Service, and branches of Aish Hatorah and Ohr Somayach – all within a kilometre of one another.

Last autumn, the growing Sephardi community celebrated the opening of the Sephardi Kehila Centre on Bathurst, just north of Steeles.

And earlier this summer, Chabad-Lubavitch broke ground in Thornhill for a new community centre.

Romberg says he feels that among the community's needs are "Jewish life education... whatever can enhance Jewishness."

Another project is to reach out to the region's unaffiliated Jews, by some accounts, estimated to be half the population.



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Jewish theatre scene changing

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO —The Jewish theatre scene in Toronto is a far cry from what it was a few generations ago when the city bustled with Jewish theatre groups and plays with Jewish content.

"We used to express our creative needs through theatre but there is a disinclination now to spend the time it requires," said Ralph Wintrob, head of the Jewish Theatre Committee (JTC).

A lack of information about theatre projects in the community is another reason why the scene has dried up, he said.

But although the state of Jewish theatre is not as healthy as it was, it is certainly not dead.

The 444-seat Leah Posluns Theatre at the Bathurst Jewish Centre (BJC) is booked 80 percent of the time, and the Bloor Jewish Community Centre (JCC) is building a 275-seat theatre as part of its revamped facilities.

But the fee of $1,500 a night for both facilities – subject to discount for non-profit groups – is too rich for some.

"It would cost $15,000 to put on a full production of a Jewish play and that's beyond us," said Fran Elliott, a founder of the Medina Theatre Ensemble.

Instead, Medina, which recently broadened its mandate from strictly Jewish content to cover plays concerned with the humanities, intends to concentrate on staged readings particularly in out-reach settings. As in other years, it will take part in Holocaust Education Week.

Fran Elliot

"We would like to do more in churches in the coming year," said Elliott.

The Leah Posluns Theatre is so busy that the 80 percent booking rate does not include all the times the theatre is used internally for meetings and concerts, said BJC executive director Deborah Pinsky.

It was also the scene this year of two movie shoots, which added to BJC coffers. One was the HBO effort *The Passion of Ayn Rand*, starring Helen Mirren, and the other was a commercial theatre feature called *The Tin Man*, starring Billy Bob Thornton and John Cusack.

But the booking rate does not impress Reva Tward, Leah

[Cont'd on page B9]

Al Waxman takes a break from directing *A Shayna Maidel* to share a joke with cast members Shannon Lawson and Sharon Bernbaum.

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New theatre opens

[Cont'd from page B8]

Posluns' former artistic director, who claims there is now a lack of cohesiveness in Jewish theatre.

Now a novelist and screenplay writer, Tward says leaving Leah Posluns was a wrench. She recently directed a staged reading of *There Comes a Time* for Medina.

Wintrob is hopeful better times are ahead for the Jewish theatre scene. He cites the JTC's production of the play *Hannah Senesh* at the Bloor JCC, which attracted a total of 400 people for four performances, despite not being advertised.

The opening of a new theatre at the Bloor JCC is a good omen for Jewish theatre, Wintrob feels. Even before the theatre is built, the JTC will give staged readings of *Suffer the Children* by the winner of its annual playwriting contest, Maurice Breslow of Queen's University, on Nov. 30 in the afternoon at the Bloor JCC and in the evening at the BJC.

The JTC will continue its playwriting contest, even though it has attracted only about 20 entries in the past, not all of them well written.

The current winner, *Suffer the Children*, about the Lodz ghetto in Poland, is a "fascinating exploration" of a Holocaust theme, Wintrob said.

The theatre planned for the Bloor JCC will fill a need in other local ethnic communities, said Harold Green, director of the JCC's campaign for the new facilities.

The 275-seat theatre, designed by renowned architect Jerome Markson, will be divisible into two separate multi-purpose areas, both capable of utilizing 35 mm and 16 mm films and video equipment. The back half will have a sloped floor, while the front half will be flat with movable seats, stage and bimah.

"There is a definite need for Jewish content plays and the community wants them," said Janese Kane, artistic director of New Globe Theatre.

Her company produced two such plays, *A Shayna Maidel* and *Sight Unseen*, at the Ford Centre Studio Theatre, and lost money on both. But she is not sorry they were done.

"You don't make money in Jewish theatre," she said, "It's a labor of love."

As Kane points out, the number of Jewish actors and directors is still large, though some have had to go to Hollywood or New York to make their mark.

Allan Merovitz (left), Leah Cherniak, Diane Flacks, Richard Greenblatt and Daniel Brooks in *The Theory of Relatives*.

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Sephardi Jews retain own unique cultural folklore

PERLITA ETTEDGUI
Special to The CJN

Sephardi culture is often associated with rich cultural folklore and a distinct religious tradition. A people unique in origin became recognized for the different ways in which they received the holy days, sang their songs and created their own awareness.

In today's fast paced, highly technological world, it is often necessary to find the relevance of age-old ideas within a current context. If Judaism becomes the sum of thousands of stories told through the generations, then being Sephardi undoubtedly becomes the experience of hearing and telling a sum of unique and personal stories, which serve to educate and connect.

The stories we tell each other about our past not only reveal where we come from, but they also carve out the directions we will take. Recently I had the pleasure of being immersed in hundreds of stories from the past as I watched two reunited family members reminisce about another time and a far-off place.

My great uncle from Israel was here visiting my grandmother, and the siblings who hadn't seen each other in over two decades became human time capsules, telling stories only they knew.

Sitting by them and listening to their memories was like viewing the carvings of a historical sculpture. Hearing them recount experiences of studying for Hebrew class recitals, of hurrying around the house preparing for Pesach and of him helping parade her around the one main street in Morocco on her wedding day took me somewhere I've never been before, but it was a place that was somehow always familiar to me.

The kinds of stories they told for hours on end were the same ones my mother always tells my brother and me about her grandparents. They are the stories I will probably tell my children one day. The content is not nearly as significant as the act of storytelling itself and the themes of ritual and myth creating a common thread.

I began to realize that these stories define the experience of being Sephardi and exemplify the notions of what values and customs are important enough to become a story.

One story that always sticks in my mind is the story of Sol the Zadikah, which, I only now realize, my mother recounted to me as a warning against intermarriage.

When I was younger, she used to narrate this fairy tale of a young, strong-willed girl who rejected a kingdom rather than marry the king of Morocco. I remember being very afraid as my mother softly told me of how this girl chose her death over conversion and the loss of her heritage.

Today I realize the metaphorical significance of the tale, but it still remains a story that encompasses a little bit of Sephardi culture, a little bit of history and a lot of continuity.

Through stories recounted from one generation to another, ancient religious dictums can perhaps achieve modern day relevance. These stories are increasingly finding their way into youth groups, with the aim of building the foundations for social and educational activities.

One of the most recently formed groups, Re'ut Organization of Toronto Sepharadim, attempts to motivate mingling and involvement within the Sephardi community through the heightened awareness of cultural principles. With the fitting acronym of ROOTS, this group is different from others in the emphasis it places on connecting the past to the present.

Como dise el refran: lo que siembres, recojeras, our saying goes: what you plant is what will blossom. The continuous planting of stories and recounting of tales plant the seeds for the interest in a heritage that is increasingly in danger of being weakened when placed in competition with so many more appealing preoccupations.

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NA'AMAT CANADA

Bene Israel Congregation focal point for Jews of India

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — On the Saturday night before Sabrina and Mark Kerbel were married, some 75 people gathered at her parents' home for the henna, or mehendi as Indian Jews call it, the traditional Sephardi pre-nuptial ceremony for beautifying the bride.

In an interview, Sabrina Kerbel said that the henna varies from one Sephardi group to another, but essentially the bride-to-be's hand or ring finger is painted with henna and she is adorned with flowers.

Her mehendi was rooted in the traditions of the Bene Israel, a group of Indian Jews whose presence in India can be traced back more than 2,000 years, she said.

Dressed in an ornately embroidered ceremonial outfit made in India especially for the occasion, Kerbel said she was showered with puffed rice and rose petals, which symbolized "the showering of good wishes" upon her.

She noted that the ceremony included common components of Bene Israel simchahs – a prayer for the prophet Elijah, and the malida, an offering to Elijah made of rose petals, cloves, five fruits and parched rice, which is flattened, dried, moistened and flavored with sugar and cardamom.

Many of the people attending Kerbel's mehendi were members of the Beth Israel of North America Congregation (BINA) founded 15 years ago by a small group of Indian Jews, among them Kerbel's parents, Ann and Sol Samson.

The Samsons had emigrated from Bombay and settled in Toronto in 1966 prior to the births of their two daughters, Kerbel and Fleur.

The congregation, originally made up of about 10 families, was established so that the parents could pass their traditions on to their children, Ann Samson said. "We felt there was a need for them to learn our own melodies and traditions. Otherwise they would be lost. That was the impetus to form the congregation."

The group started by celebrating Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur together, renting the National Council of Jewish Women building for that purpose. Council House continues to be the venue for BINA Congregation's services, which are only held on the High Holy Days and Simchat Torah, Samson said.

The largest Bene Israel congregation outside of Israel and India, the membership of BINA has grown to 80 families, drawing members from as far away as Montreal and New York, who maintain contact through the congregation's quarterly bulletin she said. The congregation increased following the immigration to Canada of younger Bene Israel families from India and Israel, she added.

Congregation president Diana Abraham told *The CJN* that many Bene Israel Jews living outside of Israel make a point of visiting family and friends in Toronto during the High Holy Days, coming from as far away as England and Vancouver, so that they can attend BINA services because they're nostalgic about their childhood traditions.

Like many congregation members Abraham's family is affiliated with another synagogue, she said, adding that her husband Victor, the lay leader of BINA and chair of the ritual services committee, will have to forgo services this year because he is also the president of the Beth Jacob Synagogue in Hamilton, where they reside.

Abraham joked that her children Jordan, 27, and Ramona, 25, used to call themselves Ashkefasi because they went to an Ashkenazi day school, but followed Sephardi traditions at home.

She said her children are involved in BINA and there are also many younger people on the board and that is very gratifying because the younger generation will perpetuate the traditions.

Becoming the congregation vice-president was a natural progression, Kerbel said. "My parents were always involved. I always helped out with the newsletter. It was a natural extension to get involved with the board.

"I feel that I have a unique heritage of being Indian and Jewish. It's important to get the younger members involved – to learn the traditions and the melodies, or those traditions will get lost or watered down."

She noted that her 1992 wedding combined both the Ashkenazi and Sephardi traditions because husband Mark's background is Ashkenazi. The ceremony, which was conducted by two Ashkenazi rabbis at the Adath Israel, also reflected her family's Indian roots.

For instance, the congregation rose and recited part of Yigdal when the groom walked down the aisle as is customary at Indian weddings; and Mark in turn sang *Navah Mikol*, a Hebrew love poem, to her as she made her way to the chupah, she said.

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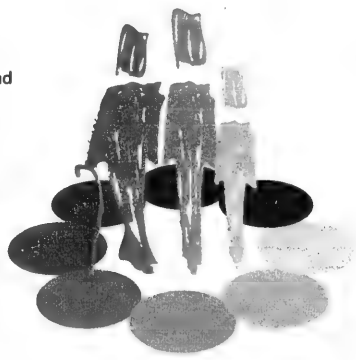

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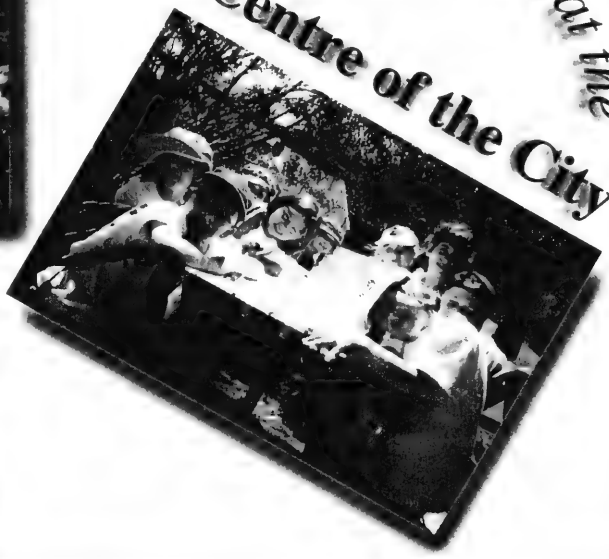

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Baycrest responds to new challenges

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

A recent survey of the Jewish community in the Greater Toronto Area indicates that people over age 85 have become the fastest growing group.

In his annual review, Stephen Herbert, president and chief executive officer of Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care, notes that a number of issues confronting Baycrest include a government policy shift from in-patient services to community-based care, and a widening gap between the levels of government funding and the centre's fiscal requirements.

"We know that seniors want and need more community services to help them preserve a lifetime of independence," says Herbert. "By taking advantage of the provincial government's shift in focus to community care, we are turning this challenge into an opportunity."

Baycrest's Jewish Home for the Aged (JHA), Abe & Elsie Posluns Building, which opened in 1968, has served the community's needs, says Herbert, but "because of the dramatically changing needs of an aging population, the physical, social and care environment no

[Cont'd on page B15]

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Baycrest expands services

[Cont'd from B14]

longer meet the high standards we have come to expect at Baycrest."

A new Jewish Home for the Aged being built on the Baycrest campus will provide an additional 100 special beds to address the needs of older adults whose cognitive abilities have been damaged by vascular dementia conditions such as strokes. The JHA will also continue serving the needs of those with a number of disorders such as Alzheimer disease.

The total cost of the New Apotex Centre, Jewish Home for the Aged and the Centre for Cognitive Disorders will be $65 million – $31 million raised through Baycrest, as well as contributions by provincial and municipal governments.

Baycrest has developed partnerships with health care, social service and academic organizations in order to share knowledge and resources in the areas of care, research and education.

In its effort to expand services to the community, Baycrest operates home care services which provide nursing and other care in the homes of seniors, and a community recreation program in which Baycrest staff goes into selected apartment buildings and provides programs for otherwise isolated seniors.

As well, Baycrest has dentistry; chiropody; ear, nose and throat; orthopedic; and optical clinics open to the community.

Marvin Sadowski, recently elected chair of the centre's board of directors sees a continuing need to develop innovative housing options for seniors.

"We need to continue expanding our program of assisting seniors in their own homes, and we need to look at alternative ways of providing housing such as Two Neptune – a condominium-style complex being developed by Baycrest with the assistance of the Kehilla Residential Program.

"One of our main concerns is to ensure a quality of care for seniors that's in keeping with what we've always provided. That's uppermost."

BAYCREST VOLUNTEER

Fifteen year old Witby student Stephanie Smyth spent her summer working at Baycrest Centre as part of the centre's youth volunteer program, which drew 300 volunteers aged 13 to 25. She is seen here with Jewish Home for the Aged residents Dr. Larry Cohen and Sarah Mandel.

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Ruth Zaionz, a volunteer in Baycrest Centre's palliative care unit who started volunteering with a "desire to try to make a difference" in the community, says many organizations would face financial ruin if forced to hire staff to replace volunteers.

The mother of two grown children, ages 26 and 30, should know. She's seen the good work volunteers do, having given her time in the community since 1960.

It was the death of her grandfather that led Zaionz, now a grandmother herself, to start volunteering at Mount Sinai Hospital.

"I felt as if I owed something to the great big community at large, but I didn't know how to repay it," the lifelong Torontonian says.

She volunteered in Mt. Sinai's emergency ward until 1967, helping assess the severity of patient injuries and ailments as they came in the door.

After a gap of about 15 years for "children, babies, school, marriage" and sporadic employment as a title-searcher and at JNF and the Associated Hebrew Schools, she "developed an interest" in Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) in the early 1980s, about the same time her husband, Charles, became Ontario regional chair.

Between 1992 and 1995, Zaionz chaired the CJC's committee on world Jewry and international affairs.

Her husband spearheaded the same committee's creation in the 1970s when three of his cousins – all brothers – were among those who "disappeared" during the Argentinian military dictatorship of the time.

He was "surprised," Zaionz says, to learn the CJC didn't have a mechanism to interact with its counterparts in countries other than Israel; so he helped create one.

The cousins' fate was especially distressing to the couple, since they had spent their honeymoon with the family.

Zaionz also spent 11 years from 1988 to 1996 volunteering one night a week with Tel-Aide, the Jewish crisis referral hotline.

It was a friend at Tel-Aide who suggested that Zaionz join her at Baycrest's palliative care unit, which she did in 1997. Zaionz says she and others act as "adjuncts" to the "stretched" nursing and social work staff.

"We're there to give unlimited TLC, to provide a left shoulder, and right shoulder, if necessary," says Zaionz, who averages about three hours a week on the ward.

After three hours of a general Baycrest orientation and five extra sessions of training for those volunteering in palliative care, volunteers become "surrogate friends and family" to terminally ill patients and their families, Zaionz says.

They help familiarize patients and family members with the unit, and take patients to concerts in Baycrest's atrium or for walks outside in the garden.

"Comfort care is the rule," says Zaionz. Much time is also spent talking to patients, keeping them company.

"Sometimes you can sit beside a patient and just be holding their hand and that can be more powerful than words," she says.

What keeps her coming back is the "dignity of the patients" and their families, as well as their many letters of thanks.

"This is the saddest time of their lives, and you know you're making a difference" by helping "to take the terror" out of dying, says Zaionz.

She concedes that its heart-rending nature makes working in the palliative unit "a very, very special type of volunteering. It's not for everyone."

She's seen her share of tears, she adds.

"In front of the patients, I will not cry, but I will cry privately."

For those interested, there's no shortage of important opportunities at Baycrest and at other agencies.

Synagogues and schools are obvious choices for fundraising and classroom or schoolyard help, as are the numerous organizations that raise money for Israel, such as the Canadian Friends of the Hebrew University, the Canadian Society for Yad Vashem or the Jewish National Fund.

Women might try volunteering through Na'amat (636-5425) or Hadassah-WIZO (630-8373), which raise money and provide services to a range of recipients and have 27 clubs and 70 chapters respectively in the GTA. Both also run annual bazaars requiring many volunteers.

Na'amat in particular has an ongoing need for lawyers in its legal advisory clinic, to counsel women with a variety of legal problems.

And if you're worried about not having the skills for certain posi-

[Cont'd on page B17]

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Volunteers, agencies get matched

[Cont'd from B16]

tions, often, as in Zaionz's case, agencies will provide appropriate training.

If you're not sure where you fit, try calling Shelly Rotman of the UJA Federation's human resources department (635-2883, ext. 137). It's her job to match prospective volunteers with community agencies.

"We call ourselves a Jewish referral service," Rotman says. "People come to us when they're not sure what's out there."

Keeping abreast of agencies' current needs, Federation directs prospective volunteers to the agencies who assess volunteers' strengths.

One evening a month, trained volunteers – of course – interview prospective recruits. About 85 percent of the approximately 250 people interviewed yearly are eventually placed in volunteer positions.

So where is the greatest need?

Rotman says drivers are always required by agencies like Senior Care (635-2860), Jewish Family and Child Services (JF&CS, 638-7800) and the Reena Foundation (905-889-6484) to drive people to medical appointments or deliver kosher meals on wheels to seniors.

Drivers are particularly needed to deliver meals in Thornhill, says Senior Care volunteer coordinator Arnold Foss.

Also in high demand, Rotman says, are visitors for seniors, through agencies like Senior Care, or the Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living (225-2112), which has a respite program that gives caregivers a break of up to three hours once a week.

Chaplaincy visits are also a regular need, particularly around holiday time, when JF&CS makes a concerted effort to bring Judaic programming to seniors and the ill in residences and hospitals around the city.

Another major area of continuing need, she says, is for JF&CS big brothers and tutors. Rotman says demand for big sisters is not as acute; so many volunteers are often directed to JF&CS's Special Friend program where volunteers are paired with a what JF&CS volunteer coordinator Barbara Barak calls a "socially isolated adult."

Barak says JF&CS also has a number of specific needs, including an editor for a volunteer newsletter, a "sensitive person" to survey families' experiences with its hospice program (where support is provided for people who choose to die at home) and a "person who is sophisticated with language" who can return calls and explain "in lay terms" about a joint program with the Hospital for Sick Children studying behavior modification techniques for parents and children.

Edna Levitt, director of development for ORT Canada, part of the largest non-governmental vocational and technological training organization in the world, says her organization needs office volunteers.

The Reena Foundation also needs help with developmentally challenged clients in the day program at its Toby and Henry Battle Developmental Centre in Thornhill, says Arlene Margolese, manager of volunteer services and Judaic programming.

Volunteers are also needed for Reena's home buddies group home volunteer program, its family friends program (where families adopt clients who have no family of their own), and its PAL-unteers program, in which clients are matched big brother-style with a volunteer to form a long-lasting relationship.

As well, since most "hands-on" social service volunteers are women, Reena needs more male volunteers for "male bonding" with its predominantly male clientele.

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Chaplaincy services lends a hand

Chaplaincy Service volunteer Germaine Rees socializes with a resident. [File photo]

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

This past year, some 150 volunteers of Chaplaincy services, a program of Jewish Family and Child Service, served more than 1,000 Jews in hospitals, nursing homes, prisons and many other Jewish and non-Jewish institutions.

Toby Maskowitz, coordinator of Chaplaincy Services who is responsible for the recruitment, training, supervision and statistical tracking of the volunteers and para-chaplains in more than 100 institutions says, "We bring a spark of Yiddishkeit through the commitment of our volunteers into all institutions where there are Jews."

As the liaison between volunteer groups and institution staff, Maskowitz ensures that the programs in each facility respond to the needs of the patients or residents.

Chaplaincy Services is funded by the Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto and Canadian Jewish Congress. It also provides services to people who are developmentally handicapped, psychiatric patients and to residents in homes for the aged.

Rabbi Ronald Weiss, director of chaplaincy services, is involved in rabbinical counselling, prayer and support to the patients, residents and family members. He works closely with the institutions, staff and clergy, and provides rabbinic consultations on medical-ethical problems.

Rabbi Weiss, a representative on interfaith committees, is a member of the Jewish Hospice program. "For whatever difficulties we as Jews experience, our faith and tradition can provide comfort, he says."

He adds that Jewish festival celebrations, Shabbat services and special programming such as Jewish Women in History, winemaking and Yiddish clubs are presented throughout Ontario "to enrich the lives of the most vulnerable and lonely in our community."

The chaplaincy team also provides training to volunteer synagogue members who do friendly visiting, shivah and comfort visits to congregants in their time of need, says Florence Weinberger, manager of communications for Jewish Family and Child Service.

"Letting people in institutions understand that the community has not forgotten them and that they are not alone is of great importance," she says.

Gemilut chesed (performing acts of loving kindness), says Rabbi Weiss, is a response to the need before the need is expressed. "Chaplaincy is an anticipation of what another Jew requires."

Maskowitz notes that "volunteers are needed to carry on and expand our activities." For more information on how you or your organization can help, contact Toby Maskowitz at 416 638-7800, ext. 287.

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Downtown Jewish Community School to mark 20th year

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
CJN Staff

TORONTO – The Downtown Jewish Community School, (DJCS) housed in the Bloor Jewish Community Centre (JCC) is gearing up for a year of 20th anniversary celebrations.

Joan Schoenfeld, founder, principal and funding chairperson of the school, says festivities will include a Sholom Aleichem show put on by Cameo Productions and directed by Aviva Ravel, and a big party with students, family and Jewish Community Centre members.

Also planned is a Tzedakah Day, when parents and students work together on tzedakah projects that may include working at a food bank or collecting old clothing. "This is an initiative of the Jewish Educator's Assembly and Camp Ramah and we hope that a number of schools will participate," says Schoenfeld.

She says the school, "the primary community afternoon school in downtown Toronto is a very special place. We participate in a lot of programs with the JCC which makes the students feel part of the community at large. Parents are encouraged to participate on committees, including adult education, holiday celebrations and Shabbat dinners. Parent participation teaches that the DJCS is not just about acquiring knowledge, but also about community. It is a community school in the true sense of the word."

The school, which started out with 47 students from kindergarten to Grade 3, now has an enrolment of over 350 students in a total of 27 Jewish studies and Hebrew classes and two high school classes. Most families live in the downtown area, and "a significant percentage are unaffiliated with other Jewish organizations," says Schoenfeld, who lives within walking distance of the school.

She says students at the school "learn that there are many ways to be Jewish by being taught about all streams of Judaism."

"...there are many ways to be Jewish"

The high school is taught by two rabbis – one semester by a Reconstructionist rabbi and one semester by an Orthodox rabbi – who discuss with the students on the first day what students would like to see on the curriculum. "The classes are directly relevant to the students because the rabbis discuss exactly what they want to know," says Schoenfeld.

Topics high school students have examined include: dialogue with teens from other religious traditions; how Christians view Jews and Judaism; religious zealotry in Israel and in North America; can you have Jewish culture without practicing Jewish religion?; the Israel-Palestinian accords, peace now or peace never; and is Jewish opposition to intermarriage a form of racism?

The school is affiliated with the Toronto Board of Jewish Education and students participate in programs sponsored by the Board of Jewish Education, Canadian Zionist Federation, Jewish Family & Child Service and the Jewish Community Centre, including local, regional and national Bible contests, the Zimriyah Choir Festival, the Rikudiyah Dance Festival, the Passover Food Drive and the UJA Federation Walk for Israel.

The DJCS is also "officially affiliated with the Bloor JCC's current building fundraising campaign," says Schoenfeld.

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Kesher helps the unemployed

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

There is help right in the Jewish community for those looking for jobs, as well as for employers looking for personnel. And it doesn't cost a cent.

Kesher, a privately sponsored organization, has been around for some years, according to executive director Howard Kurlandski, but just over three years ago, it was "revitalized. It became more structured, more focused."

Kesher is "an Orthodox-based institution trying to provide service to Jews across the board," Kurlandski explained.

The sponsors, who prefer to remain anonymous, felt strongly that "there should be a mechanism to help people in need who need a job."

There used to be a stigma attached to being unemployed, he said. "Now, just look around you. There are many many talented, qualified people who find themselves out of work."

It's like arranging a marriage, he mused, saying that the goal here is to help both people and businesses.

Kesher works with employers, finding out what skills they are looking for and what type of person would fit into their business.

"We are not interested in making placements for the sake of making placements. We want to make sure that both sides benefit," Kurlandski said.

When a successful match is made, everyone benefits, he said, including the person, who gets his self-respect back, the company, the family, even the country.

Les Kagan knows that feeling. Now working as a comptroller in a position that Kesher helped him find, he remembers when he didn't have a job. "I wanted to know how to keep my life together," he said. "Nobody wants to go on unemployment."

When he met Kurlandski for the first time, Kagan handed him his resume. "Howard said he could see that I was qualified, but not from that resume."

After he updated his resume using suggestions made by Kesher, Kagan started a temporary position. When that position ended, he went back, and with Kesher's help, found his current position, in which he feels very happy.

Looking for jobs through the newspapers or other job postings is "worse than useless," he said. "Fewer than one-third of all jobs available are advertised."

Kagan now uses Kesher when he himself is looking for staff. "Anyone who doesn't use this service is losing out," he believes.

Many of those using Kesher's services are professionals, Kurlandski said, such as lawyers, accountants, and engineers. Others are looking for basic or entry level type positions.

While Kesher has had a lot of success, Kurlandski said (since the start of 1998, they have been very busy indeed, he reported), "a major stumbling block is that we have to get the word out more effectively that we exist and that we are a viable resource."

You don't have to actually own a business to help. "Keep your eyes and ears open, and let us know when a position is available or when someone is looking for a job."

While helping someone get a job is a big mitzvah (it is the most exalted level of tzedakah, according to Maimonides), it makes sense in a business way too, as there is no charge either for the person or the organization.

Kesher works both directly and indirectly, Kurlandski said. Sometimes, Kesher does the initial phone calls and arranges for resumes to be sent and interviews to be scheduled.

[Cont'd on page B23]

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JNF blue boxes aid ecology

DANIEL WOLGELERENTER
Student Intern

For a 97 year-old, the Jewish National Fund (JNF) is pretty hip – after all, it's been into "blue boxes" long before they were cool.

The organization's mandate is to worry about Israel's ecology, as it has since JNF was founded at the 1901 Zionist Congress in Basel, Switzerland.

But it needs continued support to keep doing its work with land, water, trees and wildlife, says Ben Prossin, executive director of JNF's Ontario region.

"We hope people will continue to recognize, as they have for 97 years, that the work of the JNF is important in providing for a strong and beautiful Israel, not only in an environmental sense, but in preserving the land for the future," he says.

It's an impressive legacy. Since 1948, JNF has raised enough funds worldwide to plant over 200 million trees in Israel. It plants 3.5 million trees a year on average, Prossin says.

"We're very proud of the fact that Israel is the only country in the world that will have more trees on its territory at the end of the 20th century than it had at the beginning," says Prossin.

It's all a result of "those pennies that were put in blue boxes and pushkas" over the years by Jews around the world, he says.

This year's priority is an international project called the Jubilee Forest, located in the Negev between Beersheva and Arad next to Toronto's community forest. Once full, it will be the largest forest ever planted by the JNF.

But important as they are, there's much more to JNF than trees.

Prossin notes JNF has built more than 100 dams and reservoirs in Israel over the last 20 years, a crucial need in Israel's desert terrain to catch rainfall that would otherwise run off into the sand.

The reservoirs not only provide water for agriculture, but many are also used as fish ponds, providing, Prossin jokes, much of Israel's yom tov supply of gefilte fish.

With its 750-billion NIS ($275 million) annual budget, JNF also helps build Israel's infrastructure, having financed 8,000 kilometres worth of roads since 1948, mostly connecting rural areas and small towns with central Israel.

It also supplies Israelis and tourists with parks and picnic areas, and is a major employer, particularly of new Ethiopian and Russian olim as tree planters.

"We've had scientists planting trees who've gone on to work at the Weizmann Institute," Prossin says.

JNF Israeli shaliach to Toronto Yaen Vered, who is nearing the end of the first year in a three-year term, notes that because of JNF's Negev tree planting research – "the most arid land in the world" because of its high clay content, he says – Israel now exports its anti-desertification techniques of irrigation, forestation and reforestation worldwide through the multilateral Arid Lands Consortium.

He notes that the demands of absorption over the last 50 years have "meant that central Israel became, unfortunately, a huge megacity…a concrete jungle." As a result, the reclamation of the Negev desert for settlement and agriculture is a top JNF priority.

As part of its ongoing Action Plan Negev, and as an offshoot of peace with Jordan, JNF is financing large-scale importation of Jordanian soil. The ultimate goal is to one day re-cover the entire Negev with soil capable of sustaining trees and agriculture, "because these are the only land reserves that Israel has," Vered says.

Another major project is in the Chula valley, where JNF's work to drain swamps in the 1950s and '60s was found to be ecologically harmful.

"Sometimes you shouldn't fool with mother nature," Prossin says. "We drained the swamp. It was a mistake. Let's admit it."

To rectify the damage caused to the local ecosystem, JNF is re-flooding some areas with water and recreating wildlife areas, complete with imported plants and animals as well as a bird sanctuary, since the area is on a transcontinental migratory bird path.

"It was what the Chula was except on a smaller scale…and except for the mosquitoes," says Vered.

JNF "hesitates" to reveal precise fundraising figures, because it doesn't want potential donors to think it doesn't need funds, Vered says.

However, Prossin says JNF fundraising is ahead of last year, having "already seen a spike" because of Israel's 50th anniversary.

He hopes a post-50th dropoff in donations and tree plantings doesn't happen, but says JNF will address the problem "if and when such a thing occurs."

Long-term donation trends show steady increases over time, both for JNF overall and for Toronto in particular, says Prossin.

JNF has not been affected by arguments suggesting Israel's near-First World economy and rising living standards mean it no longer needs outside financial assistance, he says.

Vered rejects such arguments in any case, saying Israel has special needs not faced by other countries, like defence and immigrant absorption, the latter of which "can't be done on the backs of people who live [there]."

Because of these pressing needs, say Vered and Prossin, the government does not have funds for many environmental projects.

"Israel has a very high tax burden," Prossin says. "So, while its economy is somewhat robust, it's considered on the fringes to worry about things like forests and trees. That's where we come in."

A major part of JNF's fundraising year is its annual Negev Dinner, to take place here this year on Nov. 29, the anniversary of the UN vote to partition Palestine.

A key theme is the number 50: it's the 50th Negev Dinner, coinciding with Israel's 50th anniversary, and one week after the dinner, its honoree, longtime community activist Allan Silber, turns 50.

JNF Toronto also has a new president, Sandy Posluns, who recently replaced Tom Ungar for a three year term.

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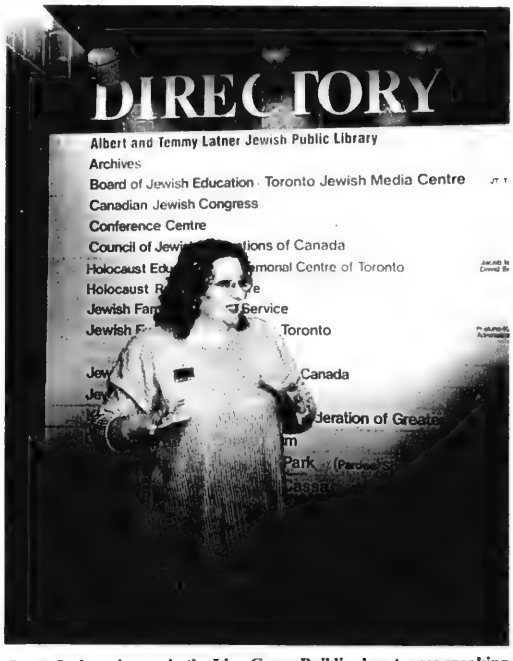

Susan Jackson is seen in the Lipa Green Building's entrance speaking to a group of Israeli teachers, part of a program to build links to Israel.

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Lipa Green Building still hub of Jewish activities

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

Most people who go to the Lipa Green Jewish Community Services building, located at 4600 Bathurst St., are unaware of the wealth of cultural and service agencies housed there.

The Lipa Green building, which opened in the summer of 1983, is home to agencies previously located at 150 Beverley St., as well as other community organizations.

Susan Jackson, director of continuity, and assistant director of Community Planning and Allocations of UJA Federation, who has worked in the Jewish community for more than 16 years, was our guide on a recent tour of the building.

"The building is the hub of Jewish activities in the community," says Jackson. "Along with numerous agencies, Lipa Green is the head office for satellite offices and services which have expanded to serve the needs of those throughout the community, particularly newly developed areas such as York Region."

Jackson notes that many agencies are interrelated. "As an example, someone coming to the Lipa Green Building to pick up a kashrut directory at the Kashruth Council of Toronto may [have found] the Kashruth Council through Shalom Toronto, a program run by the Jewish Women's Federation of UJA Federation.

"The Lipa Green Building is a group of agencies and services working together for community," says Jackson.

When you enter the building from Bathurst Street, you are on the fourth floor. The building, set in a ravine, has the main floor entrance on the west side where information and security are found.

On the second floor, where the Kashruth Council, the Jewish National Fund and Board of Jewish Education are located, there is also the Jewish Media Centre, which provides cultural and educational materials to teachers, organizations and individuals.

The third floor has a variety of offices including the Toronto Jewish Free Loan Cassa, Toronto Hebrew Memorial Park (Pardes Shalom Cemetery), Jewish Immigrant Aid Services and United Restitution Organization.

The fourth floor houses the Canadian Jewish Congress and many cultural services including the Albert and Temmy Latner Jewish Public Library; the Holocaust Educational and Memorial Centre; the Oskar Asher Schmidt Museum, which displays Holocaust material;

[Cont'd on page B23]

The hub of Jewish activity

[Cont'd from page B22]

the Ontario Jewish Archives; seminar and meeting rooms; and a conference centre.

On the fifth floor is UJA Federation, and on the sixth floor are the offices of Jewish Family & Child Service. The building also has other agencies including UIA Federations and the Canada Israel Experience Centre. Within many agencies there are numerous divisions, professional and voluntary committees and resource areas.

"The Lipa Green Building is a place where we see our strengths and commonalties as opposed to our differences," says Jackson. "This is community working for community."

The building is next to the neighboring Bathurst Jewish Centre, which has a kosher Second Cup and kosher cafeteria, the Koffler Centre for the Arts and the Leah Posluns Theatre.

"The Lipa Green Building is a wonderful place to work," she says. "The building provides an opportunity to connect all parts of your identity."

The "hub" on Bathurst Street

Kesher helps unemployed

[Cont'd from page B20]

They also help prepare or improve resumes, hone interviewing skills, and discuss job seeking ideas.

"We concentrate on finding full-time jobs," he said, but "many part-time jobs turn into full-time ones."

Most individuals looking for jobs are referred by another person, a rabbi, or an agency.

"First we talk on the phone. Then we have a personal interview, where we discuss skills like resume making and how to handle an interview.

"A person may be an expert in his or her field, but not in job seeking skills," he said.

Kurlandski feels it is very important to treat clients with "respect. We listen to them and we try our best to help."

There is a plethora of printouts to help the client prepare him or herself for job hunting.

Advice ranges from researching your potential employer, focusing on your accomplishments, and the importance of networking, to sending the interviewer a thank-you note.

Anne McIsaac, office manager for Zeifman & Co., an accounting and management firm, noted that Kesher always sent candidates who "looked and acted professional. They sent good people with good qualifications."

For more information, call Kesher at 416-635-0611.

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Deuteronomy VI, 9

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